

**Family & Friends..... March 16, 2022**

We are so blessed with all our new members and we have more to add this week. A big welcome to Mike & Grace Martin, along with Rose Scott, We love you all!

What is patience? It is not something we develop overnight. Do you remember hearing "Patience is a virtue," a famous saying that's been around for many generations. The word virtue in the Greek means to be of moral excellence or goodness. Patience has become a difficult fruit for us to produce in today's world. Our lives are built in a fast-paced society and everything has to be "right now." How do we patiently endure through all of our life circumstances, daily life trials and situations. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control and should be produced by all follows of Christ. Therefore we should pray at all times, and let our hope keep us joyful, and be patient in our troubles. We are strengthened by God's power and goodness to great endurance and patience.

*With all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance to one another in love. Ephesians 4:2*

We welcome our visitors each week: Beau, Cianna, Zane, and Tiffany Landry (Tuttle, OK), Matthew & Angel (Spring, TX), David & Sarah Ellison (Fayetteville), Tony Pearson (Centeron), Tyler & Kacie White (BV), and Alyce Johanson.

Those on our prayer list: Our deepest heartfelt sympathies go to Vicki Lunsford and family in the loss of her dad, and to Donna Nichols and family in the loss of her mother. Keep both families in your prayers. Mike Hale had a carcinoma removed Monday. Mary E. Harris broke her hip in a fall, had surgery and is in rehab now. David Reeves is also in rehab, as is Doug Klingman. Continue to remember and pray for Judith Carmical, Maggie Wicker, Bob & Pat Musson, Trent Brock, Millie Pogue, Bob Douthit, Tim & Susan Duffy, Donna Rowland, Robert Horton, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president, and for the people of Ukraine.

Items needed for Children's Home: tea bags, beef & chicken broth, spices, canned chicken, & trash bags. For our Food Pantry: canned vegetables and chicken, soups, peanut butter, applesauce, & cereal.

Receive love. Give love. Repeat. 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**

<b>LORD'S DAY</b>	8:15 AM	9:45 AM
Early Worship	Bible Class (Livestreamed)	Ladies' Class
Bible Class (Livestreamed)	Worship (Livestreamed)	Bible Classes (Livestreamed)
Worship (Livestreamed)	10:30 AM	7:00 PM
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
Ladies' Class		
Bible Classes (Livestreamed)		

**Phone: 479/273-2434**

[www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com](http://www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com)

**ELDERS**

Tracy Bowman.....479-899-3089  
Don Butcher.....636-548-0458  
Dallas Dobbs.....479-640-49439  
Pery Johnson.....913-707-8379  
Ray Reiss.....903-908-0203

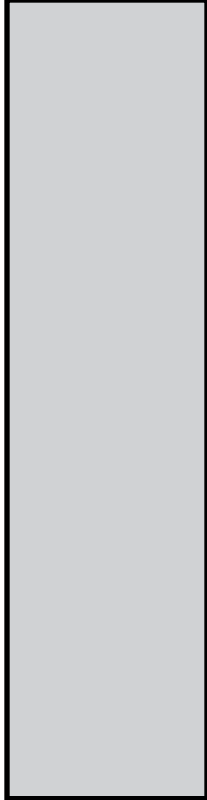
**DEACONS**

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

**MINISTERS**

Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135  
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208  
Cory Spruiell.....501-941-4525  
Javier & Helmer Rosero.....Bogota, Colombia

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**Bella Vista**

**Created For a Purpose**

There's no doubt that God created each of us for a purpose. Are we serving His purpose? What is our purpose? Why are we here and not in heaven? Why didn't God just beam us up from our conversion? He has some things for us to accomplish, some things for us to do that only we can do.

- There are people who need to be served in ways that only we can serve.
- Lost souls that only we can reach with the gospel.
- Children to raise, grandkids to influence.
- Wayward souls that need our concern and visits.
- Things in the church that need to be done...  
Classes to teach...
  - Songs to lead...
  - Sick and shut-ins to be visited...
  - Widows & orphans who need our attention...
  - Young families that deserve our concern, encouragement and assistance...
  - Church buildings and grounds to be maintained.

**Consider these Scriptures as an affirmation of our purpose and power to accomplish...**

Ephesians 2.10 "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." God has prepared some things for us to do which only we can do, and if we don't do them, who will? Who will indeed?

If God has providentially brought some children, adults, friends, neighbors, working companions, even enemies into our lives; and if we don't share, exemplify, Jesus to them, who will? Perhaps no one! They'll just be lost.

Titus 2.1-15 commissions men, women, parents,

**MEMBERS**



masters, slaves, "all men" to be involved in kingdom work and to "say no to ungodliness and worldly passion and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives." This section closes saying that we are to be "eager" to do these things (Good Works)!

You see, each of us is a part of God's grace plan, and our eagerness to do His work helps bring others to His redeeming power. Are we eager to find our place in His plan? Do we arise each morning anxious to live the adventure God has planned for us, that He will providentially set before us?

Ephesians 3.20, Philippians 1.6 & Hebrews 13.20-21 tell us where we're going to get the power to do these good works: "To Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us"

No wonder Paul said he wanted to "know the power of His resurrection." The power that raised Jesus from the grave is available to enable us to do the work He's prepared for us. Russell Kelfer wrote:

You are who you are for a reason.  
You're part of an intricate plan.

You're a precious and perfect unique design,  
Called God's special woman or man.

You look like you look for a reason.  
Our God made no mistake.

He knit you together within the womb,  
You're just what He wanted to make.

The parents you had were the ones He chose,  
And no matter how you may feel,  
They were custom-designed with God's plan in mind,  
And they bear the Master's seal.

No, that trauma you just faced was not easy.  
And God wept that it hurt you so;  
But it was allowed to shape your heart.  
So that into His likeness you'd grow.

You are who you are for a reason  
You've been formed by the Master's rod.  
You are who you are beloved,  
Because there is a God!

Indeed, we are here for a purpose, here and not in Heaven because God has some things for us to accomplish. Amen?

-RANDALL CASELMAN

## Shaking Things Up

The most significant event in human history is the incarnation. Think of it. God desired a relationship with his creation badly enough to come here. It is a mind-boggling thought. With the coming of Jesus, the world will never be the same. For those in his day, life would never be the same. He was a threat to the status quo of his day. The powerful, the influential, the religious leaders sensed that the days of doing as they pleased and being revered and favored were coming to an end. We hear their fear as word of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead spread among the people. *"So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, 'What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.'"* (John 11:48)

He was an inspiration and a place of hope and refuge to those who followed him. Many recognized him as the fulfillment of the hope that had been promised. His followers knew there was something about this traveling rabbi that was vastly different to what they had seen previously. We can hear it in Peter's response to Jesus that we find in John 6. After many turned and gave up following him, *Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."* (John 6:67-69)

After his death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus's followers continued his legacy of changing the world around them. From Peter's first sermon in Jerusalem and the birth of the church, to the continued growth of the church in Jerusalem, the conversion of the Samaritans at the preaching of Phillip, and the Gentiles becoming part of the Kingdom in Acts 10, we see that things will never be the same. The early Christians were accused of being those who *"have turned the world upside down."* (Acts 17:6)

As followers of Jesus we are called to make a difference in the world around us. We are called to see the world as it should be, to see the world the way in which God wants it to be and to engage. We, just like those early followers of Jesus, live in a world that desperately needs to change, and the only thing that brings lasting change is the Gospel. And, just like those early followers, we will experience opposition along with those who see Jesus as their hope and

refuge. It is not an easy path, but a necessary one.

It is tempting to retreat. It is tempting to cloister together and wait until trouble and opposition pass, to wait until he comes and calls us home. But we were meant for so much more. We are meant to be salt and light (Matthew 5:13-16). It is interesting that Jesus doesn't say, "You ought to be salt." or "You should be light." He says, "You are." He doesn't choose these images accidentally. These are both items that are only effective if they come in contact with other things. A flashlight is not noticeable on a sunny afternoon. Salt has no effect if it stays in the shaker.



We're called to make a difference. We're called to walk in the steps of the One whose coming changed everything. We lead lives that are under the lordship of Jesus. We do what he did. We love and seek the good for everyone, even our enemies.

We trust the Father to accomplish his plans and purposes through our obedience. We order our lives around his commands and instructions. We do this openly, publicly, daily so that others will see that we are not the same because of his coming. Our prayer needs to be that God give us strength, focus, and boldness to live out our calling, as we follow the One who continues to shake things up.

-JEFF GRISHAM

### SUNDAY SERVANTS: 3/20/22

#### First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture .....	Dallas Dobbs	Song Leader .....	Lee McCain
Greeters .....	Joe Hott, Gary McCool	Communion Scripture & Prayer .....	Bill Alumbaugh
	Closing Prayer.....		Ray Reiss
	Nursery Workers .....		Bobette York, Angie Christiano

#### Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture.....	Chad Dobbs	Song Leader .....	Marquis Elliott
Greeters .....	John Bowman, Don Cope	Communion Scripture & Prayer .....	Kirk Franklin
	Closing Prayer.....		Mike Spencer
Nursery Workers .....	Deb Reiss, Robin Spencer	Van Driver .....	Jim Branstetter

#### March Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator .....	Mike York	Streaming Coordinator .....	James Beaty
Audio Coordinator .....	Homer Makinson	Video Coordinator .....	Chris Johnson