

Sunshine Church Of Christ



Volume 58, Issue 99

sunshinecofc.church

Sunday, November 15, 2020

Elders

Rich Book	820-3213
Jon Coriell	820-6145
Wayne Gampp	820-3444
Shaun McCray	935-9701

Deacons

Gabe Coriell	464-2343
Josh Coriell	981-6717
Rick Coriell	935-0717
Ryan Coriell	464-8646
Dale Kuhn	820-4690
Aaron Kallner	285-0738
Eric Miller	820-4944
Eugene Risner	820-2256
Mark Risner	820-2948

Pulpit Minister

Dr. Jon Partlow	716-8741
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Family Life Minister

Jamie Riley	935-7812
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Youth Minister

Tim Gampp	(606) 356-3345
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Despair can lead a person to dark places, to a deep hole cut off from daylight and feeling the warmth of the sun. In its chilly, damp pit hope is lost. And some who find themselves in such a place feel abandoned as death is a welcomed alternative to living.

Sometimes we find ourselves in despair and without hope because we're susceptible to anxiety and depression. Many of us fight those battles on a regular basis, and in battle fatigue our inner self cry out from the pit. Other times we find ourselves disoriented because circumstances beyond our control rip apart our world. We thought we were in control of our own destiny until "destiny" took control of us. A job loss, a diagnosed illness, a betrayal of a friend, a pandemic. Any of these, and more, can strip away hope, layer by layer, leaving you in the depths of despair.

While we suffer, we tell ourselves that those who are more spiritual and are grounded firmly in faith never had to endure what the common folk endure. They're immune. They're exempt from suffering. The spiritual waters run so deep that pain never penetrates those fathoms. Or maybe their pedestal stands above the agony.

Enter the Apostle Paul, maybe one of the most important leaders of the early church. Because most of his letters survived, he has shaped so much of the church's belief system (i.e., theology). Because he's an apostle who received visions from Jesus and planted churches all over the Mediterranean, we've glossed over much of who he really was. And what was he? He was a wounded warrior, just like us.

When God called him, he wanted Paul to know that his calling meant suffering for the name of Jesus (Act. 9:16). Not just a little suffering, but enough to feel the weight of the world on his shoulders. Paul's affliction list in 2 Corinthians 11 is more than a simple list of what he's endured. He wears his suffering proudly against those who are shamed for what they never endure. Its evidence that he's nothing more than a broken clay pot held together by the grace and mercy of God (2 Cor. 4:7-12; 12:7-10). God does not reject Paul because he suffers. No. He embraces Paul through his suffering.

Held together by God doesn't exempt an apostle from feelings of despair. Thus, Paul informs the Corinthians of what unfolded while he was in Asia. While he avoids the details, he's specific about his emotions. He endured hardship and suffered. The pressure was so great that he despaired even of life (2 Cor. 1:8-9). Whatever Paul was facing, the burden was so excessive he wanted out. Like an inmate on death row, he lost all his appeals.

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Prayer Requests

Kendra Cram She and her family are currently at home recovering from COVID. Please continue prayers for them.

Bob Havens Please continue prayers for Bob, Rose and family.

Jeff Hayward Please pray for him as he recovers from back surgery.

Peggy Hollback Continue prayers for her health to improve and God's blessings on her.

Gene Kuhn (Dale Kuhn's Dad) Please continue to pray for him and his family.

Mike Lewis (A Minford Friend) Please pray for his recovery from Covid. He is in very serious condition at this time.

Janine Morris Please continue prayers for her recovery.

Cile Partlow She has been diagnosed with COVID. She, Jon & Family are at home. Please remember them in your prayers.

Margaret Reed Please keep her in your prayers. The surgery went well and she is recovering at home.

Janet Risner Continued prayers as she recovers at home from a successful surgery.

Kim Woods (Gary Glispie's Sister) Please pray for strength and courage as she goes through chemo. Please bless her family with comfort during her illness.

Please remember all the families that are suffering with Covid.

Judi Allison Elbrooke Room#535

Esther & Gene Crisp Riverbend Room#123

Sarah Gilliland Hillview Room#213

Helen Hayward Homebound

Ruth Morris Best Care Room#10



**ALL SERVICES ARE ONLINE
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Sunday Morning Live Streaming Links:

<https://sunshinecofc.church/sermon-media>
<https://sunshinecofc.sermon.net>

Welcome To All of Our Guests

We give a special welcome to all of our guests today. If this is your first time to visit with us, please stop by the Welcome Center in the f8oyer at the conclusion of services, pick up your gift just for being our guests today.

Thank you for coming. Please come back!

Gluten Free Communion Available

We have gluten free communion bread available for anyone who needs it. It can be found at the Welcome Center. You may simply pick it up before the services on your way into the auditorium.

Elders Meeting Together

Prayer Session: Nov.19



**Good Morning Sunshine!
WELCOME!**

We invite you to join us for Online Services.

**Sunday Morning @ 10:00 AM
Sunday Eve. Class @ 6:30 PM
Wednesday Eve. @ 7:30 PM**

All Services will be held Online

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**Congratulations  
Wesley & Kathleen Book  
They were married last Saturday.  
Best Wishes To Them!**  
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**Welcome !!
Baby Cash Wilder Cannon
Born Nov.4
Congrats to Cody & Melinda
And Big Brother Crew**
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**We have "Blessing Bags" available on a table in the front entrance to be given to someone in need. Please feel free to pick them up to give away to anyone that it could help.**  
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Please, lets use this time that we have to be apart to try and stay connected to all the people that mean so much to us. Phone calls, texts, notes and cards help so much to let our brothers and sisters know they are not alone or forgotten. This is a scary time for everyone. We have to help each other through it.

Four Truths About Rules

Christians are not subject to man-made Religious Rules. Paul warned against commandments of men such as, "Do not touch...Do not taste...Do not handle" (Col.2:21-22)Such rules, he said, "have an appearance of wisdom" in man-made religion but are of no value in restraining fleshly indulgence. Jesus rebuked those who were teaching as doctrine the commandments of men. (Matt. 15:9)

Rules are not the essence of Christianity. Christ is the essence of Christianity. The gospel is good news. God loves us and gave His Son for us. Christ paid the penalty for sin, which we had no ability to pay. This is the essence of Christianity and makes the gospel.

Rules are not the basis of our salvation. To be saved on the basis of keeping rules, it would be necessary to never break a rule. When we break a rule of God, we become sinners. A sinner must be forgiven to be saved, and only God can forgive

God has Rules, and they must be kept. "The royal law" contains rules: Love your neighbor as yourself, you are doing right... Do not commit adultery... Do not murder" (James 2:8-11) They are given for our benefit by One who both knows and wants what is best for us, but they are rules. Persistently willful transgressors are condemned, not justified. He who breaks **God's Rules** is broken by them. They are not transgressed with impunity.

Adapted, Cecil May Jr.

Family Bible Time

**Nov 15 Lesson 405
Review Lessons**

**Nov. 18 Lesson 406
Ezra 1-3**

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning	11/15/2020	11/22/2020	11/29/2020
Welcome	Wayne Gamp	Shaun McCray	Rich Book
Midservice Prayer			
Communion			
Reading			
Closing Prayer			
Sunday Evening	11/15/2020	11/22/2020	11/29/2020
Song Leader	Service Online	Service Online	Service Online
Reading			
Communion			
Assist			
Prayer			
Wed. Evening	11/18/2020	11/25/2020	12/02/2020
Song Leader	Service Online	Service Online	Service Online
Prayer			



Sunday Worship - 10:00 am
Bible Study - 6:30 pm

Wednesday Bible Study - 7:30 pm

This bulletin is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover. Deadline for each issue is 8 am Friday. Content should be emailed to:

info@sunshinecofc.church

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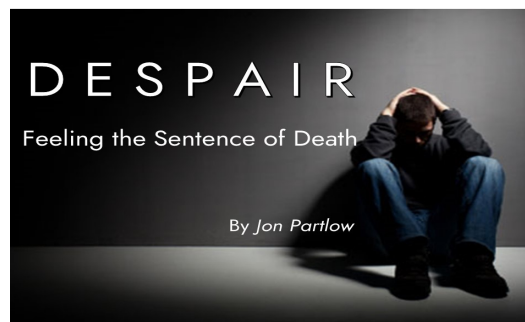
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But God. But God who raises the dead. But God who raises the dead delivered him from his own death (2 Cor. 1:9-10). God delivered again, and he delivered big. And Paul interpreted this salvation as a reminder to stop relying on our self and keep relying on God (2 Cor. 1:9b). Coming full circle, not only is the Apostle Paul facing suffering, but his ministry is defined by suffering, even though he nearly buckled under the pressure. In part, because even Paul, like us, tended to trust his own abilities rather than trust God.

So here we are, for many of us, sitting in the midst of despair. It's a dark place, so dark that daylight and the warmth of the sun cannot penetrate where you sit. And you feel alone. All alone. Chilled in a damp hole. Maybe you find yourself in the pit because life throws every dirty play against you. Or maybe you find yourself in the pit because a pandemic has inflamed your worst fears. An uncontrollable disease has the power to undermine an economy (i.e., your economy) while fueling more civil unrest.

Sure, we could give up and walk away. Others have done it. But we won't. And instead of leaning into it, we take Paul's advice and lean onto him. While we're sitting in the pit, we keep relying and trusting God. We trust the God who raises the dead, because what else have you to do anyway?

Soli Deo Gloria!
(i.e., only God is glorified!)



Have a wonderful day!