



# THE MESSENGER

## APRIL 24, 2022

### NEWS AND NOTES

**Congregational Meeting**  
TBA

**Weekly Bible Studies**  
Tuesdays on Zoom, 10  
Friday, 12:30, Fayette Mall  
food court

Saturday, 10, Panera  
(Georgetown)

#### **Times of Service**

##### **Sunday**

Bible study: 9:45 AM  
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

##### **Wednesday**

Bible study: 7:30 PM  
(Immediately followed by a  
short worship service)

##### **First Friday of Month Singing**

March 4, 7:30

#### **Address and Contact**

University Heights Church of  
Christ  
445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,  
KY 40508  
(859) 255-6257  
[www.uheightschurch.com](http://www.uheightschurch.com)

### THE POWER OF ADVOCACY

There are times when one is inadequate for the task at hand. Perhaps one lacks the proper knowledge or skill to go to bat for oneself. For example, should you be charged with a serious crime you would want a defense attorney knowledgeable of both the law and the workings of the courts. Should you try to defend yourself you would soon find that you are woefully outclassed. Your attorney, on the other hand, would know how to present your case in your best interest.

Innumerable situations occur that call for an advocate: times when we cannot plead our own cause; times when we don't even know how to go about making the case; and then there are those times when, without the advocate, we have no chance of our plight being heard. The Christian finds himself in exactly that situation when he sins. He has no chance of pleading His own case. On what basis would he do so? If mercy and grace are unnecessary after baptism, then why were they necessary before baptism? The righteousness of Jesus, our savior, who lived without sin, makes him the perfect sacrifice required by the Father to redeem sinners. It is the same righteousness that makes Jesus the perfect advocate for Christians when they sin. The advocacy of Jesus is a blessing for the child of God suffering over the fact he has failed his Savior and God by sinning.

The aged Apostle John states the great truth of advocacy in 1 John 2. *My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. (1a)* At the instant the Christian is added by God to the body of His dear Son, he is sinless. John writes so that we may not sin. He says, *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (1:7)* Notice the word "if." Christians do sin even though John and all the inspired writers of God's word would have it otherwise. But, as John states in the remainder of the verse, we have an advocate. *But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. (2:1b)* Earlier, he had written, *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1:9)*

The word advocate suggests "to call to one's side." Having confessed our sins and then imploring God to forgive and to relieve our suffering, we have an advocate ready to be "called to one's side" Jesus Christ, the righteous, who will plead our case before the Father. Chapter 2 of Paul's first letter to Timothy begins with a call for Christians to be engaged in wide-ranging prayer so that that *we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.* He continues, *For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (! Timothy 2:1-5)* Our language contains many, many words that can be used as a synonym to mediator. Perhaps a good way to understand Jesus

## Members Needing Our Prayers

Joyce Bolton, Pat Seabolt, Rick Small, John Thompson, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

## Others Needing Prayers

Ernestine Byers, Allison Walker, Dwight Antle, Randy Cates, Larry McTeer, Charlene Michael, Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Adam Fusco Duane Harrod, Grace Meyer, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Terry Daniels, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon

## To Our Guests

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as mediator is to know that He is placed between us and God so that God sees His righteousness rather than our unrighteousness.

Jesus' dying words, "It is finished" refer to His immediate task for which He came to earth. His work in Heaven would begin when He was lifted up into Heaven and sat down at the right hand of God where He remains, ready to be called to our side, positioned between us and God. What is He doing? Right in the middle of a passage of scripture that provides assurance the Christian can indeed be confident of going to heaven we are told what Jesus is doing:

*What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, **who indeed is interceding for us.** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:31-39) John Thompson*

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Evangelist</b>
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

