

HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
DAY

# Church Chronicles



A Monthly Newsletter • Hickory Ridge Baptist Church, 1311 E. Valley Water Mill Rd., Springfield MO 65803 • 417-883-8176 • Volume 31 • 06/02/19

Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah. Psalms 84:4

## A Message From the Pastor's Desk

**G**od has been so good to all of us.



As summer nears, school ends for children and travel begins for families. Some have already left on vacation while others prepare to leave. While away, let us not abandon our worship and witness for our God and Savior Jesus Christ.

Last month, someone had stated that I over-emphasize evangelism. However, we read in Luke 14:23 the very last words of Jesus to his disciples: **And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel *them* to come in, that my house may be filled.** Jesus commanded His disciples to go, win, bring in, and teach them. Jesus challenges us today with this command.

The word “compel” means to urge them and press earnestly. Do not hear their excuses but urge them, in order to overcome their objections and lead them to church. We must prayerfully overcome their concerns.

We can plan for great church services, singing, preaching, fellowships and activities, but if we do not compel the lost to come, our church will assuredly remain as it is and may even die. Within the last two years in Springfield, I am aware of five churches that have either closed or are about to close their doors. We must pray that our church rises above this trend!

The fellowships, other activities, and all we do are implemented in order to inspire the church to bring in the lost so people can be saved and live a better life. Thank you to everyone who is faithful in serving and attending. May we all now step up and rearrange our priorities. Rather than do what we want, let us do what God wants. That way, people will walk through our doors and surrender their lives to Jesus. People being saved will yield excitement, joy and fulfillment not only to the church and heaven but also to us.

**Our motto this year is: Serving the Lord More in 2019.**



**Psalms 100: <sup>2</sup> Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. <sup>3</sup> Know ye that the LORD he is God: *it is he that* hath made us, and not we ourselves; *we are* his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**





Pastor Richard Mouery

**Church Chronicles**  
A monthly newsletter

**Staff:**

Richard Mouery, Pastor  
Jonathon Creech, Music Minister  
Joe Montgomery, Head Usher  
Ron Pittman, Treasurer

**Service times:**

- ◆ Bible study Sunday 9:30 am
- ◆ Sunday worship 10:30 am
- ◆ Sunday evening 5:00 pm
- ◆ Wednesday night 7:00 pm

**Church ministries:**

- ◆ Kidz Kconnect Service
- ◆ Visitation
- ◆ Youth ministry
- ◆ Sunday snacks
- ◆ Ladies Fellowship
- ◆ Men's Fellowship
- ◆ Food pantry
- ◆ Van ministry

**Newsletter guidelines:**

- ◆ All newsletter articles should point to Christ.
- ◆ Articles longer than one page will be run as a series.
- ◆ Please submit articles by the third Sunday of each month.
- ◆ Everyone is encouraged to write and contribute.

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## Children's Humor

A mother asked her little girl what she learned in Sunday School. She said she learned about God creating Adam and Eve. "Tell me about it" said mother. The little girl began, "Well, God created Adam out of the dust of the earth, but he was very lonely and wanted some company, so God picked him up, sat down in a big rocking chair and rocked Adam to sleep; then took out his brain and created Eve."

Javacasa.com



Reverend Fun. Used with permission. Both comics.



## Scripture of the Month

**The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.**  
*Nahum 1:7*

Dear Pastor, I hope to go to heaven someday but later than sooner. Love, Ellen. Age 9, Athens

Dear Pastor, I would like to go to heaven someday because I know my brother won't be there. Stephen. Age 8, Chicago *Fun pages.com*



"Do not let the sun go down on your wrath."  
Letting it come up on your wrath isn't good either.

## Words of Wisdom

We can't give our all to Jesus and keep some for ourselves.

- Woodrow Kroll

# What's In A Name?

**“The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.”**

*Proverbs 18:10*

“The names of God are not of human invention, but of divine origin though they are all borrowed from human language, and derived from human and earthly relations” (L. Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*).

Learning the names of God would be a highly beneficial endeavor due to their significance to us according to the following examples:

Matthew Henry says: “The better God is known, the better He is trusted.”

Charles Spurgeon says: “By knowing His Name is also meant an experimental acquaintance with the attributes of God, which are every one of them anchors to hold the soul from drifting in seasons of peril.”

In short, two reasons to learn His names are to increase faith and escape snares. Knowing His names would conduct power into our lives that addresses particular circumstances.

God wants us to familiarize ourselves with His many names, which exist due to His enormity. According to the follow scripture, knowing His name is powerful:

*<sup>14</sup>Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. <sup>15</sup>He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. Psalm 91:14-15*

Applying His names in every day life would prove indispensable. We could pray, sing, worship, and cry out to Him using His names. He loves us being familiar with His names.

We will study them one at a time, learning their meanings as well as how to spell and pronounce them. How moving it will be to know God better! In July, we will learn the name Elohim.



*Clipart Library*

## My Earthly Dad

With these three words,  
 "Dear Heavenly Father,"  
 I begin my every prayer,  
 But the man I see  
 While on bended knee  
 Is always my earthly dad.  
 He is the image  
 Of the Father divine  
 Reflecting the nature of God,  
 For his love and care  
 And the faith he shared  
 Pointed me to my Father above.

Fairchild, Mary. "8 Christian Father's Day Poems." Learn Religions, Apr. 17, 2019, [learnreligions.com/christian-fathers-day-poems-700672](https://www.learnreligions.com/christian-fathers-day-poems-700672).

## Lifting Holy Hands

**“Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.” Psalm 63:4**

People sometimes lift their hands to God because it is a Biblical way to worship. The act expresses, i.e., love, awe, supplication or a need for Him. Blessing God is another reason for raising hands. Raising hands, not a required act, is a demonstration, arising from the heart, of worship of Almighty God. Lifting hands is one way of praising and reaching to God.



# The Disciple Jesus Loved

**J**ohn was born in Bethsaida to Zebedee and Salome, who, some say, was the sister of Mary, mother of Jesus. John's brother was James. No evidence in the Bible points to John ever having been married. The Bible tells us that during his life John had occupied himself as a fisherman, disciple of Christ, Apostle and author. People largely agree that John authored the Gospel of John, John I, II, and III, and the Book of Revelation. Four times in the Gospel of John, he calls himself "the disciple Jesus loved." Tradition has it that he outlived the other Apostles and died in Ephesus.



The journey begins when Jesus called the brothers to follow him as they worked as fishermen on the Sea of Galilee. They exited their boat and left their father to follow Him.

A glance at John in this story reveals him to have been faithful. John, along with others, accompanied Jesus during the healing of Jairus' daughter, at the Garden of Gethsemane, and on the mount of transfiguration. He was present during the trial of Jesus in the high priest's house. John is recorded as the only Apostle having been present at the crucifixion of Jesus.

In a way, John's life proved a life of contrast. John joined Peter after Pentecost to boldly declare the Gospel in Jerusalem. As a result, he was beaten and incarcerated. Due to the persecution of Christians, John was banished to the Isle of Patmos, twenty miles off Turkey, a rocky place where criminals were sent to die. Nevertheless, he turned defeat into victory: from beatings and jail to Bible authorship and divine visions. Trials will come just because we are children of God. Let us follow the Apostle John in turning trials into triumph.

## Wisdom Literature

**With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding. Job 12:12**

Wisdom literature in the Bible consists primarily of the books of Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes. Topics relate largely to human endeavors, suffering, struggles, and every-day living. The wisdom books deal little with historical facts. The author of Job is unknown. Job is thought to be the oldest book in the Bible, dealing with human suffering, which comes with God's permission. Solomon wrote much of Proverbs; others contributed as the sayings were collected over time by a group of men. That Proverbs is significant is exemplified by the fact that Jesus and His followers quoted it. This book shows people how to live, using sayings that point out actions to emulate or shun. Most attribute Ecclesiastes to the authorship of Solomon. He outlines activities he thought would lead to happiness and concludes the only way to happiness is to "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." While the wisdom literature books were written to instruct the Jewish community in living their lives, the teachings are relevant and conducive to modern-day Christians.