

August 13, 2020

Light Pollution

A little over a month ago, I was able to do something that I have not done in years. I was able to go out frog giggering with some friends. In order to do that, we have to find a good pond and most of those good ponds are outside of city limits. As we got out there, I was able to see something that I had forgotten was so beautiful. That was the night sky. I grew up out in the country in Bethpage. I saw the stars and moon my whole life, and many times I took it for granted, but ever since I have been married and live in Gallatin, there is something called light pollution that gets in the way. It makes it hard to see the night sky and how beautiful it truly is.

Sometimes we get light pollution in our spiritual life. We only see our immediate surroundings and it seems to us that we are in control of our life. I pay the bills, I clean the house, I protect what is mine. I am in charge of everything. Other times you may look around and feel as though your world is spinning out of control and there is nothing you can do to fix it. Sickness, job loss, family problems. It could be that fear, anxiety, and depression have snuck in. In **2 Corinthians 4:3-4** it says, "And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

Satan is good at light pollution. But when we are able to get out of that and look up we can truly begin to see the beauty that God has created. When the distractions of the days are done and you have a chance to be still., you begin to realize how very small you are in the grand scheme of things and that you are not in control. This thought can be scary at first or overwhelming but if you gaze a little longer you can begin to see the hand of the Creator. The glory of God. **Psalms 19:1-2** says "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge."

Whether you're feeling overly confident or a little insecure about your place in the world, sit back and look at the night sky. Stargazing will remind you that the God who created the world is in control of it and He loves you. He will take care of you and make sure that you are blessed. **Romans 8:28** says "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose."

In order to do that though, you must actively seek Him. Just like when looking at the stars, you have to be willing to travel, you must be willing to look for a place that is not polluted with the world. **Matthew 6:33-34** says, "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

As **Proverbs 16:9** says, "The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps." Are you allowing the Lord to establish your steps? Are you looking for His guidance or have your eyes and your heart been polluted by Satan and this world? Remember to take some time to sit back and look at the stars from our great Creator. **Andrew Spivey**

INTEGRITY

The term integrity has been defined in various ways. Some would say it is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. Others would say it is doing the right thing all the time simply because it is the right thing—doing the right thing knowing no one will know whether you did it or not.

I want to suggest, based upon Scripture, a life of integrity is what should characterize each Christian.

A life of integrity makes us like Jesus. "...Jesus Christ...went about doing good..." (Acts 10:38).

A life of integrity protects our reputation. "Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us" (Titus 2:7-8).

A life of integrity gives us confidence to face eternity. "Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain" (Phil. 2:14-16).

A life of integrity strengthens the message we share with others. "Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation" (1 Peter 2:11-12).

Doing the right thing—doing what Jesus Christ would do—will have a huge impact on our own lives and on the lives of others. Are we known as people of integrity?

*Bart Warren
Glasgow, KY
BulletinDigest.com*

BIBLE CHALLENGE

We want to encourage everyone to continue to do their daily Bible reading and send in how many chapters you read to the office for us to record for our daily updates. *Considering how fast we have exceeded our previous goals, let us make the next goal be 3,000! Chapters read to date: 2,910*

CHILDREN'S CORNER

CrossWORD

"God's Command"
Genesis 2

Across

- 1) God planted a ___ in Eden.
- 5) What Adam called his wife.
- 6) God commanded the man not to eat of the ___ of the knowledge of good and evil.
- 8) God blessed the ___ day.

Down

- 2) It is not good that than should be ___.
- 3) What man is made of.
- 4) God breathed into man the ___ of life.
- 7) It had yet to do this upon the earth.

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WORSHIP SERVICES

We have begun holding Sunday morning worship service. We have two Sunday morning services. If your last name begins with A-L, we ask that you come to the 9:00 am. service. For those whose last name begins with M-Z, we ask that you come to the 11:00 am service. We have begun Wednesday Bible Study in the auditorium for all ages at 7:00 pm. No classes will be held anywhere else in the building. We will still need to follow the new guidelines for social distancing and the wearing of masks.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

August 16, 2020

9:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....	David Johnson
Song Leader.....	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer.....	Fate Evans
Sermon.....	Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....	Lee Boone
Closing Prayer.....	Tim Cummins

11:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....	Tim Strickland
Song Leader.....	Jerry Watson
Opening Prayer.....	David Thompson
Sermon.....	Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....	Ken Veale
Closing Prayer.....	Brent Smith

WEDNESDAY,

August 19, 7:00 P.M.

Welcome.....	Tim Strickland
Song Leader.....	Ben Hutson
Opening Prayer.....	Adam Williamson
Lesson.....	Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....	Jim Cherry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sun. Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. & Sun. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
 Wed. Evening Bible Class 7:00 • Tues. Ladies Bible Class 10:00 a.m. September-May

SICK LIST

Alex & Wanda Sherrill are home with the covid-19. Prayers requested. Faye Britt has been diagnosed with breast cancer and had surgery on Aug. 7th. Carol Kidd began a new medication for a medical condition. Jonathan Senn is home recovering from foot surgery. Gerald Miles is now at the Waters in Gallatin for rehab. Allyn Hosman is home recovering from surgery and pneumonia. He is doing well. Donna Jennings has begun her radiation and chemo treatments. Jim Sweeney is home now on home health. Robert Williamson continues treatments for lung cancer. Cora Mayes-Barron, daughter of Barry & Rachel Mayes has been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Danny Lowe, cousin of Linda Cherry has been diagnosed with cancer. Jimmie Fleetwood friend of Jim Huffman is having health issues and asking for prayers. Annalee Burchett, six yr old granddaughter of Jerry Burchett (the minister at Hartsville church of Christ), has been diagnosed with leukemia. Austin Davidson, brother of Montana Elliott, has been diagnosed with mycosis fungoides. Beth Smith, sister-in-law to Bernice, Frances, Jean & Mary Ann, is now taking immunotherapy. Craig Sweeney, son of James & Doris Sweeney, has been accepted into a new drug trial clinic. John Arnold, father of Brenda Veale is homebound and dealing with serious health issues.

CARE LINE: 615-452-2464



PRAYER LIST

Bob Harris; J.H & Frances Catron; Melba Hill; William Dunn; Jean Deaton; Ron & Anna Radish; Donna Holmes, daughter of Eva Petty; Melvin Stephenson, father of Eric Stephenson; Wade & Wanda Kennedy, parents of Diana Stephenson; Bob Wall, friend of Betty Johnson; Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill; Will Flowers, brother-in-law of Grace Bracey. Dana Loveless, friend of Jim & Linda Cherry; Zachery Simmons, grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; Elias Benjamin Simmons, great grandson of Charles & Fay Simmons; Jane Huffard, friend of Carl & Pam Newby; Lester Sparks, father of Rachel Mayes; Debbie Sparks, sister of Rachel Mayes; Lawrence Redding, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale;

(cont)

Janice Haskins, sister of Jim Cherry; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; Wayne Holt, nephew of Grace Bracey; John Gregory, brother of Bob Gregory; Pam Flory, friend of Sherry Sever; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett; Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson; Betty Billingsley, sister of Wanda Proctor; Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill. We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

SHUT-INS

Ilene Kinney; Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; Bill & Jane Dunn; Cathy Henderson; Penny Campbell, The Village of Bellevue, Room 417, 8118 B Sawyer Brown Road, Nashville, TN 37221; Dorothy Sullivan, Front Porch Senior Living 115 Sunset Pl. Portland TN, 37148; Jean Thurman, mother-in-law of Myra Rasnick, Brookdale, Hendersonville.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	N/A
Morning Worship 9am.....	63
Morning Worship 11am.....	56
Wednesday Evening.....	
Contributions.....	\$5,290.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$7,959.92

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621
Jerry Watson.....	615-461-8137

Deacons

Carl Newby Brent Smith
 Ken Veale Adam Williamson



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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
 TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister