



## *I'm Blessed*

Would you say that you are blessed? That God has blessed you richly in your life? Many think of being blessed as in being “financially blessed,” or blessed with many “material possessions.” How often have you looked at massive houses, or sport cars, or yachts and thought how blessed those people were to be able to afford such? But do possessions and property make one blessed? If we suffer financial hardship or poor health, does that mean we are not blessed? While material blessings are certainly included in God’s favor (God made Abraham very rich), the Bible ascribes a much fuller meaning to the word “blessed.”

The Greek word that is often translated “blessed” is *makarios*. It means “fortunate,” “happy,” “well off.” Probably the scriptures where we associate the word “blessed” the most are the beatitudes. In Matthew 5.3-12, Jesus used the word “blessed” to describe the inner quality of a faithful servant of God. It is a spiritual state of well-being—a deep joy-filled contentment that cannot be shaken by poverty, grief, persecution, war, or any other trial or tragedy we face in life. Thus, I am blessed because my



God is always with me. Turn and read Psalm 63 where David’s soul thirsts for God, but also how blessed he says his confidence is in God. The material things we may crave can never bring genuine happiness or contentment. True fulfillment can only be found in a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

If you are a Christian, you can say, “I’m blessed!” You are blessed because there is a glorious future that awaits the faithful. James, the half-brother of Jesus, wrote, ***“Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him” (James 1.12).*** James says, ***“when he has stood the test,”*** i.e., when he has faced all the temptations and trials of life, then ***“he will receive the crown of life,”*** the only true life, i.e., eternal in the heavens above. Regardless of whether my life is easy or difficult, God is with me, and I am blessed. When I realize that I am blessed, then my life becomes the joy of my salvation. Are you blessed? Does it show?

Gary

## Are You An Encourager?

### Hebrews 10.25

1. Does it seem like there are more discouragers in life than encouragers?
2. Which would you say you were?
3. Did you know that there is a man in the Bible who was optimistic, positive, and an enthusiastic encourager to others?

### Barnabas Was An Encourager In...

#### I. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 4.36, 37).

- A. Barnabas sold a field he owned and gave the money to the apostles to help those in need.
  1. Why did he do that?
  2. Would I ever do the same?
- B. What did Jesus say about \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 20.35)?
  1. If we share with those in need, God will never let us go \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 37.25).
  2. **Illustration:** A dollar and a quarter.
- C. Helping those who are in need is a tremendous source of encouragement for them.

#### II. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 9.26, 27).

- A. What Saul came to Jerusalem after his conversion, many were afraid that he was not a true disciple.
  1. Barnabas took Saul to the apostles and \_\_\_\_\_ for him.
  2. Barnabas relayed how Jesus appeared to Saul and how he had preached boldly in Damascus.
  3. Have you ever stood up for someone else?
- B. Barnabas did something else for Saul that many people do not like to do.
  1. Barnabas was willing to let Saul \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 12.25; 13.43).
  2. Without any hint of \_\_\_\_\_, Barnabas allowed Saul to assume the \_\_\_\_\_ role.
  3. Many people don't like the idea of following someone else.

#### III. \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 15.36-39).

- A. Barnabas defended John Mark's \_\_\_\_\_ and his \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.
  1. Barnabas wanted to give John Mark a \_\_\_\_\_.
  2. Paul and Barnabas separated and went with different companions.
  3. Later on, Paul forgave John Mark and loved him greatly (2 Timothy 4.11).
- B. What did Jesus say about \_\_\_\_\_ others who failed and seek \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 18.21)?
  1. Are we strong enough in our \_\_\_\_\_ to forgive others and try to \_\_\_\_\_ them to do what is right?
  2. Barnabas encouraged others in spite of their \_\_\_\_\_; shouldn't we try to do the \_\_\_\_\_?

**Conclusion:** Are you ready to let Christ fill your heart and fill you with encouragement for others?

# C O N N E C T I O N

**C** Good morning church family! It's the last week of 2024; can you believe it? For our final Connection Corner of the year, we

**R** feature long time WH member, Mignon Bandy.

**N** Mignon was born in Elizabeth, Louisiana but the family moved to the Fort Worth area soon after for her father to find work.

**E** She graduated from Arlington Heights High School, where she was "in just about everything I could be in." Mignon played on

**R** the basketball, volleyball, tennis, and softball teams, as well as was the first female president of the student body her senior year.



Following graduation, Mignon went on to attend TCU for the first summer session, but she was offered a job at a Physician's office and worked there for seven years and absolutely loved it.

Then, one Sunday at church she was "set up" to meet a boy, Bob, who had just gotten out of the Army. She thought "he is the shortest church of Christ boy she had ever seen!" He was shy, but the calmest and most patient man she had met, and bonus, a great cook! Well, Bob won her heart, and they soon married and had a wonderful love story that brought 3 children and 6 grandchildren to the family over the years. Bob was an architect for the government, collaborating with the judges to design and build federal courthouses. Bob also served as a deacon, then elder for our WH family, and led the design and remodel of the very auditorium we use here today. Bob and Mignon led small groups in their home and were active in the men's and women's Bible study. Since Bob's passing, Mignon has been extremely limited by health but attends in person when she is able. Her smile is radiant, and her cheerful and positive outlook is contagious. I encourage you to get to know her better, you'll certainly be blessed!

Les Keele



*This week's shut-in spotlight shines on:*

*Please send them a note of encouragement or give them a call to let them know we still care.*

*Nancy Moody  
917 Willow Way  
Benbrook, Texas 76126  
Calls Only*

*Jean Cox  
5134 Ledgestone Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas 76132  
Visits*

*Contact Daughter First to Set Up*

## SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
*Tom Pauley	817- 370-5515
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

\*Shepherd of the month

## MINISTERS

Gary Williams: <i>Pulpit Minister</i>	662-321-3208
Les Keele: <i>Associate Minister</i>	817-808-0566
James Bowie: <i>Youth Minister</i>	817-944-4492

## LAOTIAN MINISTRY

John Boudtaroth 817-891-2132

## DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
David Birdow	972-310-1143
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Zach Brookshire	817-296-9918
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

## MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

**Welcome** - Robert Scott

**Song Leader** - Jonathan Bartee

**Song** - Beyond This Land Of Parting

**Song** - Jesus, Hold My Hand

**Song** - There Is A Habitation

**Prayer** - Joe Tomme

**Scripture** - Hebrews 10:25

**Song** - Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?

**Lord's Supper** - Matt Sloan

**Prayer for Contribution** - Matt Sloan

**Song** - Our God, He Is Alive

**Are You An Encourager?** - Gary Williams

**Song** - Trust And Obey

**Announcements** - Les Keele

**Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal** - Tom Pauley

Our Code for Tithe.ly Giving



**Attended Nursery:** After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years and a mother's nursing room.

Single-side in-ear mono earbuds with personal receivers are available for those with hearing difficulties. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for assistance.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### Monday, December 30

Revelation 17 -19

### Tuesday, December 31

Revelation 20 - 22

### Wednesday, January 1

Psalm 148; Gen. 1-2; Eph. 1

### Thursday, January 2

Gen. 3-4; Ephesians 2

### Friday, January 3

Gen. 5-6; Psalm 12; Eph. 3

### Saturday, January 4

Gen. 7-8; Eph. 4

### Sunday, January 5

Psalm 8; Gen. 9-10; Eph. 5

### Last Week

Bible Class	160	Wednesday	Did Not Meet
Worship	256	Contribution	\$ 23,486.22
PM Worship	48	Budget	\$ 13,802.88

### Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

## PRAYER REQUESTS FAMILY

NAME	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Betty White 12/22/2024	Fell and broke her leg. 9609 Westpark, Benbrook, Texas 76126	Healing
Susie Stedman 12/22/2024	In Harris Downtown for possible surgery. 8713 South Normandale Street, #218, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Healing
Charlie and Louise Beagle	Daughter, Beff Kay, passed away Wednesday, December 18. Mustang Creek Estates; 1155 NW John Jones Drive, Burleson, Texas 76028	Comfort for the family
Michaelangelo Sanchez 12/15/2024	Has been diagnosed with autism. 3142 Sappington Place, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Treatments and therapy
Carlos Wallace 12/15/2024	Had a daughter that was born on 12/25/1979 and she passed on 12/29/1979. This time of year is always hard for him. 3501 Renzel Boulevard, Apartment 249, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Comfort and God's care
Anthony McGraw 12/15/2024	Is having some health issues. 3501 Renzel Boulevard, Apartment 137, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	Improved health
Bob Howard 12/13/2024	Is in Medical City, Weatherford for what has now been diagnosed as Industrial COPD. Barbara has broken her wrist once again and is waiting to see if she needs surgery. Their son is not doing well with his cancer. 6075 FM 1189, Weatherford, Texas 76087	Prayers for each of them to be healed and recover quickly
Aubrey Hallum 12/08/2024	Yvonne passed away on Friday, December 7. 25 Leonard Trail, Apartment 317, Fort Worth, Texas 76114	Comfort for the family
Dahlia Cade 12/05/2024	Is in Baylor Rehabilitation, Room 228, 6601 Harris Parkway. Please, no visitors at this time.	Strength and swift recovery
Nancy Wright 11/11/2024	Is back in Stonegate Rehab, Room 115. 8601 Cook Ranch Road, Apartment 350, Benbrook, Texas 76126	Healing and comfort
Bill Baumann 10/20/2024	Has been diagnosed with both lung and prostate cancer. In the weeks to come, the doctors will be developing a plan of treatment.	Healing, peace; skill and knowledge for the doctors

**All prayer requests are published for 30 days and then removed unless the office is notified to continue the announcement.**

# FRIENDS

NAME	REQUESTED	SITUATION	PRAYERS FOR
Bailey Nobles and her three children,	Lisa Wilson	Her husband, Matt, passed away unexpectedly on December 18. She is a former WSISD teacher and they were living abroad.	Comfort, understanding <span style="float: right;">12/21/2024</span>
Paula Hamrick, sister of	Patti Musselman	Has had her cancer to return and underwent a biopsy on December 13 to determine if it is the same type of cancer or a new type.	Doctors will be able to discern the type of cancer and set her on the track for another remission <span style="float: right;">12/08/2024</span>
Waylon Gramer, student of	Mindy Markum	Heart surgery was a success.	Thankful for prayers of recovery <span style="float: right;">12/08/2024</span>
Ronnie Hoover, a frequent visitor to	Our Assembly and Food Bank Volunteer	Had his bypass surgery December 25.	Thankful for successful surgery and may the recovery be complete <span style="float: right;">12/08/2024</span>
Robert Birdow, father of	David Birdow	Began radiation Monday, December 9, for 20 consecutive weekdays.	Good results, strength to take the treatments, and family who will be caring for him <span style="float: right;">12/04/2024</span>
Dad and Wife of	Russ Jones	His dad had a PET Scan on Wednesday. It is an aggressive form of prostate cancer. There will be 2 surgeries and then radiation. His wife's biopsy is scheduled for the end of the month.	Good results <span style="float: right;">12/01/2024</span>
Dorene Helton, sister-in-law of	Vickie Bowers	Cancerous mass was discovered. Her chemo has begun and surgery will follow treatments.	Strength and successful treatments and surgery <span style="float: right;">12/05/2024</span>
Madelyn, close friend of	Dana Saba	Has chronic hives.	Healing <span style="float: right;">12/22/2024</span>
Joanne Powers, mother of	Adam Powers	Needs an aortic valve surgery.	God to guide the surgeons, good results, and recovery <span style="float: right;">10/21/2024</span>
Lisa Harriman		Has been diagnosed with cancer of her breast, colon, and liver. <b>UPDATE:</b> A CT showed that both the tumor in the colon and the lesion in the liver have shrunk significantly! The cancer markers in the blood work have all dropped to normal levels. There will be 3 more rounds of chemo followed by another scan and then surgery (probably in March). She sends her thanks for all our prayers. 400 North Tacoma Street, Farmington, Arkansas 72730	Thanking God for the good results of the present treatments; prayers for upcoming surgery and continued treatments; strength, peace of mind <span style="float: right;">09/11/2024</span>
Sangkhup Bouapraseth, father of	Kasie Muongnamvong	Has stage 4 pancreatic cancer.	Healing and pain control <span style="float: right;">09 /17/2024</span>

## CONGREGATION FELLOWSHIP



### NEW YEAR'S EVE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

6:00 PM

**COME JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF GAMES AND CELEBRATION. BRING YOUR FAVORITE GAMES, SOFT DRINKS, TEA, AND FINGER FOODS.**

**COME RING IN 2025 WITH THE FAMILY**

## SCHEDULE CHANGES

There will be **NO MIDWEEK SERVICES** the week of New Years. Please use this time to spend with your family and friends during the holiday season. The **Office** will be **closed** December 31, and January 1, 2025.

## LADIES' AND MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

We wish to inform you that there will be no ladies' or men's Bible class on Tuesday mornings December 17 - January 6. Classes will resume on January 7, 2025. We look forward to seeing you then! Wishing you all a joyful holiday season!

## SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the Carlene Reeves' Family. Carlene passed away Monday, December 23. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

## MEMBER INFORMATION

### Address Changes

#### **Isaiah and Stefani Sanchez**

4263 Fry Street

Fort Worth, Texas 76115

Isaiah's Phone: 817-812-7299

Stefani's Phone: 682-308-2203

#### **Charlie and Louise Beagle**

Effective 12/31/2024

Mustang Creek Estates

1155 NW John Jones Drive

Burleson, Texas 76028

## FOOD BANK STATS FOR DECEMBER

196 – Families Served

\$ 894.01 – Cost to WHCOC

6,433 pounds – Estimated Weight of Food

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come... You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with abundance.

Psalm 65:1, 11



# Happy Birthday December

1 Kao Chanthanounsy

2 René Johnston

2 Melissa Montanez

2 Jeff Thiravong

2 Ross Tomlinson

3 Robert Bow

4 Jean Cox

4 Adams Powers

4 Bev Pratt

7 Kristie McLeroy

8 Lee Bradley

8 Thomas Chakrathouk

9 Dorothy Anderson

10 Christina Intharansy

12 Lorenza Fernandez

12 Martin Franz

12 Thonglouath Manyloun

12 Auna Walton

14 Wayne Gary

17 Gloria Speak

17 Jake DeKoker

18 LaRue Bow

19 Steven Johnston

20 Jeremy Swan

20 Mary Jo Winters

21 Chuck King

22 Bob Willyerd

23 Ronny Tucker

24 Betty Adams

24 Lucille Patterson

26 Zach Brookshire

30 Jay Garner

30 Cassidy Tunnell

30 Karen Haas

31 Thienxay Manyloun

## CHILDREN

10 Tanner Chakrathouk

13 Ian Thomas

27 Jonathan Everett

30 Jack Meyers

## ANNIVERSARIES:

Dec 5

Sandra & Tommy Wade 60th

Dec 14

Amy & Jonathan Bartee 22nd



# JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

3 JEFF KIRKPATRICK

5 SUSIE MUONGNAMVONG

5 ROBIN STEPHEN

6 JEAN SABA

7 LOUISE BEAGLE

7 BRANDON DUNCAN

10 MARY ANN POULSEN

12 BEVERLY LIPHAM

13 GREG BALL

14 CHARLIE BEAGLE

16 JONATHAN BARTEE

17 JOSHUA WITHERSPOON

17 BRIDGET YAWN

21 JULIE MEYER

25 MARY HELEN BOWIE

26 FERN MARTIN

29 ELLEN BARTEE

29 GARY WILLIAMS

## CHILDREN

1 TRACE WITHERSPOON

4 ABEL BROOKSHIRE

4 ELI BROOKSHIRE

9 ASHER RUTLEDGE

18 HARLO DEKOKER

NO ANNIVERSARIES ON RECORD

