

PRAYER LIST

CHERYL BARRON, Stan Raley's sister, breast cancer

LINDA BULLOCK & family, passing of Charles Bullock, Saturday, October 10, 2015; funeral 10/14

MIKE CUMBERLAND, out-patient therapy

DAVE DAVIS

ODELL GURLEY, Jeremy's (Elizabeth Fair Gurley) granddad; lung cancer treatment

EVELYN GUY, health related issues

LAVON HENLEY, former member, passed away.

JUDY JENNINGS, former member; rare form cancer
2027 Green Gate PL ~ Grayson, GA 30017-1857

BETTY JOHNSON, home-bound; fell but doing well

SAILOR RAE JONES & her mother Melyna, friend of Jennifer Guy. Infant Sailor heart surgery recovery

ZANE LaBELLE, teen son of Lamar King's cousin

MIKE McCrARY, Josh McCrary's dad

REATHA RAINER

MRS GENE RALEY, Stan's mom – health issues

STAN RALEY

FAYE RARICKS, friend of Dewey Wall

ALETHA RAY, Moriah McCrary's mom – cancer
10218 US Hwy 98 ~ Fairhope, AL 36532

Surgery recovery at home; doctor gives positive report as to having removed all cancerous tissue

TED RIVES, hospice care

DAVID ROBINSON, Lona Moffett's dad

AL ST. CLAIR

ROB WARREN

EUGENE WHITE, health issues

EUGENE WHITE & family, passing of his brother, Robert, from Adele, GA; funeral Saturday 10/17

VELMA "DUCK" YATES

MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES

CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

October 22 : Rob & Doris Warren

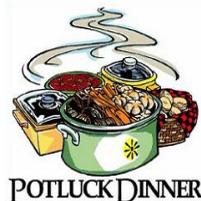
October 24 : Harley Madison

Note: If you are new to our family, or have changes to your info, please see Renée Cumberland.

Fourth Sunday Fellowship Next Sunday

following morning service. Evening
worship service to follow at 12:30.

As always, our visitors are our
most honored guests.



POTLUCK DINNER

Pine Vale Children's Home Fall Food Drive

Thanks to everyone who donated

Items for this year's

Pine Vales' Pantry

You are always willing to pitch in to help out
with needs of the children of Pine Vale

Former Member Passes

Lavon Henley of Daphne, Alabama
passed away on Saturday, October 10th.

The memorial service took place
Wednesday, October 14th

at Spanish Fort Church of Christ.

Donations may be made to the
Lavon & Virginia Henley Family

Endowed Scholarship,

at Faulkner University

~ 5345 Atlanta Hwy, Montgomery, AL 36109 ~

or *Rainbow Omega*

~ PO Box 740, Eastaboga, AL 36260 ~

Sackcloth and Ashes

Did you ever wear a starched feed-sack shirt? (I mean a real one, not the store-bought kind you see now-a-days.) Scratchy, ain't they? Can't you just imagine one made out of tow-sack? (Grass-sack, for some of us.) Well, wearing sackcloth had a special meaning at one time.

King Ahab, stirred by Jezebel, was an evil man. But when Elijah told him the dogs would eat Jezebel, he "rent his clothes, and put sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went softly." And God said, "because he humbled himself before me" judgment upon his house will be postponed. (1 Kings 21:27-29)

When Mordicai wished to mourn the plight of the Jews, he "put on sackcloth with ashes, and went out into the midst of the city, and cried with a bitter cry." (Esther 4:1-f)

Then, in Nineveh, when the people heard the prophet foretell their doom they "proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth;" and Jesus said "they repented at the preaching of Jonas." (Matthew 12:41)

Humility (of self-censure), mourning, submissiveness, and the like are graphically represented in this early wearing of "sackcloth and ashes." It said clearly, "I am nothing – my former robes of purple (Isaiah 37:1) were but tents of pride – I need help." Little wonder such conduct was associated with repentance – and Christ could say of Tyre and Sidon, "they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes." (Matthew 11:21) Abject humility, while not "repentance," is certainly an essential ingredient. We wonder if the whole of "sackcloth and ashes" should not also be included.

It is not the symbol itself to which we refer. We suspect many would wear the sack, who had not yet put on the things for which it stood. But when we see the casual way in which repentance is treated – a sort of academic pause between faith and baptism – there is little resemblance to the spirit of "sackcloth and ashes." The substance should far surpass the shadow – must do so if it is real. Do you see such "fruits meet for repentance" today? (Note Matthew 4:8)

Years ago a young lady came forward, wanting to be baptized. I said something about the joy she must feel in knowing that her sins could be washed away; and she looked at me in astonishment. "Sins?" She seemed shocked that I would suggest such a thing. That is "sackcloth and ashes"? A backsliding saint is encouraged to "make correction." His situation is an embarrassing one, and makes for a "sticky situation" among friends, so he "comes back to the church," or he "makes acknowledgment" to the church. This is "sackcloth and ashes" before the Lord? Are we kidding ourselves?

Our inability to see and judge the heart of man should provoke charity; and I am aware that external signs and symbols may be most hypocritical. This article is completely misunderstood if you think I am calling for "demonstrations" of repentance. But I challenge you to consider the lesson contained in the ancient "sackcloth and ashes" and apply it to your life.

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