

Vancleave Church of Christ

Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and Christian ministry

June 20, 2021

Giving Thanks to the Father by: Duane Patton

On July 5, 1908, a West Virginia church sponsored the nation's first event explicitly in honor of fathers, a Sunday sermon in memory of the 362 men who had died in the previous December's explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines in Monongah, but it was a one-time commemoration and not an annual holiday. The next year, a Spokane, Washington, woman named Sonora Smart Dodd, one of six children raised by a widower, tried to establish an official equivalent to Mother's Day for male parents. She went to local churches, the YMCA, shopkeepers and government officials to drum up support for her idea, and she was successful: Washington State celebrated the nation's first statewide Father's Day on June 19, 1910 (source: history.com).

Even though fathers may not traditionally have the same sentimental appeal as mothers, we are bound to give thanks to the men in our lives who make the kind of sacrifices and exhibit the type of integrity that can and should be modeled by today's youth and tomorrow's leaders! This is certainly the case when thinking about the heavenly Father. The New Testament writer, Paul wrote to the church at Colosse and reminded them that they were to give "thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light" (**Colossians 1:12**, NKJV). Our heavenly Father is certainly worth our recognition and praise! The heavenly Father sacrificed His Son to secure eternal redemption for the whole world (**Hebrews 5:8, 9; 9:12**; cf., **John 3:16, 17**) – He could have sacrificed nothing greater! Also, the integrity of His sacrifice could not be stronger. The heavenly Father made promises to Abraham that were kept without fail and were fully revealed in Christ. Again, Paul wrote, "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as of many, but as of one, 'And to your Seed,' who is Christ. And this I say, that the law, which was four hundred and thirty years later, cannot annul the covenant that was confirmed before by God in Christ..." (**Galatians 3:16, 17**).

Fathers, thank you for all you have done, and for you are doing and intend to do to create a better world through your sacrifice and integrity! You have inspired and continue to inspire each of us to greater faith as we seek to love and to honor the "Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (**James 1:17**).

Seeking first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness...

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

9:00 AM Bible Class
10:00 AM Worship
6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

6:00 PM
Prayer, Bible Study, Devotional

Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children's Home
Gulf Coast Bible Camp
Local Food Pantry
Annual Youth Events
Back-Pack Buddies
The Gospel of Christ TV (Fox 25)
Every Sunday at 6:30 AM

Foreign Missions:

Guyana, South America
India

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:

Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries

Local Wi-Fi Network Access:

SSID: 2Wire029
Key: 399572302
E-mail: vco_christ@att.net

Prayer Requests and Announcements

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open into their cry ~Psalms 34:15

Mike Kenney: Expecting to return home this week, long recovery from broken leg, infection.

Teresa Kenney: home and recovering well from her recent hospital visit.

Scott Morhan: Recently hit by train and in need of our prayers.

Jane Gibson: Long-time friend of Carolyn Hart is in hospital at Birmingham in serious condition.

Norris Flasch (Lanette's brother) recently hospitalized after a recent fall. Prayers are needed.

Dino Vechio: Treatments continue and many prayers have been requested.

Lou Dick: to have upcoming tests run and treatments given. Let's remember brother Lou in prayer.

Brennen Perry: His heart surgery was great success! Thankful for prayers!

Others: _____

Previous prayer requests and announcements may not be reflected in the above list. Please refer to earlier published bulletins for these as well as other announcements and other ministry opportunities.

If you have any updates / corrections on any prayer requests or other announcements, please share them by sending an email to vco_christ@att.net or simply text or leave a voice message at 601-436-0868.

WEEKLY WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: Many men can be fathers, but it takes a very special one to be a dad.

"...do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord."

(Ephesians 6:4 NKJV)

Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2021 Week 25

Day	Passage	Thoughts for Meditation
MONDAY	Ecclesiastes 1-6	At this point, are all of the statements Solomon has written true?
TUESDAY	Ecclesiastes 7-12	What does Solomon conclude in his search for life's meaning?
WEDNESDAY	1 Kings 10, 11 2 Chronicles 9	Did Solomon become greedy? If so, what problems did his greed create?
THURSDAY	Proverbs 30, 31	Proverbs 31:10-31 seems to come out of nowhere. Why was it included?
FRIDAY	1 Kings 12-14	At times, very devout Christian parents have children who depart from the faith. How do you think that happens?
SATURDAY	2 Chronicles 10-12	Things can go from good to bad, quickly. Has this ever happened to you?
SUNDAY	1 Kings 15:1-24 2 Chronicles 13-16	How did these kings differ in their behavior?

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Psalms 119:105