



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

April 3, 2018

Benefits from Building Margin Into Your Life

Mike King



In a previous issue of the *Informer*, we discussed the importance of every moment being scheduled with activity, sometimes unnecessarily, to the neglect of the important. This often deprives one of personal and private time for character and faith development, personal refurbishment and family time. Let me share with you some excerpts from Rick Warren and Tom Holladay on suggested benefits for building margin into your life that appeared in their publication, *The Purpose Driven Life*.

- Peace of mind can be enjoyed when not always rushing and not having time to think and process life. There must be the element of enjoyment in life, which can be stolen when no time is made available for self, family and God. Someone has written that everyone needs a hobby. They are to jump astraddle of it and ride it for all it is worth!
- Constant stress does harm to the body. We realize that when one keeps a rubber band or sock top kept taut all of the time eventually it will lose its elasticity and break. Keith W. Sehnert, M.D., in his 1981 publication of *Stress/Unstress* concluded that most health issues originate from stress. Having margination (flexibility in schedule) in your life reduces the likelihood of serious health issues. High blood pressure and heart attacks occur in bodies that are driven too hard without adequate pit stops. Pauses in your life are necessary for repair. It is not possible to perform repairs on your body while still racing through life at a high rate of speed.
- Lack of margin is one of the reasons the American family is collapsing today. Stronger relationships require time to build so making relationships must become a priority. More people are living isolated lives today and virtually friendless. Having margin in your life gives time to sit and talk, to listen and enjoy one another, and to provide the comfort we each need. There was a man who walked alone. He met a lady who walked alone. They married and walked alone together. This is not God's intention for marriage, but it is what happens when living without margin.
- When schedules are overloaded, one can only think of self. This person lives in survival mode, just trying to make it through another day. This prevents one from being available to God for service. When God opens a door or provides an opportunity to do good or serve Him, we have to decline His invite because we are too busy. We deprive both Him and ourselves and live with guilt for not being serviceable to God. We need room for options and the ability to pick and choose the best use of our time.

Be a Better Person

Don't we all wish that everyone would be a better person? Do we not hope that some bad people would turn their lives around and start doing good? Do we wish our neighbor would treat us better than before? Do we hope that the people we meet each day would show us respect and treat us fairly? If we expect others to be nicer and fairer, should we not make the effort as well? The Golden Rule is that we should treat others the way we would want them to treat us.

Be a better person now. Do not wait until next year and make a resolution about it. Do not put it off until next week or even tomorrow. Start right now. Look at the person closest to you and show them love. Pick up the phone and call someone who would appreciate a thoughtful consideration. Help someone who needs it, and even if they do not need help, help them anyway. Perhaps they will return the favor and help someone else. If we would just try, we could turn our society around and make it a pleasant adventure each day to interact with others. Smile. Wish someone a nice day. Be courteous. Encourage others to be good. Tell people about God and His promises. Read 1 John 3:17 and meditate upon it.

"My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth" (1 John 3:18). Don't just talk the talk, but walk the walk. Show your love to others.

"If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?" (1 John 4:20).

One way to turn your life around is to change your focus. When you focus upon God you become a better person. When you focus upon helping others, you become a better person. Our goal is to get people focused upon God and become people that are better. Our community would be much better if more people were better.

Carey Scott via Bulletin Digest

LADS TO LEADERS

Several of our youth and parents traveled to the Lads to Leaders Convention in Memphis this past weekend to compete with other youth from surrounding states. All of these young people have been working for some time in various areas that will help them to become the future leaders in the church.

We are so proud of our youth and their accomplishments. This year was the first time for many of our youth to participate. Following is the list of our youth's accomplishments; *Ella Boyd*, Pre K- 2nd grade oral Bible reading and songs of praise, *Cade Carpenter*, Pre K-2nd grade oral Bible reading and song leading; *David Clayton*, Know the Books, Centurion of scripture, year round song leading, 10th-12th winner's circle song leading participant, 10th-12th winner's circle speech 3rd place; *Owen Clayton*, Know the books, oral Bible Reading, 4th grade song leading finalist; *Molly Clayton*, Know the books, oral Bible reading and 3rd grade songs of praise participant; *Jodi Parks*, Know the Books, Centurion of scripture; 7th-9th grade Winner's circle songs of praise 1st place, 7th-9th Winner's circle Speech participant; *Mason Simmons*, Know the Books, 9th-10th grade photography participant, 9th grade speech participant. Please let these young people know how proud you are of them!

APRIL EVENTS

- 7th week Squad Retreat for 7th grade-college age at Maywood Christian camp April 6-8. Cost: \$40.00
- 27th Annual Ladies Day at Hwy 15 church of Christ Pontotoc is planned for April 7th beginning at 9:00am. The guest speaker will be *Angela Bates*. Lunch will be served.
- Area Wide Youth Meeting Sunday, April 8th at the Church St. congregation in Pontotoc.
- Jr. Bible Bowl April 15th, at Gloster St. in Tupelo.
- Outdoor Gospel Singing hosted by the churches of Christ in Hardeman County, TN, will be held April 14th at the Bolivar Farmer's Market beginning at 7:00pm. Bring a lawn chair.
- Pine Vale Children's Home Annual Benefit Golf Tournament is scheduled for April 21st, at the Shiloh Ridge Golf Club. Check the bulletin board for details.
- New Albany Church of Christ Gospel Meeting will be April 22nd-25th, with guest speaker *Chad Ramsey*.
- Ripley Church of Christ invites you to their 3rd Annual Youth Day, April 28th, beginning at 9:00am. The guest speaker will be *Ty Rhymes* from Pickwick COC.
- Our 5th Sunday services will be held April 29th. We will have a meal following morning services followed by a 1:15pm service lead by our deacons.
- A gathering is planned for 6:00pm April 29th, at *Phil Young's* place. Bring a lawn chair. More details later.

PRAYER LIST



Terry Young is under Hospice Care and not doing well.

Mary Frances Reid is not doing well.

Grace Anderson, mother of Kaye Parks is recovering from surgery on her leg.

Arelus Dye, father of Tim Dye is waiting the results of a biopsy of the mass in his bladder. His doctors are optimistic.

Bobby White was to have the tube removed from his bladder Monday, and also have tests.

Eleta Grimmitt is to have tests on her heart this month.

Sue Marques was to have a heart echo Monday, at the local hospital.

Ernestine McKinney, mother of Perry Jones, having wet wraps applied to her leg several times a day to try and prevent the need for amputation.

Sympathy: We express our sympathy to Jerry and Eleta Grimmitt on the death of their sister-in-law Arkie Grimmitt of Searcy, AR.

Continue to Remember:

William Bailey, David Crossings, Sandra Davis, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Violette Glass, Katie Grantham, Phillip Haynes, Donnita Hines, Shane Hutton, Gloria Jones, Johnny Lee, Nancy Petrowski, J.D. Stroud, Sam Warrington, Bobby White, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins: Teresa Clark, Maurine Drummond, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Jean Drummond, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Ernestine McKinney, Mary Frances Reid, Price & Claudia Senter, Ione Wall, Terry Young

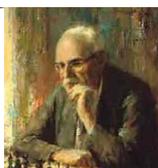
Military List: Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley & Chase Seals

Expectant Mothers: Sallye Bowlin (boy) April



I've Learned...

An optimist laughs to forget; a pessimist forgets to laugh.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April 11.Teresa Clark

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

April 07. Randy & Christy Wall



RESPONSE

Kathy Dye responded to the invitation Sunday night asking for forgiveness and prayers to become stronger spiritually. We commend Kathy on her desire to grow stronger spiritually every day. Please keep her in your prayers as she requested.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear church family,

Thank you so much for the diaper shower you gave us for Hayden! We are so blessed to be part of this congregation! We love each one of you. Please keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we welcome our new addition.

Love, Will, Sallye & Carson Bowlin

IT'S A GIRL!



Congratulations to Tyler and Heather Boyd on the birth of their daughter, Rivers Elizabeth Boyd. Rivers was born Thurs. March 29th, weighing 7lbs 2oz, and 19 3/4 inches. She is being welcomed by big brother Elijah and proud grandparents Troy and Novene Robertson.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We will have a new pictorial directory made the first of May. The dates the photographer will be here are May 3rd, 4th, & 5th. You may go to our web site and click on the camera icon to schedule the date and time that is convenient for you, or you may let the office know what time you would prefer. Everyone will receive a new directory and a 8x10 photo free of charge. You will have the opportunity to purchase other photos if you like. We need for every family to participate, please!

CONGREGATIONAL THEME:

Working as God's team in 2018!

Visit our website @ http://www.nacoc.us

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

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Volume 14

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Evening Worship.....6:00
 Wednesday Bible Study....7:00

MINISTER

Mike King 507-0625
 Home..... 534-6872
 Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
 Troy Robertson316-3163
 Phil Young.....316-2059

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
 Roger Clayton 538-8195
 Shane Crotts.....316-6364
 Jason Jennings.....801-3260
 Randy Wall 316-9255

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Shane Crotts
 A.M. Prayer.....Troy Robertson
 Closing Prayer. Richard Adams
 P.M. Prayer.....Kevin Simmons
 ClosingRonnie Griggs
 Wed. 4/11.....Tim Dye
 Wed. 4/11.....Kurt Clayton
 Lock 4/08....Terry Stubblefield
 Usher 4/08.....Greg Clayton

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....84
 Sunday A.M.....116
 Sunday P.M.....80
 Wednesday.....NA
 Contribution.....\$3,799.50
 Budget.....\$4,385.16



PANTRY ITEMS

Turnip Greens

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 148, New Albany, MS 38652

What Did You Think of Church, Daddy?

Every Sunday, just about noon, families walk out of church, get in the car and begin the drive home. Crucial religious instruction takes place then. Here are some of the positions a parent can take as these minutes tick away.

Act like you have never been to worship services. Do not mention anything that happened. The whole experience was lived in another world; now you are back in the real world.

Play ‘Devil’s Advocate.’ Take the opposite side from the preacher; punch a few holes in the sermon. Make fun of the song leader noting that he sang too slow, too fast; pitched the songs too low or too high; sang too many songs or not enough. Make fun of the prayer and the prayer leader. Criticize the entire services and all the public ministry.

Support the things that took place. There will be times when this will be easier to do than at other times. But make an effort always to be supportive. Speak kindly of the elders, deacons and ministers. Display an attitude of love and appreciation and above all unity. Remember the little ears that are listening and learning.

There is a teachable moment right after worship services. Give some thought as to what you make of it!

~ via Bulletin Digest ~