

Family & Friends..... March 24th, 2021

It is officially Spring! There is excitement in the air when Spring is mentioned. Perhaps we are ready for cold weather to be over with and get rid of jackets. Plants and trees have laid dormant for winter and will soon come to life. Daffodils have already started blooming, and before long we will see many different kinds of flowers bloom. The animal world will bring forth new life, and mama birds will be building their nests to hold their babies. I love to hear the birds singing their sweet melodies on a Spring Day. The Hummingbirds will be here before we know it. They were a joy to watch last year. The new baby deer will let you stop and talk to them on the road, until something clicks in their little heads and they're off running. Mother Raccoons are pretty determined as they walk through our backyard, usually two young ones follow her faithfully, and never dare to look in any direction except straight ahead; right behind mama, single file. We are reminded of the innocence and beauty that exists in this world. The Easter Holiday is in a couple of weeks. We remember the death, burial, and resurrection each week when we come together to worship as Christians. Spring is a special season because it represents renewal and refreshing which we always need in our Christian life. Thank you, Lord, for our daily blessings. You are amazing! God is good!

The flowers have already appeared in the land;

*The time has arrived for pruning the vines,
and the voice of the turtledove has been heard in our land.*

Song of Solomon 2:12

Our prayer list: We were saddened in the death of Liz Herndon, who passed away last week in Kansas. Our heartfelt sympathies go to her two daughters, Janice & Diane, and the family. Liz was our church secretary for many years. She had lots of friends here in Bella Vista at our congregation, and many friends that loved her who have moved close to their families also. We will definitely miss Liz, she will hold a special place in our hearts and memories. Joe & Kay Hott request prayers for their daughter, Heidi who has heart problems and pneumonia. Monica Klingman's father has cancer and needs our prayers. Lou Hollo has cancer and also needs our prayers. Continue to pray and remember the Duffy family, Albers family, Gene Roberts, Krista Magness, Louise Perry, Bob Musson, David Baker, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president, and a cure for Covid-19.

There will be a baby shower for Melissa & Chad Dobbs on Sunday, April 18th from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. They are expecting a baby girl, Kyleigh Lynn. Registered at Target, Walmart, and <babylist.com>

Items for Fair Haven Children's Home: Canned chicken, gravy mixes, spices, pineapple.

Our Food Pantry: Peanut butter, flour, sugar, rice, baking mixes: pancake, biscuit, and muffins, fruit cups, brownie and cake mixes, applesauce, spaghetti sauce, and tuna.

Never doubt in the dark what God has shown you in the light.

Love you, stay safe. *Karen*

**Bella Vista
Church of Christ**

Highway 71 and County Road 40
989 NW McNelly Road
Bentonville, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

LORD'S DAY		8:15
Early Worship	Bible Class	9:30 AM
Second Worship		10:30 AM
WEDNESDAY		9:45 AM & 7 PM
Ladies' Class	Bible Class	Live Stream @ 7 PM

Phone: 479/273-2434

www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com

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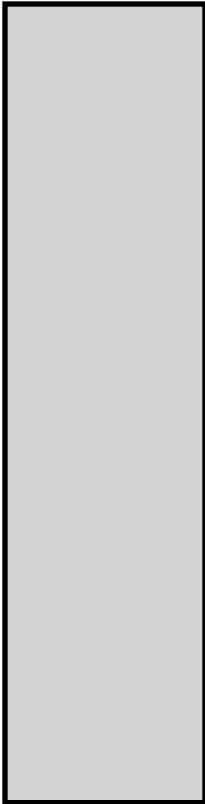
Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089
Don Butcher.....636-548-0458
Dallas Dobbs479-640-4943

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott
Robert Horton Perry Johnson Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Randall Caselman.....479-855-4447
Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
Selywn Nel Cape Town, South Africa
Javier & Helmer Rosero..... Bogota, Colombia



Bella Vista

"The hummingbird is an animal that by all rights shouldn't be able to fly. Its wing movements are not at all like that of other birds. But not only can they fly, they're so good at it that they're the only species which can fly backward."

Popular Science, March 2008

There are a lot of things in life that seem impossible. Building an ark seemed impossible to Noah, but he did it anyway. Crossing the Red Sea seemed impossible to the Israelites, but Moses led them through it. Remaining alive during a sleep over with lions seemed impossible, but Daniel woke up intact. Surviving a fiery furnace, heated extra hot, is impossible in any scenario, but Shadrach and his buddies stepped out and didn't even smell like smoke.

But those were miracles, you say. They happened in the Old Testament times, and God interacts with people differently these days.

I'm not satisfied with that explanation. There continue to be things that seem impossible but become possible by the power of our God. Hummingbirds are just the beginning.

What seems impossible to you? Does living without worry seem impossible? Does waking up with joy tomorrow seem impossible? How about restoration in a damaged relationship or restored faith in someone who has drifted far away?

I have good news for you. It's the same good news that Noah, Moses, Daniel and Shadrach all received, and it's what gives flight to tiny-winged birds.

God is able.

He is able to redeem you. He is able to rescue you. He is able to restore your joy, comfort your grief, carry your burdens and anything else you ask of Him. We serve a mighty, majestic, powerful God!

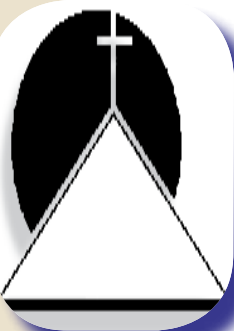
Abundant Living invites you to join us next month in the beautiful Smoky Mountains to celebrate that our God is ABLE! A four-day retreat for older Christians, this event will combine worship, fellowship, teaching and encouragement.

More information is available on our website <<https://www.abundantlivingseniors.com/gatliburg>> or by calling 501-279-4055. Registration is limited due to distancing requirements.

TERESA CASTLEMAN

Director of Abundant Living - Harding University

MEMBER LIVES



"Our God He Is Able"

With a flash of lighting and a crash of thunder the lights were out. It was pitch black. I felt my way to the sliding glass door leading to the deck. That didn't help, it was just as black outside as it was inside. Flashes of lighting only gave a momentary glimpse of the treetops and outlined the roof and railing in a fearful greenish glow. Nothing could be seen with any clarity.

Life is a lot like a thunderstorm. We know who we are, where we are, where we want to go. Everything is in place. Then all of a sudden nothing can be seen with any clarity, a fearful eerie glow settles over everything:



The doctor tells us there's nothing more he can do; the registered letter is the bank recalling the loan; the notice is about downsizing the company, a divorce is granted after thirty-two

years. COVID-19 claims another life. The darkness is overwhelming. It numbs the mind, deafens the ear to anything good; it isolates us from others, all others! What do we do?...

Don't panic! Easier said than done, but our survival equipment works best in a calm environment. Yes, we're scared, angry, bitter, even in denial; but these emotions only tend to inhibit the recovery process.

Remember that God is able. Consider these Scriptures John writes: *"This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all"* (1 John 1.5). God desires and can deliver us from any darkness! Jesus affirms this principle: Mark 10.27, *"All things are possible with God."* Luke 18.27, *"What is impossible with men is possible with God."* The Prophet Jeremiah has God saying, *"I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"* (Jeremiah 32.27). Isaiah 41.10 assures us, *"So, do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."* No wonder we find Paul saying with confidence, *"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength"* (Philippians 4.13). Indeed, if God is able to redeem us, enable and empower us. He is able to restore the light back into our life.

Ask others to walk with us. The natural tendency is to withdraw. Don't do it for two reasons: 1) Where we *are* might be quite different from where we *think* we are. Talk to an expert, call a trusted doctor, a financial consultant, a Christian counselor, minister, or friend who has gone through a similar struggle. 2) God created us with a need for one another, fellowship, togetherness. Now's not the time to pull away, but time to draw on the strength and encouragement of others. Most are ready to help. Don't deny them the opportunity to minister. James tells us, *"in times of trouble*

pray, sing, call the elders, confess our faults (communicate our needs), the prayer of the righteous (others) is powerful and effective." Did you notice that these things are to be done *"with others, in community"*! Most of us have been denied that for the past year in this pandemic. But now is the time to reopen the gate to fellowship, togetherness, one-anotherness! Today's technology affords us ways to stay in touch, use them!

Don't give up, start walking toward the light.

- If our darkness is a health problem, seek out the best doctor in this particular field, be proactive, become an active participant in your own healing. Take charge of your own health. Medical people welcome our cooperation in the healing process. Holistic medicine has its place. It reminds us that genuine health encompasses the whole person. We need to concern ourselves with: Nutrition, Exercise, Environment, Attitude, A Spiritual Conscience. I like what the Mayo Clinic says: Maintaining good health is about Faith, Hope, and Science. Take the issue to the Lord, maintain hope, and listen to the science.

- If our darkness is a lost job, start working on the resume, network with friends and business associates. Find out what is available and apply—Now! If retraining is on the menu, make arrangements today! Moping over our loss is a waste of time, energy and accomplishes nothing.

- If the darkness is relational, go to the person, clear the air. Be prepared to give in. Few disagreements are serious enough to rupture a relationship. Most of the time it is our own *ego* that sustains the problem, fuels the fire. Life is too short, relationships too precious to bullheadedly demand vindication. We've gotta let go of both our hurt and our pride, get on with life. Stop living in our own self-perpetuated storm; remember it only takes one to forgive; become like Jesus, forgive unconditionally.

- Perhaps as a child of God, our darkness has to do some sin in our life: *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness"...* *"If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin"* (1 John 1.9 & 1.7).

Hold to God's hand. For the Christian, life is best seen through the eye of faith, regardless of the intensity of the storm. He promises: *"I will be with you always; Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. So we can say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid"* (Hebrews 13.5-6).

Give Him room to work. *"Having done all to stand – Stand firm!" "Stand still and see the deliverance of the Lord." "Be still and know that I am God." "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him." "We are more than conquerors through Him who loves us"* (Ephesians 6.13, 2 Chronicles 20.17, Psalm 46.10, Romans 8.28 & 37).

Jesus is the light of the world. He is eternal. This world's darkness is temporary. Even if our storm is terminal, there's the promise of the true light of resurrection morn. Indeed, darkness is a prelude to the dawn. **TRUST GOD, HE IS ABLE!**

—RANDALL CASELMAN



Elizabeth Herndon passed peacefully from this life Thursday, March 19th 2021, in Wichita, Kansas. She was born September 14, 1932 in West Plains, Missouri the daughter of Van & Hannah Wiley. Liz was 88. On New Year's Eve in 1950, she and Earl eloped and were married for 47 years. They made Wichita their home for over 40 years where they raised a family and made many life-long friendships before retiring to Bella Vista, Arkansas

in 1994. Liz enjoyed working and held several Executive Secretarial roles at Mobil Oil, Kelly Girl Services and the Wichita Eagle. She and Earl were active members of the Church of Christ community wherever they lived. After Earl's passing in 1997, Liz began working as the Church Secretary at the Bella Vista Church of Christ before retiring at the age of 80. She then returned to Wichita to live closer to her family.

Liz is survived by her daughters: Janice Martin & husband John, Dianne Cool & Husband David, both of Wichita; Ten grandchildren Missy Espinoza, Johnny Martin, Ryan Martin, Aubrey Martin, Jessica Martin, Jaramie Cool, Cassie Kilpatrick, Stan Meier, Whitney Cool, Alyssa Cool; and sixteen great grandchildren.

Addresses:

- Dianne & David Cool, 8700 North Mystic Lake Street South, Wichita, KS 67219.

- Janice & John Martin, 5218 Primrose Circle, Wichita, KS 67219.

- Memorials in Liz's memory may be made to Carpenter Place Children's Home, 1501 North Meridian Avenue, Wichita, KS 67203.

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 3/28/21

EARLY SERVICE (8:15 AM)

Song Leader	Lee McCain	Prayer & Scripture	Chad Dobbs
Communion Scripture & Prayer	Randall Hunt	Greeters/Handouts	Joe Hott & James Branstetter

SECOND SERVICE (10:30 AM)

Song Leader	Mark Bagwell	Prayer & Scripture	Perry Johnson
Communion Scripture & Prayer	Mitchell Whittington	Greeters/Handouts	Mike Spencer & Howard Hurst

MARCH WORSHIP COORDINATORS

Worship Coordinator	Mike York	Streaming Coordinator	Elijah Johnson
Audio Coordinator	Homer Makinson	Video Coordinator	Aaron Bagwell