

PRAYER LIST

CHERYL BARRON, Stan Raley's sister
BECKY BROWN, Sherri Clopton's mom
LINDA BULLOCK, medical issues/tests
DWIGHT CALLENS, upcoming surgery
ALAN DES ORMEAUX, Vinson friend; cancer
CHARLES DOOLEY, non-malignant results
TAMMIE DUNN, Linda Bullock's daughter
CHRIS EMOND, Madison family friend; cancer
ALANA FAIR
JAMES GORDON, Bridget Smith's dad
ANTORIAS GROVES, Ethel Clark's son-in-law,
EVELYN GUY, health issues
BUD HARPER, Cindy's bro-in-law, health issues
TERRY HARPER, Cindy's husband health issues
THERMAN HODGE
JACK HUNTLEY, Callens friend
BILLY JOHN health issues
JORDAN KEMBLE, Warren friend; brain tumor
LAMAR KING
WALTER KING, Lamar's dad
JACK MEARS
JAKE NESTER, Fair friend – passed last week
CHARLENE RALEY, Stan's mom – health issues
STAN RALEY
GRADY RICHARDSON, Angela Duncan's dad
AL ST. CLAIR
MATTHEW STOKLEY, Duncan friend - cancer
THELMA TALBERT, Shirley Raley's mom
RUTH TAYLOR, Brookdale/Meridian
ANNIE THOMAS, Edna Toole's mother, health
TERRY TRIBBLE, Renée Cumberland's friend
PERRY TUBBY, Brandie Madison's dad
ANNIE WEBB, Cindy Harper's g-grand-daughter
MAX WEBB, Cindy's grandson, deployed
MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICES
OUR GOVERNMENT – NATIONAL & S TATE
CHURCH MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE

ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

May 29: De'Lana Rushing

My small mind can't comprehend,
My simple heart can't understand,
My humble soul can't take it in -
The glory of the cross.

I'm grateful that you love me still,
And offer that your spirit will
Provide what I cannot fulfill -
To glorify the cross.

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The Race of Life

Like a sprinter who pulls up lame in the 100-meter dash, so is the Christian who does not maintain confidence in Christ firm until the end. The Christian life is a daily commitment to follow Jesus (Lk. 9:23). It is a race which must be completed (Heb. 12:1-2). One cannot stop half-way through the race. We must give our best effort every step of the way!

The Hebrew writer says that if we wish to be partakers of Christ, we must “hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end...” (Heb. 3:14). The runner has no chance of victory without crossing the finish line. Similarly, the Christian must be faithful until death in order to receive the crown of life (Rev. 2:10).

Another important thing to keep in mind is that we cannot rest upon past accomplishments. It would be foolish to stop half-way through the race, turn around to see how far we have come, and then conclude: “Well, I guess I’ve made it far enough!” Jesus says, “No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God” Lk. 9:62). The apostle Paul, who worked tirelessly for the sake of Christ, never reached a point where he said, “I have done enough!” He continually reached forward, pressing on for the sake of Christ (Ph. 3:13-14). In the same way, we must give our hearts in steadfast devotion to the will of the Lord.

All that God requires is that we put forth our best effort. We stumble and falter at times, but we must get back in the race and concentrate on doing our best for the Master. Like the runner who lunges forward with his last ounce of strength to reach the finish line, so also the Christian must run in such a manner as to win the race of life (1 Cor. 9:24). The race is set before us. Our goal is heaven. The strength we need comes from the Lord. But, we must do the running every step of the way.

Glen Elliott ~ April 30, 2021 ~ <https://www.gbcofc.com/2021/04/the-race-of-life/>

