

The Mars Hill Messenger

August 1, 2021

<p>Sunday, August 1, 2021 <u>SOUND ROOM</u> Clay Winn <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u> Dan Blair <u>SCRIPTURE READING</u> Gary Lambert <u>LEAD SINGING</u> Curtis Sawrie <u>LEAD PRAYER</u> Steve Shock Harold Moody <u>LORD'S TABLE</u> Rodney Partee, b. Rustin Barnett, c. Jerrod Partee, o. Wade Haynie</p>	<p><u>Wednesday</u> <u>August 4, 2021</u> <u>LEAD SINGING</u> Randy Riddle <u>LEAD PRAYER</u> Doug Ellison Mark Mauney</p>	<p>John, Sharon, Josh, and Cruz Foster have been sick. Kim Wells is experiencing some health problems. Clay and Amanda Winn have been sick. Dale Haynie is recovering from treatments to his heart. Ova Lea Leighton is dealing with problems with her lungs. Melanie Gordon is undergoing cancer treatments.</p> <p>Roy Bulice, Shelia Riddle, Bernice Wells, Carlton Clayton, Martha Walker, Gunner Smith, Gladys Widner, Charlene Lasley, Paula Stocks, Steven Moore</p> <p style="text-align: center;">At A Glance</p> <p>August 4 – Wednesday Series. Dntown C of C, Morrilton. Speaker: David Riley August 11 – Wednesday Series. Mt. Home C of C. Speaker: David Riley August 18 – Wednesday Series. Vilonia C of C. Speaker: David Riley August 22 – Bible School Promotion Day</p>
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Safety: We are going to step back to social distancing within our building. Please help us make everyone feel comfortable coming to worship. We do not want anyone to miss worship because they feel unsafe. Please wear your mask and use the safety measures we are all familiar with by now. Please continue to encourage your family and friends to share in our worship services by letting them know every precaution is being taken to ensure their safety. We are going to continue our Bible class and worship service on the current scheduled times. Everyone is encouraged to attend and benefit from all the scheduled times for us to be together. We need one another's encouragement now more than ever. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sympathy: Nita Patrom passed away this past week. There will be a private memorial service at a later date. Please keep the family in your prayers.

I Need You!

A preacher friend shared with me this week how he often really feels when he heads into an assembly of the church: He wishes he was doing something else.

He was quick to point out that those feelings change quickly once the worship service begins and he starts to feel the benefits of being among God's people. But he's not alone. Many of us, if we're honest, have felt a sort of hesitation about going. In those moments or seasons, it doesn't take much to stop us. A couple of snowflakes on the road; the smallest tickle in the throat; a looming work deadline on Monday.

The fact is, we often don't need to look for reasons to skip church; we need to look for reasons to go. God himself gives us the reason in Hebrews 10: "Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" (Hebrews 10:24-25).

The habit of missing church is not a new one. People were already trying to ditch the discomforts of assembling two thousand years ago. If people in a very different context a long time ago had the same inclination, then it really is a *human* problem, not just a modern one. For as long as Christians have gathered, there has been the temptation to habitually miss assemblies.

We are in control of much more of our Christian walk than we think about. We can become discouraged, weak, and fall. But there is another option: "Not neglecting to meet together . . . but *encouraging one another.*" Meeting together for worship is vital for every Christian because it is an essential way God encourages us in our faith. Think about that. God has designed us to need other Christians to help us keep going in the faith. And he's designed them to need our encouragement. So, skipping assembling deprives in two ways: you of their encouragement, and them of yours. Your brothers and sisters need you to be there, and you need your brothers and sisters to be there.

– David Riley