

PRAYER LIST

PAUL ALLEN, recovery/rehab at:
North Pointe Health & Rehabilitation
211 Windmill DR ~ Meridian, MS 39305
Phone: 601/486-2525

CHELSEA AYCOCK, age 24; cancer recovery; friend of Lara King; girl-friend of Renée Cumberland's cousin

CHERYL BARRON, Stan Raley's sister
ANN BOWLING, friend of Kitty Dooley & Linda Collie
RITA CHAPLIN, friend of Renée Cumberland, in Waukegan, IL; diagnosed with stage 4 cancer

BILL COLLINS, health issues
RENEE CUMBERLAND, out pt knee surgery, Mon. 7/25
DAVE DAVIS
SUE DAVIS, knee surgery recovery
KITTY DOOLEY, knee replacement recovery
North Pointe Health & Rehabilitation
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TERRY FINLEY, Shannon's uncle, back surgery 3/14
ODELL GURLEY, Jeremy's (Elizabeth Fair Gurley) granddad; lung cancer treatment
EVELYN GUY, diabetic issues
CHRIS HATCHER, brother-in-law of Paul Guy
ROCIO JENSEN, surgery recovery;
BETTY JOHNSON, home-bound
SAILOR RAE JONES & her mother Melyna, friend of Jennifer Guy
BERNARD KNOT, Laurie Hall's brother; by-pass surgery
NAN LEGGETT, friend of Mike & Renée Cumberland
MIKE McCRARY, Josh McCrary's dad
BETSY PARNELL, friend of Cindy Harper – chemo/radiation for cancer
REATHA RAINER, in dementia facility; % Adrian Rainer ~ 5310 Tara AVE ~ Northport AL 35473
MRS GENE RALEY, Stan's mom – health issues
STAN RALEY
ALETHA RAY, Moriah McCrary's mom – cancer treatments; 10218 US Hwy 98 ~ Fairhope, AL 36532
AL ST. CLAIR
DEE TUCKER, Shannon Finley's cousin, health
ROB WARREN, fell, spraining knee
EUGENE WHITE
VELMA "DUCK" YATES
MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

July 25 : Baylie Eastman
July 25 : Gene & Holly Hurst
July 30 : Terry Dyer

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

Fourth Sunday Fellowship Today



POTLUCK DINNER

Following morning service.

Our Evening worship service will follow at around 12:30.

As always, our visitors are our most honored guests. Please plan to join us!

"What To Do If You Miss Heaven"

~continued from cover~

The Scriptures tell that there are few that will go to heaven. *"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."* Matthew 7:13-14. Most of the world does exactly what they want. They have the least bit of concern for God's wishes and requirements. "..., and the whole world lieth in wickedness." 1 John 5:19. Here we have another reference to the great number that will miss heaven. Again, few will be going to heaven.

WHY WILL THERE BE SO MANY MISSING HEAVEN?

Many will not obey God. Hebrews 5:8-9 reads, *"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;"* There will be no salvation without obedience. Jesus was obedient and we must be the same. In Revelation 22:14 we read, *"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."* Obedience is a prerequisite to salvation. Many will miss heaven because they refuse to obey God.

Many are filled with pride. Edom was filled with pride (Obadiah 3, 4). This is a major barrier for many in

the world today. Many are too proud to admit they are wrong. Many are caught up in themselves. Destruction came to Judah because of her pride (Zephaniah 2:10-15). She said, "I am, and there is none beside me." Like Muhammad Ali said, "I'm the greatest." Pride will cause many to miss heaven (James 4:6). In 1 Corinthians 10:12 we read, *"Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."*

Many refuse to live faithfully. *"Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:"* 2 Peter 1:10. Give "diligence" to be sure; We will go to heaven "if"... In John 8:31 we read, *"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believe on him, If ye continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed;"* – an "if"/"then" statement. There is no such thing as once saved always saved! There is no way we can go to heaven unless we remain faithful unto the Lord. God is a God of severity to the unfaithful. (Romans 11:22).

Because of sin we are separated from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). Unforgiven sin will cause us to miss heaven. Sin brings death, separation from God. Sin is the reason people miss heaven (James 1:13-15).

~to be continued in next week's Meridian Messenger Bulletin~

from the desk of Bill Collins

1. **My Health:** Heart Cath did not show any need for further stints. Did find some problems, but Dr. decided to and treat with medication. Added 3 new medicines in an effort to control situation.
2. **NOTE OF THANKS:** *A very special note of thanks to my Meridian church of Christ Family, for all the prayers offered up on my behalf during the past 3 weeks. You have been so kind and encouraging in your prayers and get well cards. They have meant a lot to me as I have struggled with, not only the physical part of trying to get better, but also the mental battle that sometimes goes with trying to get back on my feet. It is so wonderful to have such a loving and caring church family, and I thank God often for you.*
3. **New Wednesday night class began 7/13/16 entitled: "A Church That Shines"** – Acts, chapters 1-12. This will be a two part series on the book of Acts. This first part, on *A Church That Shines*, will discuss what it was about the first century church that made it shine so that it attracted so many new Christians; and how we as a church can use the same principles to shine and be attractive to people in our city.
4. The second lesson series will be entitled; **"A Church That Spreads"** – using Acts, chapters 13-28 to show the principles used by the first century church to spread the gospel to the known world during one generation. If you have not been in the habit of attending Wednesday night Bible Study, it is our hope that you will join us each Wednesday night at 6:00 PM for this very interesting study of the early church and how we can apply their same principles in the Meridian church of Christ to help us grow both Spiritually and numerically.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016 is now history
Thanks to all who took part in making this year's VBS a success!