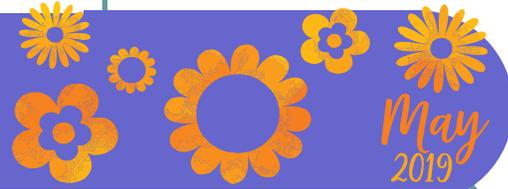


TIDINGS



MAY 2019

It Takes Grace...

“Think of all the hostility He endured from sinful people; then you won’t become weary and give up.” [Hebrews 12:3]

I’ve always been amazed at how easy it would have been for Jesus to say, “You know what? No one here appreciates me. I’ve changed my mind. I’m not going to die for these people. They just don’t deserve it.”

After all, consider what Jesus had to face. His own disciples in effect abandoned Him. Judas, His friend, betrayed Him. Peter, His staunchest supporter denied he even knew Jesus (three times). Then He was severely beaten – fists to the face, beard ripped out, thorns pressed into His head, back ripped open with whips, jeered at, laughed at, spit on...and then nailed to a cross.

Regardless of how on-again-off-again we are in our relationships, let me remind you that it was Jesus’ love for you that kept Him going. Hebrews 12:2 tells us that “because of the joy awaiting Him, Christ endured the cross, disregarding its shame.” What kind of joy awaited Him? It was you. It was me. It was us. Jesus did it all for us. He knew there was no other way that we could be made right with God.

Verse 2 also tells us that Jesus is “the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.” Translated: God finishes what He starts. He will complete the work in us. You might say, “Nobody understands. I cannot go on another day in these circumstances.”

And I would agree with you...*if* you are not willing to take your eyes off yourself. We need to face any and all trials with our focus on Jesus, not on our trials. Consider how He went to the cross for you. Jesus is the One (the only One) who will give you the strength to endure whatever you are going through. When we take our eyes off the Lord and put them on people or on the church or on the circumstances, we will most likely start to stumble. Let’s get our eyes off those things and look at Jesus. He will never fail. He will not let us down. He will keep us running the races of our lives – you and I winning that race is what gives Him joy. Blessings, RevLon

GREAT BANQUET SEASON COMING TO A CLOSE

Our Spring 2019 Great Banquet season will come to a close in May with the final three weekends:

- May 2-5 Green River Correctional Center
- May 16-19 Women’s #188

- May 24-25 West Kentucky Correctional Center
- Please be in prayer for the guests and teams, that the Spring season might finish as strong as it has been throughout the past

three months. We are truly grateful for everyone in the church who has served, volunteered, and prayed – there have been many kingdom victories!

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MOVING ON

May is always a month of moving on for those of us that work in youth ministry. It is a time that we celebrate the graduation of seniors and the up and coming students that will join into the youth groups. What a blessing it is to have that opportunity to be around the creativity and energy of teenagers as they go through their years here. This year we have six graduating that have been a member of our youth group over the past several years. Some have graced our path for all their middle and high school years and others for just a portion of that, but no matter how long they have been here it has been a joy to experience life with them. Congratulations to Taya Clary, Ashlee Goodwin, Dy Kimbrew, Makayla Stone, Cherdon White and Kaleb White. You have been such a blessing to us!

Jesus told his disciples to take care of the ones around them. To bless the children and train them up in the way they should go. Moses shared this with the people that he led to always be aware of the blessings of God and to talk about them and live out the faith they had in all that they do. That has hopefully been the theme of our youth program over the years and now it will be their chance to live that out as they move on to the next chapter of their lives. As we know Jesus and make Him known it is apparent in our words and our actions and in the way we choose to treat people around us.

This group has been faithful to participate

and help shape the group we now have. They have been ready to take part and make a difference in the lives of those around them. And I believe they will continue to use their own unique gifts and talents to shape the world they will enter. Our advice to them is to continue to live their lives in faith, hope and love. Faith in the One who has created them for good and redeemed them for a purpose. Hope for a future secure in the promise of His peace that will give them confidence of the Holy Spirit being present with them. And the power to love God and the people that He will bless you with. May that power of love be so evident in them that as they go forward folks will see the glow of their Savior and Lord reflect through them.

Be confident in who and whose you are but remember that doesn't mean you should be conceited. Be kind to those around you, even when it's hard, you have the ability and power to bless and not curse them. Show compassion and empathy to people that are going through tough times, they will remember your presence more than your words. Share what you can and give more than money, give your time and talents to make a difference to the causes God calls you to be involved in. Choose your friends wisely and make sure that you are an influence of positive change and not a follower of negative hate. Be aware of the opportunities around you that present themselves. Those just may be appointments that God has put in place to bless others and you in the process. Whatever you do in your

future work, know that it doesn't define who you are, but it can if you let it. Work as if you're working for God, because He has gifted you to be a difference maker wherever you are for a positive influence on coworkers as well as clients. So live life well and let God continue to shape you into the person He has called you to be. We love you and are so proud of you!

Romans 12: 1-2, 9-13, "And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality."

In Christ's Love, Rob

Romans 12



Youth News

May 8th is our annual Senior Celebration and Youth Fundraiser meal with a traveling trophy going to the winners of best grilled meat or best dessert. We are blessed to have six seniors this year that will be graduating, they are Taya Clary, Ashlee Goodwin, Dy Kimbrew, Makayla Stone, Cherdon White and Kaleb

White. Please come out to celebrate this accomplishment with them and to support the youth program that they have been involved in over the years. Thanks so much for all your encouragement, prayers and gifts to these God has entrusted to us. Hope to see you May 8th. And if you plan on entering a dessert or grilled

meat into the competition let Rob know ahead of time and have it at the church by 5:00 if possible.

Thanks again!

March 2019 Finances At A Glance

Income	\$28,728.78	YTD Income	\$71,765.51
Expense	<u>-\$21,598.99</u>	YTD Expense	<u>-\$73,408.66</u>
Net	\$7,129.79	YTD Net	-\$7,643.15
<u>Undesignated</u>		<u>YTD Undesignated</u>	
Income	\$22,630.78	Income	\$59,850.00
Expense	<u>-\$21,164.92</u>	Expense	<u>-\$69,456.10</u>
Net	\$1,465.92	Net	-\$9,606.10
<u>Designated</u>		<u>YTD Designated</u>	
Income	\$6,098.00	Income	\$11,915.51
Expense	<u>-\$434.07</u>	Expense	<u>-\$3,952.56</u>



Operating Funds

Beginning Balance	\$272,963.78
Ending Balance	\$275,237.85

THE NAVIGATORS ARE COMING!

Once again, we will be hosting the Navigators as they travel from Midwestern states on their way from college campuses in Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri,

and Illinois to spend a good part of the summer in Jacksonville, Florida for evangelism training and experience. About 100 students will spend the

night in our church on May 22.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

Our Wednesday Night programming will end for this school year on May 8 as we recognize our high school seniors (see Rob's article). I've heard from some of you that you'd like to see the Bible Study continue in some form or fashion

through the summer months. If the numbers warrant it, I would be glad for the learning to continue. Please let me know if you would prefer for us to continue with the 6:00pm hour on Wednesdays or if a day-time group would work

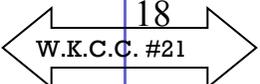
better, maybe 10:00am on Wednesdays. Let me know as soon as you can please, so I can be looking into new material for us to use.



2 nd	Merry Brooks	19 th	Monty Crawford
4 th	Tem Major	25 th	Chrissy Barker
8 th	Chesley Wilson	28 th	Alan Johnson
14 th	Rob & Denis Wilson (A)	29 th	Pat Bonney
15 th	Calvin Griffith		
16 th	Emily Fischels		
	Rick & Susanna Lee (A)		
	Linda Shanks		
	Steve Arnold		



May 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 5:15 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	2 Holocaust Remembrance Day	3 Green River C.C. Banquet #14	4
5 →	6 6PM Great Banquet Team Mtgs	7 6PM Session Mtg	8 5:15 Grill Master's Cook Off 6:00 Activities 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	9	10	11
12 	13 6PM Great Banquet Team Mtgs	14 Presbytery Meeting Bowling Green	15	16	17 	18 W.K.C.C. #21 Women's Great Banquet #188
19 →	20	21	22 Navigators (100)	23	24	25
26	27 	28	29	30	31	