

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

Signs of Grace
by Eddie Parrish

"We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brethren, as is only fitting, because your faith is greatly enlarged, and the love of each one of you toward one another grows ever greater; therefore, we ourselves speak proudly of you among the churches of God for your perseverance and faith in the midst of all your persecutions and afflictions which you endure" (2 Thess. 1:3-4).

Two things strike me as significant in these two verses. First, Paul expressed thanksgiving for the Christians in Thessalonica, and he affirmed that such an expression of gratitude was what he "ought" to do. Expressions of thanks were more than just a way to be polite in Paul's mind, they were an ever-present obligation.

Second, Paul's expression of gratitude for growing faith, love, and perseverance, was directed, not to the Thessalonians themselves, but to God. It highlighted those characteristics as indications of God's grace, help, and activity in their lives; therefore, God deserved the credit for them. But by mentioning his gratitude to the Thessalonians, they received encouragement and got a boost of confidence to grow even more.

Those two thoughts force me to ask myself a few questions: Do I feel the same sense of obligation to give thanks? Do I look for signs of God's grace and activity in the lives of my Christian family? Do I thank God for those signs of His grace? Do I encourage my brothers and sisters to greater heights of growth and service by telling them that I am grateful for what God is doing in their lives?

With email, smartphones, and social media, it has never been easier or quicker to communicate with each other. Why not employ those means to encourage others when you see evidence of God's grace in their lives?

Dates to Remember

- ★ Ladies meet the 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food
- Men meet the 4th Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.

Sermons and bulletins available @
Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.



Melbourne Church of Christ
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell
291-3439

Shelby Qualls
346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips 373-0546
David Brightwell 307-5714

Alan Love 243-4608
Joe Cooper 291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
368-7886
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

- Eula Fulbright is now at home and doing much better.
- Ty Cooper continues to show signs of improvement.
- Dalton Grigg was baptized recently. He and Jamie have placed membership with us. Their daughters are Harper and Hadleigh, and one foster son, Keegan. Please welcome the Grigg family to the Melbourne church!
- Congratulations to Brent and Lis Qualls in their recent marriage. A basket is set up for cards in the foyer.
- Melbourne CoC Homecoming will be Sunday, October 30. Mark Copeland will be our speaker with a meal following services.
- * Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

OPENING PRAYER Danny Runion

CLOSING PRAYER David Brightwell



DANNY BRIGHTWELL

Christ the Friend We Need

**Oft my heart has bled with sorrow,
Not a friend my grief to share;
But I yielded, Christ to follow,
And He took my load of care.**

**Once I sighed for peace and pleasure,
Felt a painful void within;
Life was gloomy, death a terror,
Till my soul was saved from sin.**

**All this world is dark and dreary,
And the soul, designed for light,
Must be sad and lost forever,
While it gropes in sinful night.**

**Sin made all my life so bitter,
Jesus makes it sweet and pure;
Now I'm free from every fetter,
Blest with peace forevermore.**

**Is there here a soul in trouble?
Whosoever needs a friend,
Jesus' love your heart will gladden,
Bless and keep you to the end.**

**Daniel S. Warner
1842-1895**



Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, A.J. Talkington

Officers: Steve & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb,
Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Health: Ted Kidd	Richard Gunter	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wilma Cooper	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Pritchard	Troy Gaston	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Donny Smith	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Helen King	Phil Haagenon
Mary Kosmitis	Dorothy Teague	Jim Fowler	Shirley Lewis
Diane Owens	Ivy Jo Slade	Jeff Young	Lynn Hicks
Justin Teague	Charlotte Cooper	Cecilia Broughton	Sue Campbell
Arlene Davidson		Chip & Regina Master	Deborah Halcom
Ted & Sanyia Austin		J.B. & Wanda Dill	

Nursing Home: Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Emma Jean Cooper

October Birthdays

Trena Humphrey 5 th	Ronnie Adkisson 6 th	Ethan Phillips 8 th
Chad Lawrence 10 th	David Brightwell 12 th	Tyler Wammack 15 th
Julie Qualls 22 nd	Sue Campbell 22 nd	Melanie Crosby 25 th
Hadleigh Grigg 25 th	Rita Hoskinds 26 th	Brooke Pritchard 26 th
Thomas Lamb 27 th	Heather Elms 30 th	

October Anniversaries

Mary & Ken Bone 14th

1 Thessalonians 5:15-22, "See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form and appearance of evil."