

FAITH NOTES

May 2018



Gadsden Cumberland Presbyterian Church

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Chris Bobo

Richard Dean

Jonathan Edwards

Scott Hutchinson

Lisa Kirby

Ann St. John

ELDER of the MONTH

Richard Dean

GREETERS

Mike & Lisa Kirby

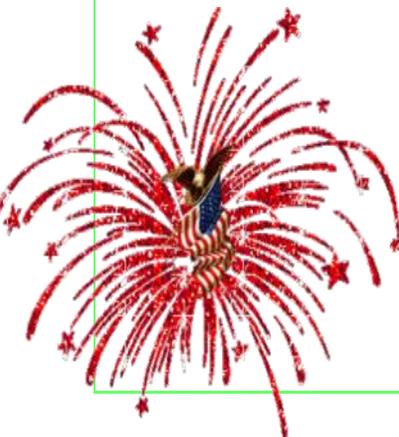
USHERS

Mike Kirby

Sonny Kirby

Sid Moyer

Chris Bobo



Church Family and Friends,

As I walked past the TV the other day, while I can't tell you what show was on, one phrase was spoken that caught my attention. I don't know the context, I don't know the motivation, but the phrase spoken was all too familiar. As if it were shouted through a bullhorn, the actor asked, "What about him?"

What about him? What about her? What about them? This is a common question we like to ask, especially when we are receiving instruction, correction, or rebuke of some sort. Sure, I may have done this or that, but what about him? He did the same thing, aren't you going to yell at him too! We may hear this phrase in a different way. We may hear or even utter the words, "What about me!" when we see others being praised or rewarded in some way, we wonder, what about me? Where is my reward? I am just as good, if not better than they, what about me!

A scene from one of my favorite movies immediately played over in my head when I hear this phrase spoken. In the movie, Lean On Me, a group of students are being gathered up on the stage, some 300 selected out of the body of 3000 students. As more names are being called, and more students sent to the stage, a Hispanic girl asks the teacher, "What about us? Why can't we go up on stage?"

Now the student asking the question had no idea why those particular students were being given the "honor" of standing before their classmates. She just knew she was often overlooked and passed over. So, she wanted that same recognition. The teacher, in response to her question, went on a little rant. "What about you, what about me, what about us! This doesn't concern you, so sit back down!"

This did little to satisfy the student, until she heard the principal announce that those students selected out of the crowd were all being expelled, kicked out of school! Now the young lady was quite thankful she was not included in that group!

In John 21, Jesus had just had a pointed conversation with Peter. Peter, you recall, had denied Jesus three times before the crucifixion, and now, after the resurrection, Jesus was restoring Peter, giving him specific instructions, particularly, to feed the sheep of Christ. Minister to them.

At the conclusion of this however, scripture says Peter saw another disciple following behind them as they talked, and rather than asking for more guidance in doing what Jesus had asked him to do, all Peter could muster was, "What about him?" Jesus' reply to Peter, and to us, was basically don't worry about what I may have them do, YOU just FOLLOW ME!

We often get distracted by what others have, or what others are doing with their time, talents, money, gifts, etc. The message from Jesus is clear however. "You just follow me". Don't get caught up in trying to outperform, or comparing yourself to another, or even trying to make sure someone else is punished for their shortcomings. "You follow me".

So the next time you are tempted to utter the phrase, what about him/her, instead turn your attention to yourself and ask, am I doing what God has called ME to do? Am I living how Christ would have ME to live? I'm just wondering, if we all, each one, concentrated on following Christ, on living my life how Christ would have me to live, what would this community look like? Our nation? Our world? Just follow Him!

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.)

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| *Ben & Abby Payne | *Michael Moyer & family |
| *Lauren Young | *Mary Bynum |
| *Nancy Wilson | *Rev. Carl Cook |
| *Ken Payne | *Lisa Griffith |
| *Mike Hall | *Chris Payne |
| *Paula Guthrie | *Lisa Bruce |
| *Scott Stombaugh | *Tim Isley |
| *Bryson Richey | *Larry Peppers |
| *Donna Smith | *Karen Roberts |
| *Wesley Lyons | *Carla Rivera |
| *Tina Meyer | *Chris Payne |
| *Lee Bonner | *Shawn Wood |
| *Michelle & Henry Culp | *Taylor Edwards |
| | *Sharon Williamson |
| | *Morgan Bone |

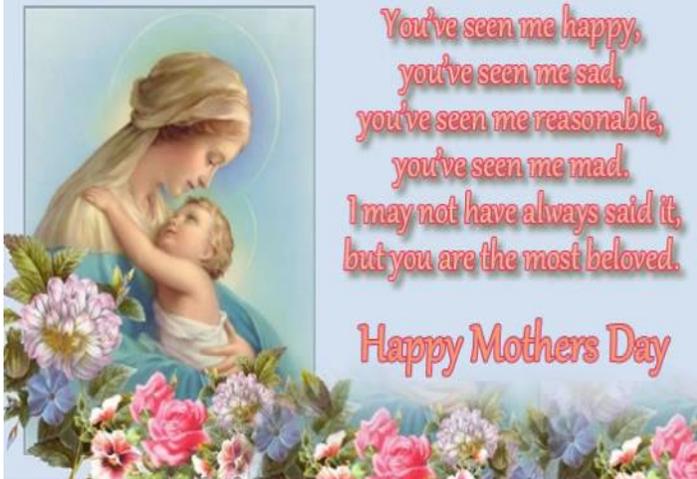
LONG-TERM PRAYER NEEDS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| *Jerry & Carol Stombaugh | *Ginny Acton |
| *Linda Sue Warren | *George Girling |
| *Walter Westbrook | *Marie Hendricks |
| *Charlotte Davis | *Marion McCowan |
| *Elaine Ray | *Nell Hall |
| *Dale Mayo | *Carson McGraw |
| *Sherry Tanner | *Michael Moyer |
| *Jimmy St. John | *James Miller |
| *Tim Warren | *Larry Gramling |
| *Ava Gallahair | *Greg & Jennifer Dobbins |
| *Tonya McGee | *Aimee Collier |
| *Our military personnel, police, fire, and rescue | *Sonny Brady |
| *The children & families of The Children's Home | |

OUR ASSISTED LIVING, NURSING HOME And HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

- *Milton Roe— *Piedmont Health Care Center in Piedmont, AL*
- *Willodean Gilbert— *Woodland Place in Southside, AL*
- *Peggy Chastain— *Meadowod Retirement Village*
- *Ann Corley— *Cherokee Village in Centre, AL*

*NOTE: This information is current at time of printing.
Weekly updates are printed in the Sunday bulletin.*



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