

goodness of God (Gen. 3:1-6). Once he caused doubt, it was much easier to sell his lie that God was the real deceiver. He did it with too. Murder was much easier to broker once Cain's pride had been injured by criticism (Gen. 4:1-8). Perhaps this is why Paul warned us about the devil's "devices" (2 Cor. 2:11). A better translation might be "schemes." He is the originator of lies and therefore a master of deception (John 8:44). So, our job is to be watchful and avoid his traps. He is extremely tricky.

But just like the examples above, Satan tends to be emboldened and less subtle once his "small print" is accepted. He doesn't have to hide and whisper when a path has been cleared for him to shout from the rooftops. Let me offer an illustration. When I was a kid, there were lots of songs on the radio with lyrics that implied terrible things. Some songs talked about drugs in veiled ways but the majority in this category hinted at sex outside of marriage. My parents would turn the radio to another station and then explain why they did. As a kid, I didn't always catch the subtle messages in the songs. The devil was in the details and I'm thankful for parents that were watching out for me. I've noticed though that songs aren't subtle anymore. Just recently a female rap singer, Cardi B, released a song entitled "W.A.P." I am unaware if there is a song in existence with more graphic lyrics of sexual wickedness than this. It is disgusting. Yet there have been more than 100 million views of the video on YouTube alone! Do you want to guess what is the largest consumer of the song? More than any other category, it is young girls and boys.

If anything, this is a commentary on what we have failed to do over time. We have failed to pay attention to the small things, and this has paved the way for the much bigger things. People will never be shocked by blatant sin (Jer. 6:15) until they develop hatred for every sin (Psa. 119:104). Our goal is never to walk as closely as we can to sin without going to hell. Our job is to run from every trace of it (1 Thess. 5:22). We must make a return in our faith to the point when even the "small print" matters to us, because the devil is in the details. Let's be brave and pay attention. Let us warn and protect. Let us uphold righteousness and the holiness, "without which no one will see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14).

NORTH HAMILTON CHURCH OF CHRIST



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"The devil is in the details"

David B. Smith

Have you ever heard someone say that the devil is in the details? I have heard it before, especially when looking over legal documents. A contract, for example, may consist of many pages and numerous lines of small print on each page. People tend to review them quickly. I admit that I've often struggled with the patience to do it. After all, who wants to read the tedious "small print?" Somewhere down the road, a question or problem will pop up and then the small print becomes a big deal. Now those many lines of small print have binding force. The devil was in the details. We say that because something subtle slipped our attention.

Over the last week or so, I've thought about that phrase a bit. In a sense, the devil has always tried to lure us in with his clever tricks. He did it with Eve when he cast doubt on the

Our Sick and Recovering

- **Tom Greer's** surgery on Monday to remove a malignant growth from his faith went well. Doctors feel confident all cancerous cells were removed, and he returned home that afternoon.
- **Tina Brown** continues to recover from her recent surgery although some infection still remains at the incision site, but this is improving. She will soon begin chemotherapy to combat cancer in remaining malignant cells. Again, Tina's family says to continue to remember her in your prayers.
- We are also asked to remember **Steve Higginbotham** in our prayers. Brother Higginbotham is the minister at the Karns congregation in Knoxville and has conducted a gospel meeting here and also has been a speaker in our Summer Series. A recent scan reveals that he "has stage 4 cancer in several areas." He will soon begin immunotherapy to treat this condition.

Prayer List

James Anderson	Judy Lusk	Tim Randolph
Patricia Anthony	Tommie Grandfield	Tony Miller
Jim Bethune	Bill Greer	Lexi Owens
Nancy Birch	Fred Hafley	Tina Brown
Mike Bouldin	Kathy Hamilton	Janice Smith
Susie Hargis	Bessie Smithson	Steve Gaines
Grayson Ledbetter	Diane Stacy	Loretta Leffew
John Webster	Steve Higginbotham	Juanita Johnson

(See additional information on each of these on the bulletin board at either hallway)

Added this week: Steve Higginbotham whose information is above.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays: Today-Elysee Fancher; Monday – James Actkinson, Judy Germ, Logan Qualls; Tuesday – Darryl Norwood; Wednesday – Charlie-Ann Pell.

Anniversaries: Wednesday – Tom & Kaye Greer

A Sign of the Times

Sin is a short word with a long sentence.
Taken Katy, Texas, Church of Christ sign

- **Another Cancellation:** Kyle Butt was scheduled to be here on Saturday and Sunday, September 26 & 27. This has now been canceled due to Covid-19 and the impact it would have on attendance. Under these conditions, we have been forced to cancel all events scheduled for 2020 including our summer Series, VBS, Kyle's visit, and Friends and Family Day. We are all certainly ready for better conditions in 2021.
 - **Bulletin Preparation:** Thanks to Erica Anderson who has prepared the bulletin for us for the past number of years; however, she feels it is now time to pass it on to someone else. Gloria Greer, being assisted by Caroline Rinkel, will now be the one responsible to publishing the bulletin. If you have any news you wish included, you may either telephone Gloria or send her a text message or email.
 - **Recent Assistance Given by North Hamilton:** Not only has Covid-19 been detrimental to many people's health, it has also caused widespread economic hardship within the church. Thanks to the generosity of the members, we were able to assist two needed causes this week. Each of these were mailed a check for ten-thousand dollars:
 - **Kyle Butt** is well known to all if not most of us here as he has been here on numerous occasions. Kyle is responsible for raising his own salary in his work with Apologetics Press, but this year he has lost financial support totaling fourteen-thousand dollars.
 - **Tennessee Children's Home** had to cancel their spring food drive; therefore, they are needing help to make up a quite large deficit. Those who have visited the home can attest to the beneficial work done by the home.
 - **Livestreaming to Fellowship Room:** This Sunday is the first time our service may be viewed live in the Fellowship Room. It was announced that it is mandatory that face masks are to be worn by everyone in the Fellowship Room. We know that some have been reluctant to attend due to masks not being mandatory in the auditorium. This should satisfy all, both those not comfortable with the masks and those uncomfortable with the absence of masks. Chairs will be arranged to comply with social distancing guidelines, so we feel this will be a safe environment for all in attendance.