

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

November 26, 2017

Am I Conspicuous ?

Some years ago David Reisman wrote a book, *The Lonely Crowd*. As a part of his research, he interviewed some children about comic strips. He asked one twelve year-old girl, "What comic strip do you like the most?" After a bit she confessed that her favorite was "Superman." He then asked, "Why do you like Superman?" After thinking for a moment she replied, "I suppose I like him because he can do so many things that other people can't do . . . he has X-ray vision and his hearing can pick up things miles away, and I suppose because he can fly." The interviewer then asked the girl, "Well, would you like to be able to fly like Superman?" The girl thought a moment and replied, "I think I would – if everybody else could too. Otherwise it might be a little conspicuous, don't you think?"

She liked Superman because he was different; but she wasn't sure *she* wanted to be different, even though it would be a thrill to fly. Being different does have a way of making one conspicuous, doesn't it!

As I see it, this is a difficulty many Christians seem to wrestle with. We know that we are not to be conformed to this world, but rather to be transformed by the renewing of our minds, yet it is difficult for many of us to do. It's so conspicuous! Thus the temptation is always there to fall in with the crowd and thereby

augment the power of evil through our tacit approval, if not through outright applause. We hate to be a "kill joy" or take an unpopular stand. So, to be safe and inconspicuous, we go along with sheer inanity, vulgarity, or immorality.

Should we dare to be different, and take our Christianity seriously, there is no doubt we will stand out in the crowd. Come to think of it, do you suppose this is what Jesus had in mind when he called upon us to be light in the darkness? Or the salt of the earth?

The question which haunts me is, "Am I as conspicuous as Jesus wants me to be?"

— John Gibson

“The test of character is not whether you conform to moral standards when they are the community norm, but whether you continue to adhere to them when the community strays elsewhere.”

Thanksgiving

Let us come before him with thanksgiving.

— Psalm 95:2

On September 6, 1620, the Mayflower set sail from Plymouth, England, with 102 passengers. “God sifted out a hundred and two seeds from the civilization of Europe to plant a new nation on these shores,” wrote Longfellow.

A year later forty-nine of the 102 were dead—victims of malnutrition, disease, and exposure to harsh New England weather.

Even so, that autumn the Pilgrims celebrated their first harvest in the New World with a three-day festival of thanksgiving.

In 1623, Governor William Bradford issued a Proclamation of Thanksgiving. “As one small candle may light a thousand,” he wrote, “so the light here kindled hath shone to many.”

And to many more today as we, the richly-blessed descendants of those immigrants lift our voices in praise and our hearts in gratitude.

God bless America, Land that I love ...
God bless America, My home sweet home.

— Irving Berlin

A thankful heart is the father of many virtues.

— Joe Barnett

**A man is no fool who
gives what he cannot keep
to gain what he cannot lose.**

Shelby Manor :

Please be reminded that we have the services at Shelby Manor this afternoon. The service starts at 2:30 and lasts only about a half hour, but has a lasting effect. Please join us there and be a part of this ministry.

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing : Microwave popcorn, Little Debbie treats (preferably brownies, fudge rounds, oatmeal pies), Gummi Bears, Jolly Rancher candy

NEXT WEEK : (December 3, 2017)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : Butch

Table & Announcements : Jonathan

**"Never be afraid to try something new.
Remember that amateurs built the ark
Professionals built the Titanic."**

Prayer list :

Ernie Wasson : Ernie (Herrick congregation) is scheduled for surgery on Dec. 4 to remove an aneurism.

Nancy Miller : Nancy is recovering from two broken arms.

Bob Stevens : Awaiting schedule for bypass surgery

Brenda Stevens : MRI shows no blood clots in lungs

Robin Shumard : having significant issues with her feet

Ron Bartanen : Ron's condition remains basically the same; blood clot in left leg and clots in both lungs preventing surgery to remove the large, painful stone from his bladder cannot.

Hailey Wilhour : Madonna's niece, Haley Wilhour is continues to receive chemo treatment for acute myeloid leukemia.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Ruby, Doris, Mary Smith, Marg, Pete & Hazel, Betty, Francis

Other members with ongoing issues :

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues

Megan Nichols : Is now taking weekly physical therapy.

Rosanne : It's painful but Rose is getting around with a cane

Madonna : Madonna's chemo will continue indefinitely.

Glenda Hyneman : Improving, but issues remain / surgery

Mindy Stevens : Experiencing immune system issues.

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend is suffering from kidney failure due to diabetes. Stabilized, but remains an ongoing problem.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders.**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Ya'll Come !