

Family & Friends..... October 4, 2023

What can I say about October? It is definitely my favorite month! It is now officially Autumn, and before long we will see a palette of beautiful colors in our area that are popping with their beauty. It's the best time to go for a drive and take it all in. It's a special season when we are talking pumpkins, apples, and mums. I love seeing all of these throughout the area and have always enjoyed the Fall Festivals and special events each year. Our church will have a Family Fall Festival on October 29th. There are several special days in October: Butterfly & Hummingbird Day on the 3rd, World Teachers Day and Do Something Nice Day on the 5th and Make a Difference Day on the 22nd. October is also Breast Cancer Awareness Month, National Pizza Month, and National Apple and Book Month. Soon we will be feeling the crisp, cool air in the evenings and start smelling the wonderful aroma from a wood-burning stove or fireplace. October is known as the "Have Fun" and "Happy" month. "October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter." To God Be the Glory!

Also you shall observe the Feast of the Harvest of the first fruits of your labors from what you sow in the field. (Exodus 23:16)

We love to have our visitors: Abel, Jasper, and Cody Johnson (Olathe, KS), Judith Carmical (Rogers), Alyce Johanson (Centerton), Jennifer Huffaker (BV).

Those on our prayer list: Our heartfelt sympathies go to Becky Pittman in the loss of her sister, Karen. Andy Blansett had knee replacement surgery. Amy Rooney had surgery for her breast cancer. Brooke McCool's surgery went well. Peggy Bertschy's son, Leon, has been diagnosed with anaplastic thyroid cancer. Nancy Cash and Diana Fanning had surgery Wednesday, and Janice LaPorte had bypass surgery Friday. Bryan Busbee's father, Otis, had heart surgery on Thursday. Marvin Thomson in now in Concordia. Continue to remember Carrolyn Sargent, Lynn Barnica, Susan Duffy, Mary E. Harris, April Howton, Eugenia Garrison's family, Andrew & Hannah Cousins.

We are happy to announce that Nicholas Gibson and Morgan Emmett were baptized September 24th. We also welcome our newest members: Leo, Trina & Caitlin Bratcher, and George & Debbie Howie.

Children's Home List: Chili beans, spaghetti sauce, crackers, spaghetti, and puddings. Our Food Pantry List: Instant mashed potatoes, rice mixes, cereal, pop tarts, canned veggies.

God gives us the seasons of our lives. Love you, stay safe.

Karen

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ELDERS

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John Caylor.....903-520-2131
Dallas Dobbs.....479-640-49439
Perry Johnson.....913-707-8379
Ray Reiss.....903-908-0203
Jerry Snyder.....479-282-5501

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Chris Johnson Bryan Busbee Joe Hott
Randall Hunt Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Tyler White Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Jeff Grisham.....479-531-9135
Parker Willis.....615-587-3208
Cory Spruiell.....501-941-4525

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SUNDAY	8:15 AM
Early Worship	9:30 AM
Bible Class (Livestreamed)	10:30 AM
Worship (Livestreamed)	
WEDNESDAY	9:45 AM
Ladies' Class	7:00 PM
Bible Classes (Livestreamed)	



Jesus Saves

The crowds were waiting when he arrived at the shore. They had all been hoping he would return. Jesus had not much more than stepped off the boat when a man came running up to him. Jesus could see the panic in this man's eyes. He could hear the fear and a hint of hopelessness in his voice as he told Jesus that his only daughter, his precious twelve-year old little girl was at death's door. Jairus had heard of Jesus. He had not just heard of Jesus, as the ruler of the synagogue responsible for Sabbath services, he had actually seen and heard Jesus. He may not have been completely sure of what to make of this new rabbi, but he knew that this Nazarene was his only hope. He was relieved when Jesus agreed to go with him.

The crowds were pressing in on them. It was difficult to move quickly, but they tried. Then, as quickly as they had started, Jesus stopped and looked around. He scanned the crowd and asked, "Who touched me?" He was aware of her presence, even if she was unnoticed by everyone else. It appeared that he wasn't going to take another step until he received an answer to his question. After what seemed like an eternity, she made her way to Jesus. He could see the fear and the panic in her eyes. All she could do was fall at his feet and tell the whole story. She had been bleeding for twelve long years. She had desperately searched

LIFELINES



for a cure so she could again be a part of the community and go again to the synagogue. Jesus was her only hope. She knew that if she just touched his clothes she could be healed. She was right! It had happened! Jesus looks at her and says, *“Daughter, your faith has saved you (made you well ESV); go in peace.”*



We can imagine the amazement in that crowd. There were people there that knew this lady. They had probably had her on the prayer list for a long, long time. Now, they don't just hear about her health improving, they witness her complete healing. Her belief that Jesus was where healing can be found paid off!

Not everyone, however, would be so excited. Even after witnessing this miracle, Jairus still has a daughter in dire need. Someone came while Jesus was addressing the woman that he had just healed to tell Jairus the bad news. *“Don't trouble the teacher any more; your daughter is dead.”* What?! Why!? If he had not stopped to find out who touched him the woman would have still been healed. She still would have been ok and Jairus's daughter might still be alive. Now, Jairus hears the voice of Jesus, *“Do not fear; only believe and she will be saved (be well).”*

Jairus had just witnessed a miracle of healing, but this isn't just a disease. This is death. Could there be any hope? He may not have wanted to go into that room where his daughter lay dead. But he had to go. This little bit of hope was all he had

left. He sobs as he watches Jesus take her hand. He hopes with all he has as he hears him say, *“Child, arise.”* She does! She's back!

The focus of this narrative found in Luke chapter 8:40-56, is on two very different people. One that has been marginalized by an illness. The other is one who is integral to the life of the Jewish community there. She was powerless and helpless. He was one who had some authority and prominence.

Both are brought together, and their stories intertwine because they recognized that Jesus was their only hope. She had tried everything.....used all her own resources... but could not take care of her issue. He, even though he had some authority, some semblance of control in certain areas, realized that when it came to life and death, he was powerless to change the outcome.

We know there are some things that are within our control and others that are not. Understanding the difference is incredibly important in navigating life and remaining sane while doing it. We try to exert our influence over events. We try and manage things as best we can. We, like these two people - this unnamed woman and Jairus - need to realize that our only hope, the only way to healing and a future, is Jesus. He is the only one with the power to save us from sin and death. That's the language that he uses by the way. He says to that woman falling at his feet, *“Your faith has saved you.”* Most of our English translations say that her faith *“made you well”* but the word in the original language is one of salvation, not just healing. To Jairus he says, *“only believe and she will be saved.”*

Do we believe that Jesus can deal with our issues? Are we afraid that he may let us down? Are we concerned that what we ask seems impossible for him to do? Jesus does not disappoint. We find that in each of these cases, their trust in Jesus was rewarded, despite what others might think. They acted on what they knew to be true.

What we see in this narrative is the definition of faith. Faith is not just believing, or even believing without seeing. It is trusting him enough to act on what he has said. It is realizing that he is our only hope. He is the only one who can save us.

-JEFF GRISHAM

Coming Soon!

You're Invited!

FALL FESTIVAL

GAMES • FOOD • TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 29
3:30pm until Dark
Bella Vista Church of Christ

Scan to SIGN UP to help

SUNDAY SERVANTS October 8, 2023

First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture Gary Oliveira Song Leader Stephen Hunt
 Greeters Jack Johnson, Billy Helms, David Saunders Communion Scripture & Prayer Nathanael Green
 Closing Prayer Jerry Snyder
 Nursery Workers Brenda Tucker, Alana Tucker

Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture Jim May Song Leader Lee McCain
 Greeters Jack Johnson, John Winslow, Eric Gibson Communion Scripture & Prayer Tracy Bowman
 Closing Prayer Ray Reiss
 Nursery Workers Wanda James, Vicki Lunsford Van Driver Phillip Strickhausen

October Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator Mark Tucker Streaming Coordinator James Beaty
 Audio Coordinator Homer Makinson Video Coordinator Marquis Elliott