



## September 6, 2020

### Weekly Newsletter

#### The Preacher's Post – *Darin Kennedy*

We are starting a new series for the Sunday sermons called, "In the Public Eye." We will be looking at the Bible's description of our interaction as the church with the world around us. I have chosen these lessons for several reasons—

1) Somebody's always watching. We think that the COVID situation has limited our interaction with the world and we are more hidden. But now our assemblies are outdoors and livestreamed wherever there is internet, we are probably more active on social media than ever, and many other ways we still interact. I have been amazed going into a store where we all have masks on, and I will still recognize someone that I have not seen for months. Of course, everyone recognizes me, the big guy with the weird hair, but I'm amazed how little masks hide. If we disciples are seen, then we disciples have a responsibility to give testimony by word and deed.

2) The world desperately needs us to be the people of God, now more than ever. The presence of the righteous is meant to be God's blessing to the world, a light in darkness, and our absence, through marginalization caused by outer forces and inner turmoil, laziness, and fear, is most illuminating. We have to be a bolder presence than ever before, the presence of the most peaceful, compassionate, devoted, holy, hopeful people on earth. What will the streets, the internet, the prisons, the suburbs, the nursing homes, the government, the human heart descend into without us doing our job?

3) This is God's world. He made it. He visited it. He redeemed it. I know that "the prince of this world" has still been granted power. I do not have full

understanding of God's choice in allowing that. But the Bible is clear that God is involved in the workings of this world, from the provision of food to the lowliest of animals to the containing of nations in the palm of his hand. God's presence in the world through the incarnation of Christ and now through the continued presence of the Holy Spirit in Christ's body, the church, means that He is not done blessing, fighting for, celebrating, mourning, inviting, and loving His world. Whatever He loves and works for with all His being is what I want to love and work for with all my being. God goes before us, so let us follow in His glorious mission with courage.



## Prayer Requests

**Dave Nash** – has COVID-19, **Vickie Sullivan's** sister (Donna Kinder) – passed away this week, **Hannah Guntert's** uncle (Ronnie) – passed away. His wife and family hadn't been allowed to see him since March, **Devastation of Hurricanes, Roger DeLoach's** sister in law (Colleen DeLoach) – has a paraoesophageal hernia and is in need of an expensive surgery, **Jeannie Ewens** – had outpatient hernia repair on September 3. She is doing well, **Jeff and Brenda Petersen's** son's father in law – passed away. This family lives in Spain, **Stormy Cook's** mother – had 2 mild heart attacks, **Roman Martin** – had shoulder surgery, **Lillie Ramage** – has stage 4 pancreatic cancer, **Gerri Hasty** – has melanoma in her finger and had surgery on September 3. She is doing very well, **Mary Ellen Myers's** son-in-law (David Ellifrites) – is having heart issues and his son (Jason) is scheduled for back surgery, **Cathy Eldridge** – has some internal bleeding, **Linda Hyde's** mother (Willa Dean Haley) – is currently in hospice care, **Marina Belekonnny** – from Ukraine has Hodgkin's lymphoma, **Jeannie Ewens's** daughter (Emily) – health problems that have affected her ability to work, **Mary Ellen Myers's** sister (Carmen Stevens) - has been given only 3-6 months to live. (UPDATE: she is doing very well!!!), **Flora Swartz's** friend (Joanie Green) -UPDATE: the chemo pills are not having the desired effect. **BUT THEY STARTED THE THIRD ROUND OF TREATMENT.** They didn't see the need to start the drip chemo at this time. They are very thankful. But appreciate continued prayers that the chemo pills will provide the desired effect, David Church – **Ben Church's** brother, **Andy Hester**, **Joel Morehead**, **Bruce Keeton**, **Jurhee Bench**, **Will Kreisel**, **Lena Bramlett**

## Birthdays: September 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Blake Hudkins – 6<sup>th</sup>

Debbie Peerson – 7<sup>th</sup>

Micki Wainscott – 10<sup>th</sup>

Pat Reynolds – 10<sup>th</sup>

## A Note from John and Sherry:

To the family at Blue River,  
Thank you all so much for the beautiful wall hanging, the money, and the personal notes that you gave us on our last Sunday at Blue River. Your words of love and encouragement will serve to uplift us in the coming weeks and months, and the money is going toward making our home a welcoming and comfortable place for the girls who will be living with us soon. There are no words we can write to adequately express how much you all mean to us and how thankful we are for our years at Blue River, but please know you will always be in our thoughts and in our prayers  
Much Love,  
John and Sherry Owen

## Ladies Classes are Resuming:

The Tuesday morning ladies' Bible Class will resume this week, September 8. They meet at the building every Tuesday at 10AM. The study is led by Donna Wealand.

A Monday evening ladies' class will take its start on Monday, September 21 at the building. This group will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30PM. The study will be led by Denise Fultz and Jennifer Hall. We will study a book called "The Armor of God".

If any ladies are interested in either of these groups, please let me know.



Blake Hudkins is turning 13!!!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. - Andrea Kodýdková © [123rf.com](http://123rf.com)

The word PRAYER written in vintage wooden letterpress type in a wooden type drawer -[enterline](http://enterline.com) © [123rf.com](http://123rf.com)

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