Remember in Prayer

**Northside Congregation:** Betty Gay (recovering from surgery); Bob & Linda, Lori & Dylan (out of town); Teddy Jacobs; Ron Fairchild; Family of Harvey Ray; Betty Famiglietti; Anne Langford; Rosemary Fairchild; Alma Hanis; Charles Williams; Pat Ledford; Donna Smith; Janie Owens; Carla Murray

**Shut-Ins:** Betty Gay; Ginger Matusovich; George Smith; Cherrie Bour; Chiquita Brown

**Friends and Family:** Julie Wilson (Kadie's friend, cancer, not doing well); Louis Green (Molly's nephew, cancer – only given a short time to live); Shirley Lydic (sister of Bob Hadsock, recovering from stroke); Dan Rogers (co-worker of Ann Paree, lung cancer); Ann Paree's son Mark no longer has an aneurysm; Connie Higgins (cancer) and Tami Hassick (surgery - family members of Dawn Duncan); Family of Sandra Anderson (Ron's sister); Jeff Goldberg (bro. in law of George Smith, kidney trouble); Yvonne Fulford; Shelby Hilton (finished cancer treatment); Brittany Adams (recovering from sky-diving accident); Matthew Holleran (Marine Corp., deployed to Japan); Henry Nobles; Wayne Keller (brother of Janice Greer); Robert Suprenant (uncle of Donna Marie); Robert Knox (Lori's brother, cancer); Don Louchlear (Ted's brother, kidney failure); Bob Safford (friend of Ron Fairchild, Jr., kidney cancer); Charlie Suprenant (Donna Marie's brother); Wilson Louchlear, Jr. (heart problems); John Andrix; Lee Brewer (Don Greer's father-in-law); Kennedy Fortnier (Molly’s 6 yr. old niece); Angela Thomas (Lori Williams' cousin, cancer); Grace Pontone (chemo); Don Bailey (Tom's father); C.J. McKinney; Pamela Lowry (Ted’s cousin, Parkinson's); Kevin Penick (Paul's brother-in-law, cancer); Tom Chaffin (Pat Ledford’s brother); Tim Bulu (Greer’s neighbor); Edna (Janie Owen's sister)

Announcements

**Today - “Meet, eat, meet Sunday”** We will have a potluck lunch after morning services, followed by a song service. This will conclude services for the day.

**January 12, 9:00 a.m. -** Ladies Bible Class & Breakfast. We will be starting a new study on Women of the Bible.

**January 21-24 –** Florida School of Preaching annual lectureship, Lakeland, FL

**Pantry item:** Peanut butter

**Cleaning the building:** Lori & Dylan

*If you would like to send a card or care package to Matthew Holleran while he is deployed to Japan, his address is posted by his picture under the American flag in the back room.

Search the Scriptures

How many judges of Israel were there, and what were their names?

Last week: How many days of creation were there, and what did God create or do on each of those days? Answer: Day 1 – Light; Day 2 – Firmament (air we breathe); Day 3 – Dry land and green things; Day 4 – Sun, moon and stars; Day 5 – Fish and fowl; Day 6 – Land animals and man; Day 7 – God rested.

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. For the Lord is the great God, and the great King above all gods. ~Psalm 95:1-3
**Redeem the Time**  
*Col. 4:2-6*

Some advocate living each day as if it is the last day of your life. This sounds good but really is not practical.

What we should do rather is live each day to its fullest. Get every last drop out of it.

Time is precious, therefore we need to use it wisely. We never know when we'll run out,  
*James 4:13-17*

**Persevere in Prayer, v.2**

A. Constantly and Soberly

B. With thanksgiving

C. For others’ ministries

**Protect Our Influence, v.5**

A. We have it!

B. Even after we’re dead

C. Bring glory to God

**Teach Others, v.6, Matt. 28:18-20**

A. How much time?

B. With the right attitude

C. With the right knowledge

We only have a limited time. We must live every day to its fullest, squeezing out of it, its fullest potential. In this way, we are redeeming the time. Follow Paul’s instructions and redeem it in prayer, developing, guarding and exerting a good influence and in teaching others.

**Fly specks**

One of my family's favorite movies is an old black and white film titled “Harvey.” It stars Jimmy Stewart and a large invisible rabbit called Harvey. Not only is the movie funny, it also contains a few scenes and dialogue with valuable lessons. In one scene Dr. Chumley, the head of the mental hospital, realizes that his whole life has basically been wasted on examining “fly specks.”

Elwood P. Dowd (Stewart) happened to meet his friend Harvey (the 6’+ invisible rabbit) after leaving a tavern. Mr. Dowd explains this meeting to Dr. Chumley. Then, of all things, Dr. Chumley sees Harvey for himself! He finally comes the conclusion that all of his career as a psychiatrist has been spent looking at fly specks while “miracles” were leaning against lamp-posts outside of taverns downtown.

While the movie is certainly fictional, the moral of this part of the story is clear. There are some who are spending their whole lives on miniscule little specks while letting the most important things in life slip right on by. They are totally consumed and preoccupied with “fly-specks”!

Consider the person for whom the most important aspect of his life is his career. He works very hard in his youth getting as good an education as he can. He earns good grades so as to get a scholarship. In college his nose is to the grindstone and his shoulder constantly to the wheel. In graduate and post-graduate school it is the same thing. He begins his profession and works diligently at it 50-60 hours a week for 20-40 years. He faithfully lays by for retirement and when that day comes he dutifully spends his time doing his leisure activity of choice.

During all this time his consuming passion is his career. Later in life he finds that he has neglected his wife and his children. His closest relationships are with his golfing (or fishing) buddies. At last his health fails and alone he now realizes that he has neglected the important things in life and spent his time on, you guessed it, “fly specks.”

For others it may not be a career, it may be something different. The ultimate outcome, however, is the same. If we neglect the most important things in life to focus on and work in the trivial things, we will end up at the end of life feeling very hollow and frustrated. When I reach the close of my life let me be able to say that I have spent my life in that which is worthwhile and valuable. Let me be able to say that I have served God faithfully, that I have demonstrated the love of Christ to my family and friends and that I have served my fellow man in humble benevolence. Let me not get to the end of my life and say... “fly specks!”

...Paul