

Family & Friends..... August 23, 2023

“Be With Me, Lord,” is a hymn written by Thomas Obadiah Well, summer is about to wind down, only it might not feel like it with these excessive heat warnings we are having right now. School starting back is one sure sign that summer is coming to an end. Labor Day is September 4th and will be here shortly. The migratory birds will be on their way back home soon. The hummingbirds were feeding on the nectar like crazy last week, so it will not be long until they journey back south also. I saw the most beautiful Baltimore oriole sitting on top of the feeder the other day. He looked like he was posing for a picture. They are very sharp looking! Always a pleasure to see. I did not see him again, so he may be on his way home. I am grateful and blessed for all our seasons, even though my favorite is autumn! Every season has an important purpose! Every season of our life has a purpose. Fill each day with faith, trust, and love for our Lord and our journey to be with Him. To God Be the Glory!

There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

We are happy to have our visitors: Chassteen Bergeron (Pea Ridge), Ted Irby and George & Debbie Howie (BV), Anthony & Kim and Aspen Bertschy (Hiwasse), Jon & Chelsea Reeves and D.J. and Savannah (Bentonville), Morgan Emmett, Hannah Coalson, and Corbin Mabry.

Those on our prayer list: Continue to remember and pray for those who have recently lost loved ones and their families. Phyllis Archer, Peggy Bertschy, and Mary Louise’s family. Continue to remember and pray for Doug Klingman, Susan Duffy, Eugenia Garrison, Doris Rhodes, Mike & Grace Martin and their daughter, Amy Rooney, April Howton, Teresa Williams, Lynn Barnica, Dianna Fanning, Maggie Wicker, Dollye Alberson, and Judith Carmical. Continue to pray for the people in Maui, our missionaries, our military and police force, our leaders and country.

Items needed for Children’s Home: Pancake syrup, popcorn, spaghetti sauce, canned chicken, and toothpaste. Food Pantry: Mac&Cheese, cereal, peanut butter, snacks, Pop Tarts, and Goldfish crackers.

Prayer is the voice of faith, trusting that God knows and cares. Love you, stay safe and cool.

Karen

Bella Vista
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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)	

ELDERS

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

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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I May Be Slow, But.....

Several weeks ago, I asked a guy at church how he was doing. He replied, “I may be slow, but I make a lot of mistakes!” I probably find these kinds of Southern turns of phrases funnier than they are. Welcome to the Ozarks. The phrase popped into my head last week when I was climbing a pile of large rocks. I had thrown my keys on a rock just out of reach for safe keeping while playing with my son. When we got ready to leave, I went to grab them. Climbing up I thought, “I’ll do this slow so I don’t fall.” One of the rocks rolled out from under my foot and fell to the ground in slow motion. On my way I thought, “I may slow, but I make a lot of mistakes!” And, man, if that doesn’t describe my Christian life as well at times.

Have you ever handled a situation wrongly or succumbed to a temptation and thought, “next time I’ll slow down so I don’t do that again?” The next time you see the same situation or temptation you remember how it went last time so you pause and think to yourself, “slow down, pay attention. Don’t let this turn out like it did last time.” May be a split second later you are looking at the same bad outcome... again. It happens to me more than I’d like to admit.

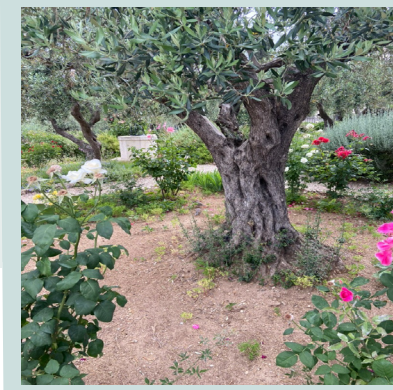
The number of places we could relate this idea of being slow and making a lot of mistakes

LIFELINES



to Jesus' disciples is almost endless. Peter, in particular, comes to mind.

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."



Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same. (Matthew 26:30-35)

Jesus tells him that he will deny his Lord three times before rooster crows in the morning. Jesus' prophecy comes true – you can't say Peter didn't see it coming. As Peter is waiting in the courtyard outside where the high priest had Jesus on trial, he is confronted three times about his association with Jesus and three times, Peter denies that he knows the One on trial. Then the rooster crowed, reminding Peter of Jesus' words, and causing him to weep bitterly (Matt 26:69-75). It's a train wreck happening in slow motion. You know it's coming, and yet the emotions it evokes in Peter and in us are real and difficult to process. It's slow, but it's a big mistake.

But you've probably heard the good news ending of this story. In his post-resurrection appearance to Peter, Jesus and Peter are reconciled.

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go." (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, "Follow me." (John 21:15-19)



There is grace even though Peter committed a sin he should have seen coming. More good news: the same is true for you. We may be slow, but we make a lot of mistakes. Grace covers.

-CORY SPRUIELL



SUNDAY SERVANTS August 27, 2023

First Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture Roger Arnold Song Leader Sammy McCain
 Greeters Mike Johnson, Billy Helms, David Saunders Communion Scripture & Prayer Joe Hott
 Closing Prayer Gary Oliveira
 Nursery Workers Patsy McCool, Bobette York

Second Service

Welcome, Prayer & Scripture Bryan Busbee Song Leader Tyler White
 Greeters Mike Johnson, Stan Hankins, Stephen Hunt Communion Scripture & Prayer Mike Spencer
 Closing Prayer Don Butcher
 Nursery Workers Brenda Branstetter, Karla Winslow Van Driver Phillip Strickhausen

August Worship Coordinators

Worship Coordinator Mike York Streaming Coordinator Aaron Sloan
 Audio Coordinator Homer Makinson Video Coordinator Marquis Elliott