



Rev. 12:1-6



1. "Now a great __ appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve __."
2. "Then being with __, she cried out in __ and in pain to give __."
3. The dragon was fiery __ and had seven __.
4. "His __ drew a third of the __ of heaven and threw them to the __."
5. "Then the woman fled into the __, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty __."

Solution: sign, stars; child, labor, birth; red, heads; tail, stars, earth; wilderness, days



On The Lighter Side!



Calling in Sick

Negotiations between union members and their employer were at an impasse. The union denied that their workers were flagrantly abusing their contract's sick-leave provisions.

One morning at the bargaining table, the company's chief negotiator held aloft the morning edition of the newspaper, "This man," he announced, "called in sick yesterday!"

There on the sports page, was a photo of the supposedly ill employee, who had just won a local golf tournament with an excellent score.

The silence in the room was broken by a union negotiator. "Wow," he said. "Just think of what kind of score he could have had if he hadn't been sick!"



The Collinsville Herald

A Weekly Publication of the Collinsville Church of Christ.



Vol.12

Sunday, September 18, 2022

No. 38



Collinsville Church of Christ

P.O. Box 158
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Collinsville, VA 24078
www.cocva.org

Times We Meet:

Sunday:

Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.
Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Thursday:

Ladies Class: 10:00 a.m.
Mid-Week Online
Bible Study: 12:30 p.m.

Office Hours:

Mon.—Thur.
9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.



Keep Seeking the Kingdom

I was a new minister right out of college, and I was performing my third wedding ceremony. It was one of those days like Murphy's Law when everything that could go wrong did. I forgot a couple of cues. The groom could not remember the lines he had planned to say. The ring bearer did not walk down the aisle like we had rehearsed. There were children running all around the feet of the bride. Everyone was nervous and it seemed like nothing was going as planned. However, the bride and groom had come before friends and family and most important before God to ask His blessing upon their marriage and at the end of the day they were married.

That picture of that moment in that wedding is really a picture of life. Because what we often plan to happen in life does not always take place, but we must as Jesus tells us, keep seeking first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and everything else will be put into perspective (Mat. 6:33).

—Mark T. Tonkery





The Voice of the Empty Pew

Each day when I leave my home, I don't get too far down the road before I start missing my wife and children. As we age, we all are going our separate ways, but each time I leave my family, I can't wait to see them again! Upon departure, I anxiously want to see their faces and hear their voices because of the love we have for one another and the support we enjoy. I transfer these feelings to the church and when we are in each other's presence for worship, class, or work we are doing together. When Sundays are over, I'm ready to see everyone again. When Wednesday is complete, I can finish the week strong because of feeding on God's Word and the comfort I have in knowing I have brothers and sisters in Christ that I can lean on because of our fellowship.

“Church attendance” is one of those topics that can stir emotion and create challenging conversations. The good news is, scripture has much to say about the “assembling of the saints.” When this topic comes up, we as Bible students turn to Hebrews 10:24-25. This text says, “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Wayne Jackson in his article “Is Church Attendance Required?” reminds us of the motivation of the book of Hebrews. Brother Jackson says, “This inspired document was a warning to Jewish Christians. Some of these saints were being encouraged by Hebrew false teachers to abandon Christianity and revert to Judaism. The sacred writer thus seeks to inoculate against this danger. The disciples were cautioned against drifting from the truth (Heb. 2:1) and developing ‘an evil heart of unbelief in falling away from the living God’ (Heb. 3:12). They were admonished to throw off their ‘dullness of hearing’ (Heb. 5:11) and to hold on to their boldness and patience to the very end (Heb. 10:35-36).”

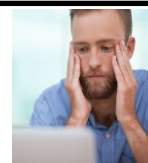
The point is this: When we talk about the importance of “attending,” and we point to Hebrews 10:24-25, we must understand what we are to “take away” from the Scripture and why it is so important for us stay “plugged in.”

“Pew” Continued on Page 6...

“Young People” Continued from Page 6... This is why the Bible strongly exhorts us to listen to older people. Young Rehoboam, who was forty-one at the time, caused the nation of Israel to permanently divide because he ignored the advice of older men and listened instead to his young friends (1 Kings 12). Solomon said, “Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old” (Prov. 23 :22). In the church, the elders who lead are to be mature in the faith, not novices, and they must be old enough to be married and have believing children (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-6). Even if the older ones are not in the office of elders, the youth should look to them for counsel: “Likewise, you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders” (1 Pet. 5:5). If we are wise we will tap into their store of life's lessons and church experiences.

There are drawbacks to both situations. If a church has no young people, it lacks the energy and enthusiasm to get things done. If it has no older people, it has little self-discipline and wisdom to restrain and channel that youthful drive. A congregation's zeal coupled with their inexperience can get them into trouble. In a culture dominated by the whims of youth, we had better not put the counsel of old people on the shelf. At the same time, we must not take youth for granted or fail to encourage them. We need both groups in the church. That is why Paul talks to both groups— young and old men and young and old women—in Titus 2:1-8. Let us not wait until they're gone before we appreciate them.

—Kerry Duke



Worse Before It Gets Better

Standing up for what's right can make things worse before they get better. Like when Moses went to Pharaoh and said it was time to let the people go. I'm sure the enslaved Israelites were thrilled that someone was sticking up for them. But not for long. Pharaoh's response was to make their slave labor a lot harder, and then the leaders go back to Moses and say, “May the Lord look on you and judge you!” But do you know this story? It gets a lot better.

When you decide to do what is right life might not get better right away. It might get worse. Telling your supervisor you're not going to be dishonest on your business reports anymore might lead to trouble at work. If you decide to start disciplining a child who you previously let do whatever they wanted, that's going to be a nightmare for a while. You start doing what is right—and things get worse. When that happens it's your job to power through. *Don't fold!* If Moses did that the Israelites would never have been free. Stay on the right path. It will get better.

—Doug Wells

“Pew” Continued from Page 2... If we slowly develop the mindset that we do not have to attend worship services or even engage in Bible classes or participate in the works of the church, we are not only displeasing God, but we are in danger—in danger of drifting away from God which eventually leads to disconnect, and developing a dullness of hearing which equates a refusal to have a right relationship with Jesus.

When I desire to be in my family’s presence, my motivation is not because “I have to,” but because “I want to.” We must seek every opportunity to worship, study, and fellowship with God and each other. The Day is approaching. May we seek to be committed to Christ and the church. When someone looks at our pew, what message will they hear?
—Allen Jones



No Young People at Church?

“It’s sad because they have no young people at that congregation.” How many times have you heard or made that comment? It’s understandable. When you see a church or you are in a church of mostly older people, you fear for its future.

In some cases the older members may be at fault. They may have been content with just going to church and never tried to convert people in the community. In other cases they are not to blame. Families moved out of the area and left the neighborhood and the church without many children. In either situation, not hearing the laughter of children or seeing the participation of young couples can be discouraging to older members.

Before we become too dismayed, we may need to remember that some churches have mostly young people. New congregations often begin this way. Yes, it is sad to see a church without youth, but it is just as concerning to see a church with no older, seasoned members. It is even more alarming when a church has older members but the younger Christians won’t seek their advice or the older members fail to give direction to the youth. Older people are very important to the church, the home, and the nation. The passing of years brings wisdom and patience. Experience teaches lessons you can’t learn at school or on social media. *“Young People” Continued on Page 7...*

WORDSEARCH

Home in Nazareth (Matthew 2:16-18)

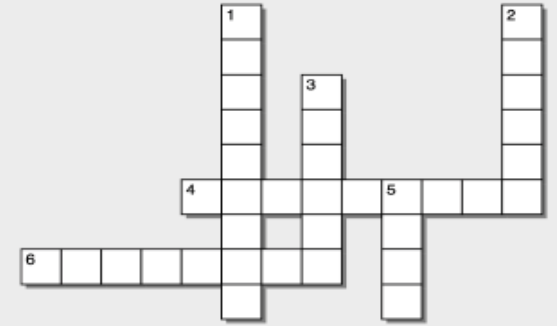
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JOSEPH
 DREAM
 ISRAEL
 ANGEL
 PROPHETS

JUDEA
 GALILEE
 EGYPT
 NAZARETH

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CrossWORD



Red Sea Crossing

Exodus 14

Across

- 4. Moses ___ out his hand over the sea.
- 6. Pharaoh came after them with these.

Down

- 1. “Stand still, and see the ___ of the Lord...”
- 2. Israel crossed on dry ___.
- 3. God took these off Egypt’s chariots.
- 5. They did this before Pi Hahiroth.

BulletinDigest

Word SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters to form a Bible word!

U O A J S H

Clue: Leader of the conquest

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CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGE 5!



Cancer

Jesse Draper. Carolyn Roop's Son.

Barbara Kendrick. Lisa's mom.

Virgil Thompson. Cancer & Parkinson's Disease.



Anita Hopper. Health concerns.

Elaine Smith. Dementia.

Sharon Teschendorf. Dementia



Eli Clark. Special needs. Friend of the Patrick's

Ryan Kendrick. Special needs.

Shep Knight. Special needs.

Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.



Mark Barber. Back issues.

Tish Clarke. Wife of B.J. Clarke.

Drew Clifton. Gilmer & Dixie's grandson.

Earl Elwood. Brother of Karen Lovell.

Norman Hill. Health Concerns.

Nadine Knight. R-way member. Health concerns.

Rita Lawless. Health concerns.



Karen Lovell. Scheduled for new treatment for chronic back & neck pain.

Rachel Palmer. David's mom. Pacemaker.

Kirk Sams. Recovering from a major car accident.

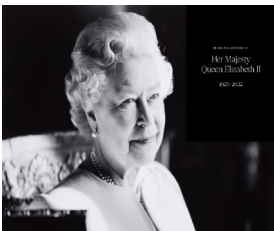
David Teschendorf. Recovering from a fall.

Prayers for those with long-term health issues.

Prayers for our Country.

Prayers for Great Britain .

Prayers for the Ukraine.



Queen Elizabeth II:

We extend our sympathy to the family and to the countries of Queen Elizabeth II. Please keep all in your prayers.



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Message Alert: (276) 794-4035



SSEPT. 22ND GARY HOLLANDSWORTH
SEPT. 27TH RITA LAWLESS
SEPT. 30TH JUSTIN COOLEY



SEPT. 18TH LONNIE & SHANNON THOMPSON



CrossWORD Solution:



Monthly Movie Nights!

Our next Monthly Movie Nights is Oct. 1st at 6:00 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall.

Mid-Week Bible Study Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.:



WORDSEARCH

Solution: Home in Nazareth



Word SCRAMBLE

Solution: Joshua