Page 8 The Collinsville Herald

05-26-24

# PRAYER REQUEST



**Brad Hurd.** Liver cancer & spreading to lungs.

Steven Kelly. Friend of Lovell's. Stage 4.

Ken Moran. Odell's son. Stage 4 cancer.



Ryan Kendrick. Special needs.

Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.



Sibbie Byrd. Health issues.

Sharon Teschendorf. Dementia.



Brandi Beavers. Health concerns.

The Beavers Children. Health concerns.

Jack Beavers. Health concerns.

Pete Beavers. Jack's brother. Broken foot.

Drew Clifton. Dixie's grandson.

Mary Grace Faulkner. Friend of Brandi. Severe burns.

Larry Guilliams. Recovering from a heart attack.

Norman W. Hill. Health concerns.

Hester Hollandsworth. Health issues.

Matthew Hollandsworth. Health issues.

Rita Lawless. Health issues.

Odell Moran. Health concerns.

**Amanda Smith.** Daughter to a friend of Hester's. Recovering from a broken foot.

Prayers for Caregivers.

Prayers for our Country, Military.

Prayers for Israel, Palestine, & Ukraine.

To have someone added to the prayer list or to have information updated, please contact Matthew or Jonathan. Names will be removed after four weeks if no updates are received.







# The Collinsville Herald

A Weekly Publication of the Collinsville Church of Christ.







#### Collinsville Church of Christ

P.O. Box 158 2115 Daniels Creek Rd Collinsville, VA 24078 www.ccocva.org (276) 647-8454

#### Times We Meet: Sunday:

**Bible Study:** 9:30 a.m. **Worship:** 10:30 a.m.



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# Keep Your Heart With All Diligence

"Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23).

You have probably heard the saying concerning computers, "Input equals output." Or, the more popular term, "Garbage in, garbage out." That does not apply to just computers, but also to human beings. If what we feed in is bad, we cannot expect the results to be good.

Today we are constantly bombarded with messages on every side. Everyone wants to influence us to do something, usually to buy their product or service. Distraction is a major problem we face. Because of the information overload with which we must deal, it is easy to be distracted from what is most important, God's Word. It is not so much that the information we are feeding into our hearts and minds is necessarily bad, just that it can easily crowd out what is most important from our lives.

"My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh" (Proverbs 4:2-22).

"Diligence" Continued on Page 2...

"Diligence" Continued from Front Page... God's Word is not just another message, but something that has life in it. Just because your senses are not aware of the life emanating from God's Word is no proof. Nuclear radiation is also unseen and unfelt but, as we know, can quickly kill you. God's Word is the opposite—it radiates life.

"For the word of God is living and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

God is our Source of existence. In His Word there is a deposit of life from Him that we require to live and operate optimally. That means that without a constant feeding on the Word of God, you are living below what God intended for you.

Maintain the attitude that you will keep your heart with all diligence. You will feed in the Word of God, which gives life.

—Don Readhimer

## The Devil's Sinkhole

In 1983 the residents of a Florida apartment building awoke to a terrifying sight outside their windows. The ground beneath the

street in front of their apartment building had literally collapsed, creating a massive depression that Floridians call a sinkhole. Tumbling into the ever-deepening pit were automobiles, sidewalks, and lawn furniture. The apartment building was obviously the next thing to go. Geologists tell us that sinkholes occur when the under ground rock and sediment is drained away by the forces of erosion. When this happens, the crust of the earth no longer has a supporting structure. When the external forces exceed the limits of the underneath support, the ground collapses and a sinkhole is formed. Anything that happens to be on the surface when the ground collapses is swallowed up in sudden destruction, houses, cars, factories, highways, livestock, pets, and people.

"Sinkhole" Continued on Page 3...

Page 7 The Collinsville Herald





05-26-24



#### **Iune Birthdays!**

20TH KAREN LOVELL 21ST PETE LOVELL



#### **<u>Iune Anniversary</u>**

PAUL & SHERRY LIRETTE



#### **Blood Drive!**

Mark you calendars for our next blood drive with the American Red Cross. Friday, May 31, 2024! Schedule your appointment at:

red cross blood.org



#### Game Night!

Our next Game Night is on June 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Please bring your favorite games & finger foods to share.



#### Movie Night!

Our next Monthly Movie Night is on June 15, 2024 & it will be a Pizza & Movie Night! Pizza Supper @ 5:00 p.m. Movie @ 5:30 p.m.



# Potter Children's Summer Commodities Outreach!

This season, we are asked to bring in: *Evaporated Milk, Penne Pasta, Taco Season-*

ing Packets, Fruit Cups and Rice Cereal. If you would like to donate funds to help purchase Fresh Foods & Dairy, please put those donations in the offering boxes and mark it for Potter. Please bring pantry items to the lobby. All items and donations must be brought in by:

Sunday, June 23.





## Solution

swear, oaths; heaven, earth, head; Yes, No, evil; person, slaps; Give, borrow



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gbntv.org

Page 3

**Continued from Page 5...** Two days later Ms. Darling returned and Mr. Harris returned the ring to her. As a result of his honesty Billy Ray Harris has been reconnected with his family, has a part time job and a place to live. What is the saying? "Honesty is the best policy."

There are many folks who would not steal a nickel. Many would do as Mr. Harris and return the ring. If a clerk gives them too much change they will return it. However, some of these individuals are not as honest when it comes to other areas. Explore three of these.

**We Need to Be Honest with Ourselves.** Many folks play the blame game. We need to examine ourselves (2 Cor. 13:5). Yes, this says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" "My life would be better if my Mom and Dad had done this or that." "My boss is holding me back." Look at yourself. Read the book, *A Child Called It* and then come back with the blame game. Dave Pelzer was severely abused by his mother for many years but he has become very successful as an adult. One fellow said it like this: "The trouble with you is the fellow you shave."

We Need to Be Honest with the Church. Some members play "Hide and Seek" with the elders and the congregation. Elders have the responsibility to watch for the soul of each member (Heb. 13:17). Members of the congregation love one another and watch for one another. Yet members forsake the assembly and never let anyone know (Heb. 10:25). Men, sometimes scheduled to participate in the worship, don't show up. Those in charge scurry around trying to find someone to take their place. Wait! Wait! When folks are sick and in need of prayer they call someone (rightly so). When they are skipping out on worship to be involved in another activity they get lock jaw. I heard of one member of the church who, after thirty years, still signed the attendance card as a visitor. Let's be honest!

**We Need to Be Honest with God.** Stop making excuses! "See preacher I would do this or that but..." Here's the problem. God knows the real truth for, "The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity" (Psalm 94:11). Wouldn't it be better to confess your selfishness to God and ask His help in overcoming it? "God, I am sorry for not seeking your kingdom first in my life" (Matt. 6:33). Honesty is the best policy. It will relieve a lot of stress.

—Larry Acuff

"Sinkhole" Continued from Page 2... In Rock Springs, Texas, there is a place called The Devil's Sinkhole. It is named this because it is the proverbial "bottomless pit." If you look in, all you will see is about 400 feet of straight down, deep and utter darkness. It has a long, narrow shaft at the surface that leads to a large lower chamber at the bottom. Each night, as the sun sets, millions of bats swarm out of the chamber and up through the narrow opening at the surface in an ominous black cloud of beating wings and shrill cries that twists and turns like a tornado as these nocturnal residents leave to hunt for food.

But there is a different kind of Devil's Sinkhole that is far more ominous, for it constantly threatens to open underneath your feet. The Devil is at work, right now, in an attempt to erode the foundations of your heart, your mind, your character, your integrity, your resolve, your purpose, and your very soul. At the same time, he is working to apply pressure on the surface of your life by trying to overwhelm your time, your energy, your finances, your family, your friendships, your health, and your job. His goal is to cause as much pain, sorrow, and despair as possible. He wants to destroy your faith in God because he wants you to surrender.

So, while the Devil is trying to create sinkholes in your life, remember these words of encouragement from Ephesians 6:10-11, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil."

—Joel Shelton

# Every Good Gift

A poor man was given a loaf of bread. He thanked the baker, but the baker said, "Don't thank me. Thank the miller who made the flour." So he thanked the miller, but the miller said, "Don't thank me. Thank the farmer who planted the wheat." So he thanked the farmer, but the farmer said, "Don't thank me. Thank the Lord. He gave the sunshine, rain, and fertility to the soil, and that's why you have bread to eat."

"Gift" Continued on Page 4...



#### Matthew 5:33-42



- 1. It was said to those of old, "You shall not \_ falsely, but shall perform your \_ to the Lord."
- 2. But Jesus said not to swear at all, neither by \_\_, \_\_, Jerusalem, or your own
- 3. "But let your '\_' be 'Yes,' and your '\_\_' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the one."
- 4. "But I tell you not to resist an evil \_\_. But whoever \_\_ you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also."
- 5. "\_ to him who asks you, and from him who wants to \_ from you do not turn away."

**CHECK YOUR ANSWERS ON PAGE 7!** 

"Gift" Continued from Page 3... Regardless of how sophisticated, how advanced we may be scientifically, we still can't create: we still can't make a kernel of wheat. That has to come from God. God gives us the things we need in order to live on this planet. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17). —via Findlay church of Christ

## What We Believe



One of the most misunderstood religious subjects pertains to whether or not the Christian today is under any law from God. This confusion may be eliminated, however, by realizing that the Christian is not under the Law of Moses but rather the Law of Christ. The Law of Moses, which encompasses most of the Old Testament, was fulfilled by Jesus and ultimately removed by God himself (Matt 5:17; Eph. 2:15). Paul said God took it, the Law of Moses, out of the way, nailing it to the cross (Col. 14). One of the primary purposes of the Old Law was to serve as a tutor or schoolmaster to bring people to Christ. But now that Christianity has been established the apostle declares we are no longer under the Law of Moses (Gal. 3:23-25).

Page 5 The Collinsville Herald 05-26-24

This does not mean there is no value in studying the Old Testament (Rom. 15:4). But it does mean that the child of God today is no longer obligated to offer animal sacrifices, be circumcised, or go to the Jerusalem temple in order to worship God acceptably. God removed the first covenant in order to establish the second covenant or the New Testament (Heb. 10:9). Today if a Christian goes back to the Old Law in order to seek justification they become unfaithful to God in that they "fall away from grace" (Gal. 5:4). All living people today are amenable to God under the New Testament, not the Old.

If it is true that Christians today are not amenable to God under the Law of Moses then what law are we under? The answer to that question is the Law of Christ. The apostle declares that as a Christian he was not under Moses' Law but rather "under law to Christ" (1 Cor. 9:20-21). Today Christian s are to live in such a way as to fulfill "the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2). Does Christ have a law? According to the terminology of the Bible He does. Another writer calls this the "perfect law of liberty" (James 1:25; 2:12). Since Christians today are not under the Old Testament law but under the New Testament, Paul could say "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, the New Testament, made me free from the law of sin and death, the Old Testament" (Rom. 8:2). Is the Christian therefore under a law from God today? Yes, but it is the Law of Christ and not the Law of Moses. If you will make this distinction then any confusion about the Christian being under a law from God today will be eliminated.

—Stephen Wiggins

# Honesty Works

Billy Ray Harris is a homeless man in Kansas City, Missouri, who, each day, would set out his cup for folks to deposit their coins. One

day a lady, Sarah Darling, put some money into the cup and when she did her engagement ring fell off into the cup. Mr. Harris did not know that until that evening when he emptied his cup and found the ring. He took it to a jeweler and discovered it was worth \$4000. He held the ring. *Continued on Page 6...*