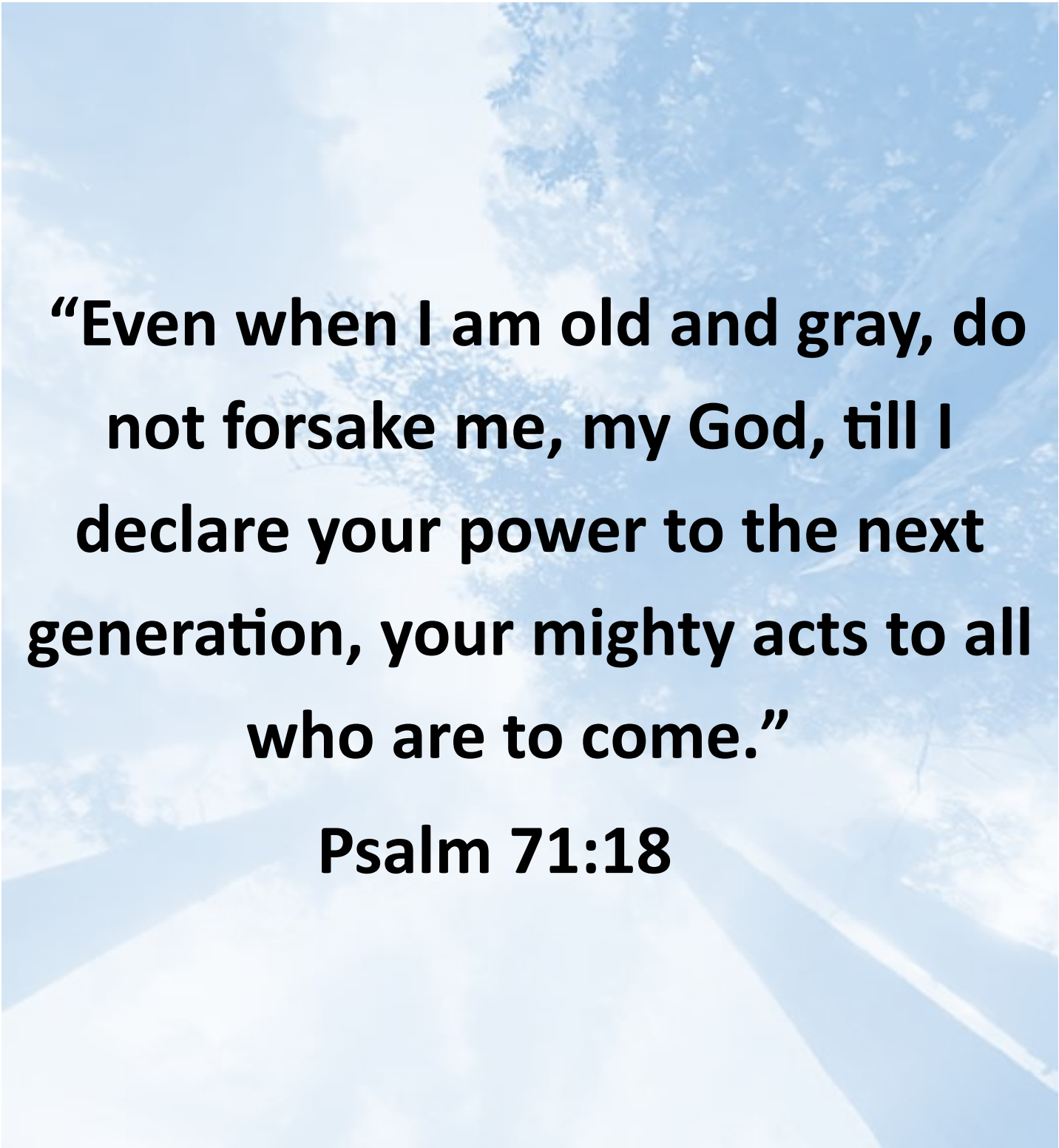


THE MESSENGER

A monthly publication of Zephyr Christian Church - August 16, 2023



**“Even when I am old and gray, do
not forsake me, my God, till I
declare your power to the next
generation, your mighty acts to all
who are to come.”**

Psalm 71:18

Dear Zephyr Christian Family,

I just completed reading through the Bible again. Please don't take that as a brag – it's not! Any more than a person would be bragging if they said, "I just had another drink of water," or "I just finished another meal," or "I just took another breath." Doing the basic necessities to sustain life is nothing to brag about and, for the believer, taking in God's Word is a basic necessity of spiritual life.

In writing to Timothy, the Apostle Paul said: **"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work"** (2 Timothy 3:14-17 NIV).

Paul gives two reasons why we should know the Scriptures in those verses. The first purpose is that we might come to know Jesus Christ and receive his salvation (v. 15). We learn about Jesus and His redemption through the Word. The second purpose of Scripture is to help us grow spiritually that we might be equipped for whatever God wants us to do (v. 17). The means of that growth are teaching (Bible doctrine), rebuking, correcting, and training (v. 16). Teaching shows us the path we are to walk; rebuking shows us where we got off the path; correcting tells us how to get back on the path; and training in righteousness teaches us how to stay on that path. This means that the Bible is the comprehensive guidebook for living the Christian life.

So, I tell you that I've finished reading through the Bible again for several reasons:

To encourage you to start reading your Bible if you aren't. Read it consistently and read it to understand. In other words, it's not about how much of the Bible you read in a day, but it's how much you understand of what you read in a day. You are spiritually stronger for reading a few paragraphs but really understanding them and considering how you should live based on those paragraphs, than you would be for reading a few pages and not knowing anything about what you read!

To help you understand how important the Bible is to your spiritual life. Don't depend primarily on the church to feed you, or TV or radio preachers to feed you, don't even depend primarily on devotional books or reading to feed you – those can be a helpful supplement but you getting into the Word of God should be your primary spiritual diet.

To let you know that Bible reading is how you get to know who God is. To get to know someone intimately and enjoy them personally, you must *spend quality time with them, communicate meaningfully with them, and observe them in a variety of situations*. The same criteria apply to getting to know and enjoy God.

So, tomorrow I will start again with Genesis 1:1. I think this time I will read the Bible chronologically (something you should do sometime).

In Christ,

Jon

OUR MISSION NEWS

LAKE AURORA CHRISTIAN CAMP:

And just like that, the summer season has ended! A truly impactful summer with dedicated volunteers, staff, and campers that were led to a deeper relationship with Christ as He was revealed through worship, lessons, creation, activities, play, and conversations. God is good! We were blessed to witness 81 public decisions (76 for baptism!) from 1,422 campers served by 384 volunteers over nine weeks. Adding an additional 453 participants in two weeks of rental programs that bookended the summer for a total of 2,259 participants. Whew! That's a lot of opportunity for ministry! We are still walking through the permitting process for the Oak Hammock and are grateful for the guidance of Whitehead Construction. They are working with us to be very conscientious of the natural setting and how it affects the surrounding area. We want it to look as if it has always been in the woods and not a new structure. Lake Aurora will once again serve as the primary connecting point for our churches with the closing of Johnson Univ. Florida campus. A role she originally filled in the early years of 1947-1970's. Thank you for your continued prayers. Much is on the horizon. We recently changed donor software, creating an easier system for online gifts.

SACM: There have been recent improvements and opportunities for the 'Bibles for Africa Project' of the South African Christian Mission. Container loads of Bibles, Christian literature, Sunday School and VBS materials have been packed and loaded into 20' containers in Michigan and shipped to Cape Town. A special warehouse, the McLaughlin New Life Center, was constructed to house and distribute the boxes of Bibles and materials. This has been an ongoing project for over twenty years and approximately a quarter of a million Bibles have been provided free of charge to churches, schools, Christian community projects and congregations in South Africa and beyond. Various churches and individuals in America have generously donated funds and Bibles to ensure the Word is broadcast far and wide. Marty Wallace first visited Cape Town two decades ago as a part of a short-term mission group from Colorado. Just before they were scheduled to return, Marty called me aside and asked if he could be of use in the children's ministries when he retired. He felt the Lord was leading him to serve in Africa. Marty retired and fulfilled his calling, serving in Cape Town for fifteen years. Last year, he returned to America due to medical problems but has since been successfully treated and is planning to return to South Africa in September, God willing. Through Marty's contacts, two dedicated Christian men have stepped forward to help. Terry in California has donated the funds to ship a container load to South Africa. Eddie Cook owns a Christian bookstore in Denver. He has already gathered Bibles and Christian books, packed, boxed and sent to Michigan for the container. He has generously offered to make these resources available to any church, group or individual to continue the work of the Bibles for Africa Project. Eddie Cook Christian Used Books #3436 S. Broadway Englewood CO 80113 Ph: 303-514-0102 ; Eddie's advice is that for anything that is purchased, please assign the delivery address to the SACM collection point in Michigan, headed by Dave Foust and his team of Northview Christian Church in Coldwater, MI. Northview Christian Church #539 N. Union City Rd, Coldwater, MI 49036 Office phone (Mon-Thurs 10am-4 pm) 517-279-9806 Dave Foust's details, inquiries and notifications: Cell: 517-617-6292 / Landline: 517-278-6916 . The Bibles for Africa Project is an essential ongoing ministry. We are so blessed and grateful for Christian workers who have ensured each step of this vital ministry has supplied blessings to so many in need of the Word. Bibles have been sent as far away as Cameroon (West Africa), many central African countries and neighboring nations, too (Zimbabwe, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana and Mozambique). The need is great and within a few months of a container arriving, the warehouse will be empty. But the requests will keep coming in. Steve Zimmerman – zimcko@gmail.com / Heather Burton – hlburton9@outlook.com

The Missions we support are as follows: Family Ministries of FL ~ Johnson University of Florida ~ Lake Aurora Christian Camp ~ Phil McAfee Ministries ~ Neighborhood Care Center ~ South African Christian Mission

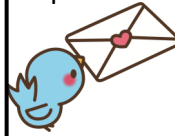
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 Corinthians 10:31 NASB, "Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God".

PRAYER

If you want the Prayer Chain to be started, call Tom Baker at 863-670-2215. If no answer, call Tom & Karen Baker's home at 863-859-6273.

I want to thank the church for the love and caring that was given to me while I was there. I hope some of you will keep in touch with me. I miss you all.



Kindly, Sara Baumberger



Potluck Dinner - September 3rd

following Sunday morning service, please plan to join us and bring a dish to share!

Quilting & Sewing Group

Wednesday at 9:00 AM
Please come join us as we sew for the glory of Lord!



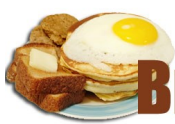
Young ADULTS

Sunday @ 9:00 AM & Wednesday @ 6:00 PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL

where FAITH & LIFE connect

Sundays - All Age Groups 9:00 AM



Men's Breakfast

ZCC is hosting the Men's Breakfast on September 9th, 9:00 AM. Please Sign



SUNDAE SUNDAY

Join us!
Sunday, September 24th,
after our evening service
to celebrate September
birthdays & anniversaries!

Elder's Meeting

September 19th at 9:00 am

This meeting is open to all members of the congregation.

MEN'S LEADERSHIP



Biblical Training

to be, think, and act like Jesus

September 7th @ 6:30 PM

PRAISE & PRAYER

Bold Print Indicates

New Names Added or Current Updates

Phil MCAFEE BRAZIL MINISTRIES

Hawaii - comfort/strength

Meenu Arya - cancer (Wernette)

John Blevins - heart & kidney

Summer Boyd - recovery from procedure

Bruce & Tina Brandt - healing, comfort & strength

Lin Coats - well/Praise the Lord!

Dawn Freeman - head injury

Troy Freeman - recovery from additional surgeries

Michelle Danella - knee & foot

Ralph Dean - serious illness/ I.C.U. (Mable Goward)

Denise H. - serious health concerns/recovery from surgery (Linda Zito)

Mya Hayes - broke arm/recovery from surgery

Family of Don Jones - Don passed away

Kathy Knapp - tests

Gert Mattison - heart/stomach problems

Wes Merchant - lungs/hospital

Roger Michaud - well/Praise the Lord!

Pam Smith - heart & lungs/infection/comfort/strength

Phil Smith - comfort/peace

Carol Theel - strength/comfort (Cherie')

Taryn Vollstedt - cancer to be gone (Linda)

NURSING HOME/ SHUT INS

Pretty Pond Manor

Emma Loughren

Village Walk Apartments

MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO ARE SPECIAL TO OUR CONGREGATION

Jon Bravinder - Air Force
(son of Jon Bravinder)

Charles E. Marshall -
S.O.S. Border Patrol (CA)
(Mel & Helen Marshall's son)

Rachel Smeed - Army (GA)
(Tim & Penny Herkel's niece)

POW / MIA US TROOPS & FAMILIES -

PROTECTION & SAFETY OUR COUNTRY & LEADERS OF OUR COUNTRY



"MISSIONS "

Family Ministries of FL.

Lake Aurora Christian Camp

Neighborhood Care Center

Phil McAfee Ministries

South African Christian Missions

August 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



October 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUN

MON









TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

					1 Tidy Church 	2
3  POTLUCK! After morning service NO EVENING SERVICE	4  Office Closed	5	6 Children & Youth Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Age Groups 6:00 PM	7 Men's Leadership & Bible Training 6:30 PM	8 Tidy Church 	9 Men's Breakfast at Z.C.C. 9:00AM
10 	11	12 Zephyr Christian Women's Outing 10:00 AM Sign up!	13 Children & Youth Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Age Groups 6:00 PM	14	15 Tidy Church	16
17	18	19 Elders Meeting 9:00 AM	20 Children & Youth Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Age Groups	21 Ladies Group 6:30 PM	22  <i>Family</i> GAME NIGHT 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Tidy Church 	23
24  7:00 PM SUNDAE SUNDAY	25	26	27 Children & Youth Group Dinner 5:30 pm & Bible Study All Age Groups 6:00 PM	28 MISSION of the MONTH: Neighborhood Care Center 5140 6th St Zephyrhills, FL 33542 • 813-780-6822 rightservicefl.org/node/16671 Instagram: neighborhood_care_center	29	30

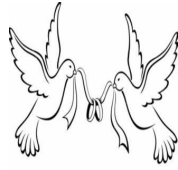
Birthdays:

2 - Felix Robles
9 - Timothy Dobbs
11 - Jacob Roque
17 - Troy Freeman
28 - Judy Brown



Anniversaries:

5 - Denise & Jack Stewart



FALL FESTIVAL is COMING!

November 4th 11AM - 2PM, if you would like to volunteer and/or be a part of this community outreach in some way, please join us! We will have fun, food & games. We will be sharing what will be needed for the festival soon. Please contact the church office if interested in helping. (813) 782-8893



Thank you - Cathy Cochran

SUMMERTIME BLESSINGS..... Come and join us!



Stay Connected

Even when far from
"The Hills of Home"

Website: www.zephyrchristianchurch.org

Email: ZephyrCC@aol.com

Zephyr Christian Church
5940 Dogwood Street
Zephyrhills, Florida 33542-3867
Ph: (813) 782-8893

Mission Statement: Sharing the love and joy we've found in Christ Jesus.

Serving In September 2023

COMMUNION SET UP

Cathy Cochran

GREETERS

Ellen Annis

Michele Danella

Helen Marshall

HEAD OF TABLE

3 - Rusty Draper

10 - Jon Stradtner

17 - Larry Buckland

24 - Tom Baker

ELDERS

Tom Baker

863-859-6273

Chr.

Larry Buckland

417-712-4098

Rusty Draper

782-5306

V. Chr

TRUSTEES

Tom Baker

Rusty Draper

STAFF

Jon Stradtner

Minister

Cherie' Osborne

Secretary

Happenings at Zephyr Christian

Weekly

Sunday

Sunday School

9:00 AM

Worship Service & Jr. Church

10:00 AM

Evening Worship

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study

6:00 PM

Youth & Children Dinner

5:30 PM

(3 years - Young Adults)

"September Events"

3 - POTLUCK

11:00 AM

7 - LEADERSHIP & BIBLE TRAINING

6:30 PM

19 - ELDER'S MEETING

9:00 AM

21 - LADIES GROUP

6:30 PM

22 - GAME NIGHT

6:00 - 8:00 PM

24 - SUNDAY SUNDAY -

7:00 PM

B-days & Anniversaries

Wednesday - Sewing & Quilting Group - 9:00 AM