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Brandi Beavers. Health concerns.

The Beavers Children. Health concerns.

Sibbie Byrd. Nursing home. Health concerns.

Drew Clifton. Need of prayer.

Hester Hollandsworth. Hospital. Health concerns.

Matthew Hollandsworth. Health concerns.

Wes Johnson. Cancer.

Steven Kelly. Cancer.

Ryan Kendrick. Special needs.

Rita Lawless. Health concerns.

Karen Lovell. Health concerns.

Paul Mays. Health concerns.

Ruby Mason. Health concerns.

Carol Pace. Health concerns.

Jaydan Patrick. Special needs.

Carolyn Roop. Health concerns.

Joe Shulam. Health concerns..

Marcia Shulam. Rehab center. Resting for heart surgery.

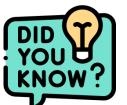
Kitty Shumate. Health concerns.

Sharon Teschendorf. Dementia.

Wayne Youngblood. Parkinson's & Dementia.

Caregivers.

Our Country, Leaders & Military



Did You Know?

Our prayer list is now in our Lightpost App?

You can also update us on people currently listed or you can submit new names to be added.

Learn More @ ccocva.org/lightpost

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Collinsville Church of Christ

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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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July 27, 2025

Yellow Jackets in the Church

No. 30

When I was a young preacher, I traveled to several small churches to fill-in for vacationing preachers. In one smaller church, I was bringing a message of joy. To make a point, I rapped on the pulpit. Suddenly, a cloud of yellow jackets buzzed out. Three or four made their point on my body. As you might expect, I do not like yellow jackets.

Yellow jackets remind me of people who are constantly criticizing others. They, like yellow jackets, hurt whoever they sting with their abundant criticisms.

Did you know that such fault-finding is a sin—as evil as the faults that fault-finders find? Jude speaks to the sin of "fault-finding" in Jude 1:15-16 (best read in the NIV).

Jude uses pretty graphic phrases to describe these individuals. He calls them "ungodly sinners" and "malcontents" (RSV).

Instead, we should use our voices to encourage and uplift our brothers and sisters.

"Yellow Jackets" Continues on Page 2...

"Yellow Jackets" Continued from Front Page... As the Bible reminds us: "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear" (Ephesians 4:29).

—Larry Fitzgerald

Old Greek Americans

"Greeks seek after wisdom" (1 Cor. 1:22). But the wisdom they sought after in Paul's day was human wisdom, not the wisdom of God. That caused all kinds of problems in the church at Corinth. Sadly, we are seeing the same philosophy in our land, even in the church.

Here are some features of ancient Greek philosophy that are alive and well today:

Man was not created by God. He evolved. Anaximander, who was born 600 years before Jesus, believed that "animals come into being through vapors raised by the sun. Man, however, came into being from another animal, namely the fish, for at first he was like a fish." To which God replies, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1) and "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Psa. 14:1).

Materialism. "Death is nothing to us; for that which is dissolved is void of sensation" (Epicurus, 341- 270 B.C.). Some believe and others live like there is nothing after this life. God says, "It is appointed for men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27).

Relativism. "Man...is cut off from truth." "In truth we know nothing about anything." Democritus, who lived from 460-370 B.C., said these things. Just like many today, he was very absolute that there are no absolutes. But the truth does not change (John 12:48; John 14:6; Matt. 24:35).

"Old Greek Americans" Continues on Page 3...





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<u> August Birthdays!</u>

10TH WALTER BEAVERS

12TH JACK BEAVERS

18TH NORMAN W.

HILL

20TH JONATHAN BEAVERS

23RD DONN

SHUMATE

25TH COOKIE

SPENCER

August Anniversaries!

20TH GARY & JAN HOLLANDS-

WORTH

20TH DAVID &

LORI PALMER

NIGHT

Pizza/Movie Night!

Our next Pizza & Movie Nights will be on August 9th! Pizza Supper at 4:45pm and Movie at 5:00pm.



Men's Breakfast!

Our next Men's Breakfast is scheduled for Sat, August 23rd! Join us at Clarence's Steakhouse in Ridgeway at 9:00 a.m. for food & fellowship.





5th Sunday Potluck!

Join us for our next 5th Sunday Potluck following worship on, August 31st! Please bring your favorite dishes, desserts and drinks.





Ccocva.org/events

Or

Check our calendar in the LightPost App!







Solution

Galilee, mountain; multitudes; disciples, wilderness; seven, fish; filled, fragments



Page 3

"Will You Not Forgive?" Continued from Page 4... The wise woman sent the first woman into the field to bring back a boulder the size of a basketball. She sent the second woman into the field to bring back a thousand pebbles. When the women returned, the wise woman ordered the women to replace the stones exactly as before. The first woman could replace the boulder with great effort, but the second complained that it was impossible to restore the thousand pebbles to their original state.

The wise woman then told the first woman to repent for her large, hurtful action. The wise woman told the second that she had the harder task: to repent for the thousand small hurts she had inflicted (Everett L. Worthington, pp. 137-138, Hope Focused Marriage Counseling).

Sometimes it seems easier to gossip, put down, and hurt those who hurt us than it is to forgive. Forgiveness seems to be so many times unthinkable, or at least the last resort.

Yet forgiveness is the key towards reestablishing our relationships and also modeling the life that Christ would have us to live. It was Jesus who taught, "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses" (Mt. 6:14-15).

Who do you need to forgive today?

—Mark T. Tonkery









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"Old Greek Americans" Continued from Page 2...Hedonism. Epicurus also said, "Pleasure is the beginning and end of living happily." How twisted! The purpose of life and the way to happiness is to "fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all" (Ecc. 12:13). The city of Corinth was full of this thinking, and if there is an American philosophy today, it is hedonism.

What Paul said to the church at Corinth that was influenced by this philosophy applies to today: "The wisdom of this world is foolishness with God" (1 Cor. 3:19). —Kerry Duke

Closer Than It Has Ever Been

In Paul's letter to Rome, he uses an interesting phrase. He said, "Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand" (Rom. 13:11-12). Contextually, he may have not been talking about their salvation when they became Christians, nor salvation when Jesus returns. This was a salvation that was at hand when he penned these words. It was one they knew was at hand because the hour had come and that day was at hand. This article is not to fully discuss this concept, but to encourage us to look to see what we can know about things at hand in our lives. These things that are "...nearer to us now than when we first believed."

The end of this world is closer than it ever has been. There will be the day when this earth will come under the judgment of the fire from heaven. In the first century, there were those who questioned if this would ever happen and Peter reminded them of how long God waited while Noah preached and prepared the ark. He told them then, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (2 Pet. 3:10).

"Closer Than It Has Ever Been" Continues on Page 4...

Page 5



Matthew 15:29-39



"Closer Than It Has Ever Been" Continued from Page 3... He will come as an unannounced thief, but He will come! Every day we live brings us one day nearer the day when this earth will be destroyed (by God; insert by jmt).

The end of our life on this earth is closer than it has ever been. The fact that as we age our bodies begin to wear down should be a constant reminder that death awaits us. Jesus told about that rich farmer whose life's philosophy was to eat, drink and to enjoy his daily life to the fullest because he thought his future was guaranteed for many years. God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul will be required of you" (Luke 12:20). We should never be so foolish that we forget that or death is nearer today.

The end of time we have to repent, to get our lives straightened out, is closer than it has ever been. Jesus described a false prophetess in the church at Thyatira who had many followers. He said, "I gave her time to repent" (Rev. 2:21). God could have brought the flood, but He waited. He could have brought judgment on this false prophetess, but He waited. He is waiting for you to repent, but the time will certainly come when He stops waiting for you. The day of your opportunity to repent is closer now than it has ever been, but the day is coming when it will be too late to change.

We do not know what this day or tomorrow will bring to us, but we must never forget that each day we are one day closer to heaven or hell. Which day is closer for you?

—Dan Jenkins

Will You Not Forgive?

There once was a woman who hurt her friend. The friend gossiped widely about the hurt and repaid the hurt in a thousand slights and putdowns. Their relationship deteriorated, and they went to a wise woman in their village to get her help to restore their relationship.

"Will You Not Forgive?" Continues on Page 6...

- 1. "Jesus departed from there, skirted the Sea of __, and went up on the __ and sat down there."
- 2. Great __ came to Jesus with the lame, blind, mute, maimed, and many others.
- 3. "Then His _ said to Him, 'Where could we get enough bread in the _ to fill such a great multitude?'"
- 4. "And He took the __ loaves and the __ and gave thanks, broke *them* and gave *them* to His disciples; and the disciples *gave* to the multitude."
- 5. "So they all ate and were __, and they took up seven large baskets full of the __ that were left."

BIBLE FACTS

Did You Know This About Hosea?

The prophetic ministry of Hosea stretched about 45 years, from 755 to 710 BC. He preached to the northern kingdom of Israel, which is sometimes referred to as Ephraim.

He prophesied through the reigns of six kings of Israel, from Zechariah to Hoshea.

Hosea gives 150 statements about the sins of Israel, and more than half of them dealt with idolatry.

Four attributes of God are seen in the Book of Hosea.

- Chapters 4-7 God is HOLY.
- Chapters 8-10 God is JUST.
- Chapters 11-14 God is LOVING and GRACIOUS.

—Matt Clifton