



# THE MESSENGER

## FEBRUARY 26, 2023

### NEWS AND NOTES

**Congregational Meeting**  
TBD

**Our Next Gospel Meeting**

**Weekly Bible Studies**

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 on Zoom

**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**

February 3, 7:30

**Address and Contact**

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Christ

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### MY FAVORITE THINGS

In the film *The Sound of Music*, Maria helps the Von Trapp children deal with their fear of thunder storms by singing them a song about her favorite things. What might be on my own list of favorite things? A place? A book? A holiday? Would my list of favorite things be made up of that which is complex and hard to find, or, simplistic things like those in the song: *raindrops on roses, silver white winters that melt into spring*? While the song lyrics fit together remarkably well, spiritual things are seriously lacking from the list, and for the Christian this will not do. Spiritual things ought to be at the top of one's list of favorite things. Christians are "bitten" and "stung" just like everyone else. Christians are not immune from sadness and grief, from disappointment and a sense of failure, from uneasiness within due to competing loyalties, from the nagging charm of temptations that sometimes threaten to overwhelm. But we do have a resource like none other, that being God's word, expressed so well in the hymn *Precious Words*.

*"Wouldst thou refuse the sweet solace He gives in the midnight of thy  
sorrow?*

*Wouldst thou go on in the darkness of sin, longing for no bright  
tomorrow?*

*Precious forever to you and to me, words that our Savior has spoken,  
Bearing salvation far over the sea, healing the hearts that are broken."*

The one who wrote Psalm 119 makes it abundantly clear that his favorite things are the precepts, commandments, statutes, testimonies, and rules of the Almighty. While so many others rebel against, reject outright, or try to embellish the Word from God, the psalmist repeatedly expresses that for him there is nothing better than God's Word. He does not hesitate to state his need for it, his desire and longing for it, and his intent to live by it; not some altered version of it, but the real, pure Word.

**Psalm 119:14** In the way of your testimonies I **delight** as much as in all riches.

**Psalm 119:16** I will **delight** in your statutes; I will not forget your word

**Psalm 119:47** for I find my **delight** in your commandments, which I love.

Seven of the Psalms (1, 32, 41, 112, 119, 128, and 144) begin with the word "blessed" indicating there is great benefit to be had. An additional 45 verses through the Psalms contain the word "blessed." Blessings upon

## Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton, Julie Patton, Rick Small, Benny Poynter, Richard and Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

## Others Needing Prayer

Glen Perkins, Edra Bernard, Valari Jones-Butler (Valari is Gina Seabolt's former co-worker. Her daughter is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Her 21 year old nephew was killed in a shooting), Charlie Hoy, Marc Nations, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, Charles Bishop, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

## To Our Guests

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

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blessings come to those who love the Lord, who honor Him first and foremost, whose greatest achievement is willful obedience to His commandments. *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Psalm 1:1-) Praise the LORD! Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who greatly delights in his commandments! His offspring will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever. (Psalm 112:1-3) Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. (Psalm 128:1-2)*

Just what do the commandments, precepts, statutes, testimonies, and rules, given by the Divine Lawgiver, actually mean to me and to you? Can we honestly say they are precious words, that we will love and delight in them, that we will walk in there way, not just when it suits us, but always? *I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me. How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! (Psalm 119:102-103)*

John Thompson

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

