

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

December 15, 2019

Disruptions

Knock, knock.

“Who is it?”

Knock! Knock! Knock!

“Yes?” she said, cracking open the door.

“Mary?”

“Yes.”

“Mary, my name is Gabriel. Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you. . . . Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.”

“Uh-huh—how will this be, since I am a virgin?”

“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God” (Luke 1:28-35).

Talk about disruption! Mary was preparing for her marriage to the village carpenter. She intended to make her nest in a cul-de-sac three-bedroom-two-bath home in small-town Nazareth, and live her life here among family and friends.

Her brain was ready to explode: If what Gabriel says is true, I'll be the object of scandal and contempt. No one will buy this virgin-birth story—not my family, my friends, or my Rabbi. And not Joseph, my betrothed.

“Mr. Gabriel, uh, thanks, but no thanks. Count this girl out.”

That would have been an understandable response—but it wasn't Mary's response: “I am the Lord's servant,” she said. “May it be to me as you have said” (Luke 1:38).

In a breathtaking moment, Mary was transformed from a first-century tiny town nobody to an all-centuries worldwide leading lady whom all generations would call blessed.

“Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished,” said her kinswoman Elizabeth (Luke 1:45).

Mary lifted heart and voice in a song of praise: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior ... From now on all generations will call me blessed” (Luke 1:47-48).

From the moment she said, “Yes,” Mary planted her feet on the path of pain. There was a torturous trip to Bethlehem at full-term, an attempt by Herod to kill her newborn son, and a harrowing escape to Egypt to protect her baby. When he was grown, she saw him rejected by the religious establishment and abandoned by his disciples. And she watched him die at thirty-three.

You and I won't encounter a disruption as terrifying as the one Mary experienced with that knock at her door. But disruptions will come calling.

You have probably been bushwhacked already by a disruption that derailed your hope for an orderly, trouble-free life. Emotionally, you have plunged from gated-community comfort to under-the-bridge misery.

You've survived, but the scars remain tender—and you catch yourself looking over your shoulder, skittish about being blind-sided again.

The world has been a hostile place ever since Adam and Eve polluted our garden.

But along the way, God puts people like Mary in front of us—people ready to go wherever he wants them to go and do whatever he wants them to do, convinced that he will go there with them; people praising him even when facing fear, uncertainty, and pain; people who give us hope and courage;

It is spiritually healing to reach the point where we can say, “I am the Lord’s servant, let it be to me according to his will.” Then, in spite of the weight of the burden, we can raise our voice in praise: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”

— Joe Barnett

Special Thanks From Wayne

This past month has indeed been a time of trial. I have been dealing with a severe and still painful class-B staph infection in my leg which went almost to the bone. It was touch and go for a while. There was some talk of removing the leg, but your prayers and ours prevailed. It is now in the early stages of a long healing process which will require many trips to the clinic in Effingham for both treatments and therapy. Meanwhile, my mobility remains limited and some special equipment will be required to reestablish circulation in my leg. Through it all, I have been sustained by your prayers and your expressions of love. **THANK YOU !** I thank God for you and that His hand of mercy was on me.

Wayne

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: Flavoring packets for water, Rice Krispy Treats, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, tuna packets, little containers of fruit in pull tab cans (plastic containers of fruit seem to get broken in shipping), Dried fruit, Little containers of spaghetti O’s in pull tab cans, Tums

Birthdays : Eric Steven Dec.-16

Reading : **I Chronicles 29: 1-13 ; Psalms 34: 1-3**

NEXT WEEK : (December 22, 2019)

Song Leader : **Tim**

Scripture Reader : **Larry**

Table & Announcements : **Greg**

Prayer List : .

Ruby Miller : Sis. Ruby remains in the bounce-back unit at the Manor while her bones heal and appears to be doing well.

Mary Smith : Sis. Mary is also in the bounce-back unit at the Manor while she recovers from a fall and a broken hip.

Jim Jarnigan : Greg's cousin Jim has been diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. Since little is known about this type of leukemia they are unsure how to proceed. Jim also has a blood clot in his leg so he is having severe mobility issues.

Doris Jarnigan : Jim's wife is going through physical therapy as she recovers from literally being run over by a truck.

Ellen Funburg : Our thanks for the prayers in the loss of Ellen's mom, Doris Pagel. Ellen is staying with her dad, Herman, for a while to try to get him oriented to his new circumstance. He is 95 but in reasonably good health. Please keep praying.

Ruby Bradd : The 3 yr old daughter of Stephen & Ranae is battling a very aggressive form of cancer. She has finished the full 20 weeks of chemotherapy at Springfield, but after the first of the year she will start receiving a different kind of chemo to be given in Chicago and immunotherapy later in the year.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Doris Faulkner : Rm. 603 in Alzheimer's unit at the Manor.

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is deteriorating.

*** 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 !

