

**April 15, 2018**

**Nursery**

Moey Mauney

**SOUND ROOM**

Clay Winn

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gary Lambert

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Aaron Harp

**A.M. SERVICE**

**LEAD SINGING**

Caleb Shock

**LEAD PRAYER**

Tom Hedrick

Stanley Gordon

**LORD'S TABLE**

Mark Mauney, b.

Steve Shock, c.

Dan Blair, c.

Curtis Sawrie

Rodney Partee

Rodger Harlan

**P.M. SERVICE**

**LEAD SINGING**

Michael Hunter

**LEAD PRAYER**

Stanley Gordon

Gary Lambert

**LORD'S TABLE**

Rodney Partee

Jarod Partee

**April 18, 2018**

**LEAD SINGING**

Bob Johnston

**LEAD PRAYER**

Carey Wells

Rodger Harlan

**DEVOTIONAL**

Rodney Partee

**April 22, 2018**

**Nursery**

Moey Mauney

**SOUND ROOM**

Caleb Shock

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gary Lambert

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Josh Moore

**A.M. SERVICE**

**LEAD SINGING**

Thomas Martin

**LEAD PRAYER**

Jade Smith

Gary Lambert

**LORD'S TABLE**

Clay Winn, b.

Roy Bulice, c.

Dan Blair, c.

Jack Hancock

Tom Hedrick

Stanley Gordon

**P.M. SERVICE**

**LEAD SINGING**

Harmon Sawrie

**LEAD PRAYER**

Harold Moody

Mike Widner

**LORD'S TABLE**

Rodger Harlan

Clay Winn

**April 25, 2018**

**LEAD SINGING**

Randy Riddle

**LEAD PRAYER**

Clay Winn

Roy Bulice

**DEVOTIONAL**

Jarod Partee

**At A Glance**

**April 17** – Boy's Day at Areopagus. 3 – 4:45 p.m.

**April 20-21** – Sewing Workshop at Camp Areopagus

**April 21** – Parent's Afternoon Out. Noon – 4 p.m.

**April 22** – Cake and Ice Cream after P.M. service for April birthdays

**April 29** – Contribution to the Building Fund

**April 29** – Senior Banquet following p.m. service

**May 5** – Southern Christian Home Homecoming

**May 6** – Area-Wide Youth Devo at Enola. 5 p.m.

**May 20-23** – Gospel Meeting. Perryville C of C. Speaker: Eddie Bowman

**June 4-7** – Areopagus Day Camp (K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)

**June 10** – Special Contribution to Crowley's Ridge College Bible Program

**June 10-16** – Areopagus High School Session of Summer Camp (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**June 17-21** – Areopagus Middle School Session of Summer Camp (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**June 24-30** – Areopagus Jr. High School Session of Summer Camp (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**July 8-13, 2018** – Gospel Gathering

**July 21-24** – VBS 2018

**Bible Class Lessons**

Sun., April 15: Lesson #37 – Genesis 1

Wed., April 18: Lesson #38 – Genesis 2

Sun., April 22: Lesson #39 – Genesis 3

Wed., April 25: Lesson #40 – Genesis 4

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30 a.m.

Worship 10:15 a.m.

Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

P.O. Box 185

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**Elders**

Thomas Martin 796-3741

David Riley 472-5108

**Deacons**

Rodger Harlan 207-2334

Rodger Moore 288-0135

Curtis Sawrie 849-2365

Steve Shock 796-8889

**Evangelist**

David Riley 796-2052

**Youth Minister**

Dan Blair 519-1173

**Missions**

- **Ted & Barbara Knight (U.S.A., Romania)**
- **Roberto Sarmiento, Costa Rica**
- **Main Street Church of Christ (Stuttgart, Arkansas)**
- **Youth Outreach University Youthoutreachuniversity.com**
- **Truth For Today World Mission School**
- **Gospel Chariot (Africa)**
- **Gospel Crusade (Local)**
- **Camp Areopagus**

# The Mars Hill Messenger

**April 15, 2018**

## PULL, DUSTY

A man who got his car stuck in a ditch asked the farmer for help. The farmer replied "I only have an old mule, Dusty. He is nearly blind and I'm not too sure he can help you out, but we'll give you a try."

The farmer hitched Dusty up to the car and cracked a whip and yelled, "Pull, Bill" and nothing happened. He cracked his whip and said "Pull, Jack" and nothing happened. Finally, he cracked his whip and said "Pull, Dusty" and immediately Dusty pulled the car out of the ditch.

The driver thanked the farmer but asked, "If your mule is called Dusty, why did you crack your whip and call for Bill and Jack to pull?"

The farmer replied, "You see, Dusty is nearly blind, and if he thought he was going to have to do all that work by himself, he would not even try."

Church work needs "teamwork" (read Exodus 18). Teams functioning together with optimism and enthusiasm get the job done.

—Kenneth R. Cole

## His Robe

If you've ever lost a loved one, I think you'll be able to relate to and appreciate the words of a good man who lost his father: "Following the death of my father, I had the unenviable task we all eventually face of sorting through our parents' remaining earthly possessions and disposing of them. Among the items I wanted to keep were the usual personal jewelry items and accessories, family photos, and so forth. I also decided to keep one article of clothing that was worn by my father: a green, corduroy housecoat with a thin gold border. My father wore it often in the final months of his life. The first time I put it on, when I got up in the morning, was just seven days after the death of my father. The housecoat quickly warmed me and brought back a flood of memories of good times with my father. I was comforted by it and allowed myself to imagine that I was in the strong and loving embrace of my father. I plan to wear my father's housecoat till I wear it out."

These words of a loving son for his father remind me of another son and his father in the story that Jesus told that is often called, "The Parable of the Prodigal Son" in Luke 15:11-24. Please take the time to read (or re-read) that story.

After the prodigal had wasted his father's inheritance in riotous living and ended up in the pigpen, he thought of home. He thought of how well his father's servants fared under his care. He determined that he would go back home and ask his father if he would take him back, at least as one of his servants. He prepared his plea.

"And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry" (Luke 15:20-24).

I've read that the robe was a symbol of sonship. The father welcomed the prodigal back, not as a servant, but as his son. Notice that the robe came after the embrace. I picture the father scouring the horizon daily, looking and longing for his son to return. And when the day came that he finally saw his son coming home, he ran to meet him and embraced him as his son who was lost but had been found.

Perhaps by wearing the robe, the son would also be continually reminded of the embrace of his loving, forgiving father – just like wearing that green, corduroy housecoat with a thin gold border signifies to another son the embrace of his loving father. The father in Jesus' story is God. You and I are represented by the prodigal. The Good News is that we can "come home" and be embraced by a loving, forgiving Father, because He gave His Son to die for our sins.

God will embrace and enrobe us when we place our faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). As long as we "stay at home" and walk with God, He will continue to cleanse us from sin and embrace us as His children (1 John 1:7; 2:1).

And this robe won't ever wear out; it will last for an eternity. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Won't **YOU** accept the embrace of the Father by submitting your life to Him through your trusting obedience? He's waiting and longing for you. He has a robe for you.

-- David A. Sargent

## PRAYERS NEEDED

**Shelia Riddle** is recovering from heart surgery. Currently she is in Room 203 of the Baptist Hospital in Conway.

**Martha Walker** suffered a fall and is recovering from hip replacement surgery. She is currently in the Graystone Rehabilitation Center.

**Lela Riley**, Lou Riley's sister-in-law, is recovering from a car accident.

**Mary Essinger**, Roy Bulice's sister-in-law, is hospitalized with blood clots.

**Mike Knappier** is undergoing radiation and chemo therapy.

**Chad Hunter** has been deployed.

**Extended Sick List:** Roy Bulice, Kathy Hall, Jean Harvey, Alex Lafferty, Sabrina Gray, Heather Partee, Paula Stocks, Martha Walker, Nell Bostic, Nita Patrom, Mark Allen, Pam Webb, Ethan Lafferty, Gerri Smith, Larry Keathley, Larry Harris, Robie Cope, Sarah Roderick, Joey Walker, Hannah Cupp, Karen Barger Martha Green, Linda Brown, Beth Moreno, Gladys Widner, Robie Permenter, Jerry Walker, Charlene Lasley, Gordon Newsome, Ava Walker, John Riddle, Jerry Almond, Anna Kay Jones, Barbara Fowlkes, Jim Canter

## FAMILY NEWS.

Thanks: Thank you to everyone who helped with the Workday yesterday. Your hard work is appreciated. A special Thank You to Bob Johnston and Ruth Duncan for the outstanding breakfast.

Parent's Afternoon Out: Saturday, Noon – 4 p.m. For more information see Rodger Moore.

Sewing For The Master: Friday through Saturday at Camp Areopagus For additional information see Treva Widner.

Birthdays: Everyone is invited to share in cake and ice cream following the evening service next Sunday to celebrate those with birthdays in April.

Senior Banquet: A banquet honoring our graduating Seniors will be held after the evening service on Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

Summer Camp Sessions at Areopagus: You are encouraged to register your child for Summer Camp at soon as possible at [www.campareopagus.org](http://www.campareopagus.org). Day Camp: (K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades) June 4-7. High School: (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades) June 10-16. Middle School: (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade) June 17-21. Junior High: (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) June 24-30.

## A WORD FITLY SPOKEN

The first to apologize is the bravest.

The first to forgive is the strongest.

The first to forget is the happiest.

"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it."—George Orwell

"I must be willing to give up what I am in order to become what I will be."—Albert Einstein