

ABOUT OUR FAMILY...

OUR SICK Prayers have been requested for Diana Johnson's grandchildren, Madlyn and Riley Ellenberger. Madlyn had hip surgery and Riley has been having seizures. Peggy Spoon's tests have come back negative and she is cancer free. Mark Schow is doing better and is walking without a walker. Prayers were asked for Ronnie Reddell's mother, Nellie. Mary Hazelbaker went to her eye specialist in Springfield this week.

ASKS FOR PRAYERS AND FORGIVENESS Grace Anderson has asked for forgiveness and for our continued prayers. Remember to encourage Grace at this difficult time.

PLACES MEMBERSHIP Ken Jarrett and Rita Frazier have both placed their membership with this congregation. Welcome to you both. Ken: address is 10401 S. Ridge Dr, Joplin, 64804. Phone: 785-531-0416. Rita: 706 W. Eclipse, Joplin, 64801. Phone: 417-434-6426.

PICTURES FOR THE NEW DIRECTORY are now being taken in the 2 and 3 year old room, right off the auditorium. Plan to be there immediately following morning worship services.

SILVER CREEK will be this Sunday at 1:30 pm.

MILITARY BOXES will be sent out in October. If you know someone in the military and stationed overseas, please give Chrystal their name and mailing address, so a box can be sent to them.

LADIES RETREAT The ladies retreat will be held Oct. 28 and 29 at the Sand Castle Hotel in Branson. We will need at least 25 ladies to sign up by **THIS SUNDAY** in order to secure the rooms. See Barbara Claxton or Kristy Hoggatt if you have questions.

NEEDED FOR THE AUTUMN PARTY: 20 oz pop bottles, please leave *empty, clean bottles* in the provided box in the foyer.

FOLLOW-UP CALLS There are many cards left so see one of the elders if you are willing to help.

GOSPEL MEETING with Ralph Gilmore, a Bible instructor at Freed Hardeman. (Oct. 16-18) The title of his lessons will be "*Spiritual Renewal, Lessons from Ephesians.*" There will be a dinner at noon on Sunday and refreshments on Monday and Tuesday.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION on Sunday, Oct. 30. The entire contribution will be divided between victims of hurricane Irene and the building fund for the congregation in Mexico, MO.

FYI On Sunday, Nov. 6 we will have as a guest speaker, Chuck Northrop of the Bible Institute of Missouri.

Richard's Remark's – Reading our Bibles *Effectively* (Part 2)

In last week's bulletin article, I addressed an important fundamental in our efforts for continued spiritual growth - reading our Bibles. Yet, not only are we to be reading our Bibles, we need to be reading them *effectively*. It's one thing to simply read a passage of scripture. It's another to read a passage of scripture and get something from it. Last week, in an attempt to help with those efforts, I introduced "Nine Rules for Effective Bible Study" (an article written by Jason Jackson – www.christiancourier.com/articles/1200-how-to-read-the-book-nine-rules-for-effective-bible-reading.) We included the first five rules last week. This week, we'll provide the concluding four.

Rule Six - We must read the Bible *reverently*. Bible reading is not a matter of Pharisaic self-congratulation. It should not degrade into a mere routine. For reverent readers, Bible reading and prayer are inseparable (see Acts 6:4). The regularity of our reading should not diminish our respect for the words breathed out by God. To the contrary, I believe that the persistent reader will become more reverent through the passing of time.

Rule Seven - Because this book is from God for our utmost good, we ought to read the Bible *expectantly*. We must realize that the Bible will do for us what it can do for any person (2 Tim. 3:16-17). It is useful for teaching - what we need to know. It is profitable for reproof - what we must reject and refute. It is beneficial for correction - what we must turn away from and avoid. It is good for instruction in righteousness - what we must consider about our lives and duties with respect to God and man. Expect to grow stronger, be encouraged, and more fruitful, through regular contact with God's word. Conversely, spiritual atrophy is the expectation for those who do not open the Good Book. Confident that it is true, but void of its power, defines the complacent attitude toward the Bible in which the Devil, no doubt, rejoices."

Rule Eight – Read the Bible *fervently*. Mortimer J. Adler in his work, **How to Read a Book**, begins his chapter on 'How to be a Demanding Reader' with a yawning observation. By the way, get comfortable, and enjoy this quotation. 'The rules for reading yourself to sleep are easier to follow than are the rules for staying awake while reading. Get into bed in a comfortable

position. Make sure the light is inadequate enough to cause slight eyestrain, choose a book that is either terribly difficult or terribly boring; in any event, one that you do not really care whether you read or not, and you will be asleep in a few minutes. Those who are experts in relaxing with a book do not have to wait for nightfall. A comfortable chair in the library will do any time' (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1972, p 45). We must stay awake to effectively read the Bible. But more than that, we must read it with focus and fervency. It doesn't matter if the brain wanders while reading the latest editorial in the paper. The Bible matters. The kind of effort we expend in reading, comprehending, retaining, and applying God's Word, eternally matters. Choose a time of day when you are alert. Select a place where you will not become easily fatigued. Provide yourself with adequate lighting. And focus. It is work; it is soul-saving work – your own!

Rule Nine – We need to read the Bible *collectively*. As friends, dating couples, married couples, entire families, small groups, congregations – we can read the Bible together and all be better for it. On October 4, 1982 Ronald Reagan signed a Joint Resolution passed by the United States Congress. While it is worthy of being quoted in its entirety, I cite only the final paragraph: 'Resolved the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President is authorized and requested to designate 1983 as a national 'Year of the Bible' in recognition of both the formative influences the Bible has been for our Nation, and our national need to study and apply the teaching of the Holy Scriptures' (William J. Gederer, **America's God and Country Encyclopedia of Quotations**, Np: Fame Publishing, 1996, p 709-10). We desire and pray that our nation's leaders would resolve to do what that august body resolved. We, however, who are not wavered by infidelity nor distracted by the entanglements of the world – what have we resolved? The Bible demands more than lip service from members of the Lord's church. It requires our attention in addition to our affection (Ps. 1:2). Become, or continue to be, an effective Bible reader. That is exactly what God wants you to be."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursdays (weekly) -Teen Devos (see Graylon for details)

Oct 2 - KICK

Oct 19 - Autumn Party

PRAYER LIST

The Hearons
Ellen Reddell
Jo Barnes
Sharrolyn Reed
Mildred Houston
Michelle Hyder
Peggy Spoon
Jessica Johnson's friend
Daphne Dreher

Gayle Hardcastle
E. Trumbly's mother & sister
John Hornback
Virginia Frisbie
Mark Schow
Kathy Lawhon
Chester Anglen
Ethyl Thomas

MILITARY

Andy Reynolds (Iraq)
Jason Jones (Ft. Bragg, NC)
Paul Haverfield (Italy)
Justin Barnes (Afghanistan)
Ryan Kimbel (Iraq, Carrie Kimbel's brother-in-law)

If you want someone on the prayer list or taken off;
please let Martha or Kristy know.

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011	
Bible Class	77
Morning Worship	131
Contribution	\$2793
Budget	\$2520
Evening Worship	72
Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2011	56
Daily Bible Readers	19
Fair Haven	COOKIE MIX
	BROWNIE MIX

THOSE TO SERVE

MORNING

Announcements
Song Leader
Prayer
Lord's Supper
& Contribution

Prayer

Greeters

Clipboards

Communion

Open Building, Sept.

EVENING

Announcements
Song Leader
Prayer
Lord's Supper & Contrib.
Prayer

WED. EVENING

Announcements
Song Leader
Prayer
Devotional
Prayer

SEPT. 25

Graylon Miller
Dale Hoggatt
Fred Roesel
Ernie Trumbly
Dwain Addington
Q. Anderson
Brice Alumbaugh
E. Robertson
Derrick Perry
Mike Roughton
L. Thogmartin
Ed Hardcastle

Bryan Patrick
Sarah Patrick

Clayton White
Richard White

M/M Patton

Doug Claxton

Joe May
Doug Douthitt
Steve Johnson
Graylon Miller
Addison Kendall

SEPT. 28

Fred Roesel
Dale Hoggatt
Leon Johnson
Doug Claxton
Jerry Howell

OCT 2

Bob Reed
Mike Lawson
Mike Roughton
Graylon Miller
Gregg Admson
John Freeman
Doug Douthitt
Ryan Harris
Jerry Howell
Breck Skidmore
Sean Parks
Dale Hoggatt

Brian Alumbaugh
Joyce Alumbaugh

Dwain Addington
Doug Claxton

M/M Claxton

Richard White

Q Anderson
Dale Hoggatt
Addison Kendall
Bryan Patrick
Mike Lawson

OCT 5

Ernie Trumbly
Mike Lawson
Steve Johnson
Q Anderson
Addison Kendall

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<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Doug Douthitt	Dwain Addington	Richard
Jerry Howell	Dale Hoggatt	Chambers
Richard White	Steve Johnson	
	Fred Roesel	

MEETING TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class	9:00 AM
Morning Worship	10:00 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Tuesday Bible Class (Sept. - May)	10:00 AM
Wednesday Devo. & Bible Class	7:00 PM

September 25, 2011