

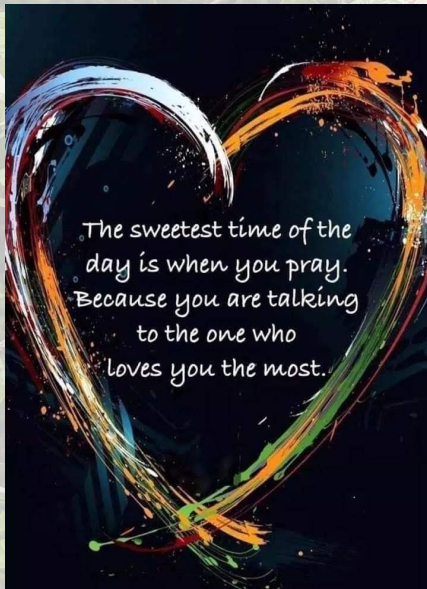
Keep Your Fork

A woman was diagnosed with terminal illness and given three months to live. She asked her preacher to come by her house to discuss her funeral. She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what scriptures to read, and what dress she wanted to be buried in. She also requested to be buried with her favorite Bible.

As he prepared to leave, she suddenly remembered one more thing. "I have one more request," she said excitedly. "What's that?" the preacher replied. "This is very important," she continued. "I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand." The preacher looked at her, not knowing quite what to say. "That surprises you?" she asked. "To be honest, I am puzzled," he replied.

The woman explained, "In all my years of attending church fellowships and potluck dinners, I always remember that when the dishes were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.' It was my favorite part, because I knew that meant something better was coming . . . like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful! So, I want people to see me in that casket with a fork in my hand. When they ask you, 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them, 'She believed the best is yet to come.'"

"Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." MATTHEW 25:34



IF I AM **STRONG**,
IT'S FOR HIS PURPOSE.
IF I HAVE **ENDURANCE**,
IT'S FOR HIS PATH.
IF I **GAIN**,
IT'S FOR HIS GLORY.

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Greg Ebrite had a bladder scan Thursday which showed a small mass that is scheduled for removal on Friday, May 1st.
- ◆ Bill Cockrum is a little better but still needs prayers of healing.
- ◆ Randy Johnson, who has diabetes, has a sore on the end of his leg.
- ◆ Prayers for John and Angie Hill (our newest couple). Angie fell getting out of their car and broke her wrist.
- ◆ Julie Johnson will have carpal tunnel surgery May 7 on her wrist and elbow.
- ◆ Sympathy to the family and friends of Lanell Lewis-Long. She died of ovarian cancer. Her service is tomorrow at Lilly Ridge 10 for visitation and 11 for the service. Her children are Rex, Rhonda, Tim, and Cari.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Bill Cockrum, Larry Butler, Aleta Collins, Lloyd Ellis, Rene Blackburn, Ruth Strain, Bob Robbins, Coe Hamm.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Jamie Crisp, Ricky Langston, Lisa Langston, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth, Dan Hardy.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hambelton, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman at Brook Haven.
- ◆ Homebound: Vernon James, Steve Siebels, Mary Piepergerdes.

Blessings

- ◆ Praise God for guiding the hands of Don Luna's heart surgeon. He had a 7-1/2 hour quadruple bypass on Thursday. His surgeon said he was recovering as quickly as her 50 year-old patients. He is in ICU, but he may go to a step-down room on the 4th floor tomorrow. He is still in and out of AFIB.
- ◆ Lisa Langston, Tinker's sister-in-law, had cancer in her brain, but it disappeared. After a double mastectomy last week her scan showed no cancer anywhere! Thankful for answered prayers.



Birthdays		Anniversaries	
4-26	Mark Lane	4-7	Jim and Pat Kirkland (10)
4-27	Barbara Stevens	5-2	Angie and John Hill
4-28	Rebecca Hambelton	5-9	Paul and Beth Wade
5-5	Peggy Johnson	5-20	Ryan and Amy Stevens
5-5	Patty Donley	5-21	D. E. and Tiffany Pleasant
5-11	Brenda Strong	5-25	Darren and Denise Crisp
5-15	Bentley Goodman (8)	5-31	R. J. and Sangchun Moyers
5-18	Halbert Smith	Birthdays	
5-20	Gannon Schofield (11)	5-29	Beth Wade
5-23	Barbara Luna	5-31	Sabra Bryant (8)
5-28	Ryan Stevens	5-31	Julie Schofield

Jessica Smith will be serving something delicious and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship supper.

Date	Event	Details
Saturday, May 2 8:30-1:00	Ladies' Day at Smith Chapel Church	Kara Hambelton Johnson is the speaker.
Saturday, June 13, 9-2	Vacation Bible School	Take a trip to Rainforest Falls

May Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

Communion & Closing Prayer

Today John Abraham
5-3 Mark Lane
5-10 David Stevens
5-17 Don Luna
5-24 John Abraham
5-31 Mark Lane

Matt Kyle
D. E. Pleasant
Tinker Langston
Paul Wade
Jim Kirkland
R. J. Moyers

Song Leader: John Abraham; Titus Smith
Greeters: Don and Barbara Luna; Tinker and Karen Langston

The Family News

April 26, 2026

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655

www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Diet of the Church by Titus Smith***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#976, *I Shall Not Be Moved*

#885, *How Beautiful Heaven Must Be*

#383, *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*; Communion Service

#144, *O, Worship the King*

Sermon and Invitation

#936, *Lord, I'm Coming Home*

#587, *Sing and Be Happy*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us