

PRAYER LIST

RILEY AGAN, Jared Agan's brother – possible surgery if determined cut tendon while carving pumpkin
CHERYL BARRON, Stan Raley's sister
JO ANN BROSELL, friend of Kathy St. Clair – surgery, Wednesday 2/22/2017
TED BRWON, Sherri Clopton's dad, is home from rehab following stroke
RAY CANTRELL, brother of Linda Bowen of Waynesboro; Anderson Hospital
MIKE CUMBERLAND, leg issues/home therapy
PEGGY CUMBERLAND, leg issues/home therapy
ODELL GURLEY, Jeremy's (Elizabeth Fair Gurley) granddad; lung cancer treatment
THERMAN HODGE, surgery recovery for cancer
JERE JENNINGS, Judy's husband – multiple blood clots in lungs
JUDY JENNINGS, former member; cancer recurrence ~ 2027 Green Gate PL ~ Grayson, GA 30017-1857
BETTY JOHNSON, home-bound
WALTER KING, Lamar's dad, post-aneurism surgery recovery at home
NAN LEGGETT, Brookhaven, MS area; friend of Mike/Renée Cumberland; leg muscle syndrome
JENNIFER MARTIN, auto accident spinal injury
BETSY PARNELL, Cindy Harper's friend - cancer
NANCY PUCKETT, Sandra Callens' aunt - cancer
MRS GENE RALEY, Stan's mom – health issues
STAN RALEY
AL ST. CLAIR
ZELIA STEPHENS, aunt of Jason Smith; cancer
THELMA TALBERT, Shirley Raley's mom
RUTH TAYLOR, Room 102 at Brookdale Meridian, 4555 35th AVE, Meridian, MS 39305
ROB WARREN
WAYNE WARREN, Rob's dad – possible heart surgery
EUGENE WHITE, injury/fall from ladder
VELMA "DUCK" YATES
MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

November 30 : Mary White
December 1 : Angela Duncan

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

Upcoming Holiday Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 24th, 10am Worship Service only

Adult Christmas Party

This year's party is set for Thursday, December 7th. This year we will be dining and playing Dirty Santa at Red Lobster located on the South Frontage Road, Meridian. Festivities to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Those wishing to join in the fun, whether or not you decide to participate in the Dirty Santa game, please sign up on the flyer on the foyer bulletin board, or contact Renée and she will add you to the list. Please indicate the number attending in your party so we can give a total to Red Lobster a week before the party. If you do plan to participate in the *Dirty Santa* game, please keep in mind the gift price remains at a maximum of \$20.



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Teen Christmas Party

Friday, December 8th from 6pm-until at the Meridian Church of Christ fellowship hall. In addition to eating supper, we will wrap Pine Vale Children's Home gifts. If you want to play Dirty Santa, bring a gift of no more than \$10.

Pine Vale Children's Home Christmas Party Saturday, December 9th

Bring Pot Luck Foods. The fun begins at 11am at the Foote Street Church of Christ Annex. For information on helping with the purchases of our assigned 10 year-old, 5th grade young lady, please see Glenda Rives. Wish List is on the foyer bulletin board. There will be a caravan traveling to Corinth. See Randy Rives if interested in going.



Reasons to Rejoice

From today's Montana Street bulletin, comes the following above titled article by Brother Joe Goodspeed, retired preacher for the Longmire congregation in Conroe, Texas. In the following article, he lists several reasons for Christians to rejoice in the Lord:

The Bible speaks a number of times regarding rejoicing. David once stated, "***This is the day which the Lord has made,***" and then he added, "***We will rejoice and be glad in it***" (Psalm 118:24).

Why isn't that just as true today as the day David wrote it? A celebrated writer once wrote, "Every new day is a miracle." The point: "the Lord did not owe us another day, but He gave it to us."

In the days of Nehemiah, when the people of God had combined their efforts in a great cause, they were coaxed to rejoice, and were reminded: "the joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:9-10). Then the people responded with great rejoicing "because they now understood the words that had been made known to them (Nehemiah 8:12).

Even in the shadow the hideous cross, Jesus told the disciples, "***Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world***" (John 16:33). Of course, they were not glad that Jesus had to suffer so, but were to rejoice at the happy results — their redemption (cf. Ephesians 1:7; Romans 3:24-25).

It is recorded of the early church that they "***received their food with glad and generous hearts***" (Acts 2:46 ESV).

In the marvelous book of Philippians, we read that Paul counseled Christians to "***rejoice in the Lord***" (Philippians 3:1); and then a chapter later repeated, "***Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I will say rejoice***" (Philippians 4:4). The Thessalonians were instructed similarly, to "***rejoice always***" (1 Thessalonians 5:16).

What a wonderful reason Jesus gave the early disciples to rejoice when He said, "***rejoice that your names are written in heaven***" (Luke 10:20).

Have we ever thought that when we are told to "rejoice," that it implies making a conscious effort to do so? Happiness is not automatic — it's a choice!

"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4).

Mike Riley ♦ gewatkins.net/reasons-to-rejoice/ ♦ February 18, 2017