



FAITH NOTES

JANUARY
2019

Gadsden Cumberland Presbyterian Church

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CHURCH STAFF

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SESSION MEMBERS

Richard Dean

Carole Edwards

Jonathan Edwards

Scott Hutchinson

Mike Ray

Ann St. John

ELDER of the MONTH

Ann St. John

GREETERS

Sonny & Pug Brady

USHERS

David Ray

Chris Bobo

Kenneth Borders

Ray St. John



Church Family and Friends,

My family has been blessed with a wonderful home in a wonderful neighborhood. The street is quiet, the neighbors are awesome, and the house is just right for us. One of the best features of our home is the two beautiful Oak Trees (I'm no arborist, so I don't know the specific type of oak, though I have been told they are Water or Willow Oaks) in the front yard. They are quite majestic, and provide near constant shade to the front of the house. However, these trees produce an abundance of leaves (some might say an over-abundance) and thus, when the leaves drop in late fall, there is a thick coat of leaves in our yard (and the yards of our sweet neighbors as well).

One day recently, one of the nice ones between the days of rain, I had the chance to get out and rake some of those leaves. I say one day, when it was actually two days (and still have a couple piles left to deal with). Somewhere between the tenth and fifteenth 55-gallon size bag of leaves that had been collected, I found myself constantly repeating- "I'm thankful for these trees, I'm thankful for these trees" The more I raked, bagged, and watched as even more leaves continued to fall from the trees, I said thru gritted teeth, "I am thankful for these trees"!

Out in the yard, I was reminded of a picture I have seen lately reminding us to be thankful even for the things we normally think of as problems. For instance, instead of fussing about all that laundry that needs washed and folded, be thankful for clothes to wear each day. Instead of complaining about all those dirty dishes, be thankful there is food to eat in your home. Instead of being put out by all that traffic, be thankful you have places to go (whether its to your job-which provides income, or to the store-where you can buy products for your family, etc.) Those knees or that back that hurts every morning, be thankful for that warm bed you got to sleep in, the ability to still climb out of that bed and stand on two feet, and the list goes on. Instead of grumbling about all those leaves that need raked, be thankful for beautiful trees that provide shade and beauty to your home (not to mention all the other benefits of trees and plants that God has provided for us). Thankful for a place to call home. Thankful for a yard to take care of.

I need reminders like that often. I need to be reminded of God's blessings, the ones that are obvious and the ones that are more subtle. I need reminded to be thankful for even the simplest of things, and even the things we sometimes view as an annoyance or inconvenience.

As we begin a new year, I wonder if you will join me in seeking to find the good, the blessing in every situation we may find ourselves in this year. God's Word says it this way: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thes. 5:16-18)

Facing a surgery to correct some issue in your body? Be thankful for surgeons who have been given the ability to fix our brokenness. Speaking of brokenness, be thankful for a Savior who makes us holy-in His image-even despite ourselves. May 2019 be our year of thankfulness.

In Christ,

Rev. Daniel



PRAYER REQUEST

RECENT PRAYER REQUESTS

(This list will be purged every two to three weeks, unless indicated otherwise in your prayer request.)

- *David Payne
- *Linda Bishop
- *Cameron Gilliland
- *David Moyer
- *Fran Kennedy
- *Ben Payne
- *Peggy Jolley
- *Linda Sue Warren
- *Tony Elrod
- *Kathryn Chitwood

- *Lorraine Payne
- *Chuck Watson
- *Carol Lumpkin
- *Flash Watson
- *Glenn Bryan
- *Karen Newton
- *Rozlyn Green
- *Sid Moyer
- *Kristin Bean
- *Carol Payne

LONG-TERM PRAYER NEEDS

- *Jerry & Carol Stombaugh
- *Ginny Acton
- *Michael Moyer
- *Walter Westbrook
- *Charlotte Davis
- *Elaine Ray
- *Dale Mayo
- *Larry Gramling
- *Aimee Collier
- *Ava Gallahair
- *Our military personnel, police, fire, and rescue
- *The children & families of The Children's Home

- *Betty Jo Ponce
- *Marie Hendricks
- *Janice Spivey
- *Nell Hall
- *Sonny Brady
- *Greg & Jennifer Dobbins
- *Wesley Lyons

OUR ASSISTED LIVING, NURSING HOME And HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

- *Milton Roe— Piedmont Health Care Center in Piedmont, AL
- *Ann Corley— Cherokee Village in Centre, AL



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