

# Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

*Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry*

August 1, 2021

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16, 17

## As Christ Loved the Church *by Duane Patton*

Recently I enjoyed the blessing of attending a beautiful wedding ceremony. Conducted in the auditorium where the church in Vancleave regularly assembles, the marriage of two young Christians filled the room with words and deeds that honored the Lord as the two hearts were woven together by their love for God and for one another. The very act of marriage, when done according to God's will, correlates with the love which Christ has for those whom He has called out to be His spiritual bride.

According to the apostle, Paul, marriage between a man and a woman is to be a reflection of the relationship between Christ and the church. Note the following passage of Scripture:

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish (**Ephesians 5:25-27**, NKJV)

Imagine a world where men and women love each other to the degree that Christ loved the church and you will see a world filled with New Testament Christianity! A self-sacrificial kind of love would all but eliminate divorce and it would surely go a long, long way regarding handling most issues regarding finances, children and many other difficulties often associated with married life. The Lord did not give just a part of Himself in order to secure a relationship with mankind - not just a convenient portion of His heart - but He gave His entire life so that there might be a new, pure and, in His eternal estimate, perfect union. His deliberate actions of love spoke louder than any words when He died on the cross and subsequently arose from the grave sealing forever His love for all (**John 3:16; Ephesians 2:4, 5 cf., Hebrews 13:20, 21**). Let us all strive to love as Christ loved the church.

### 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

## Recent Requests:

**Jason Rau:** Was hospitalized and on ventilator with Covid -19.

**Mike Kenney:** is scheduled for surgery 11 August. Pray that infection will be clear by that time.

**Danny and Carolyn Hart's daughter, Allie,** has been tested for Covid-19. Let's pray for her.

**Chip Quave:** Was immersed into Christ last Wednesday evening and we rejoice together with him!

**Congratulations to Jason and Katie** on their wedding! May God's blessings shower your lives!

**Wade and Joanna Phillips:** Have already set up over 133 Bible studies in Guam as a result of Wade's video presentations. There is much work to do; let's pray for greater success in the kingdom! Access to his videos at his YouTube Channel at *The Mississippi Gospel Minute*. They are both looking forward to being back home with us at least for a short stay.

**Others:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Continue to remember these:

Elsie Ashcraft	Norris Flasch	Jerry Wages	Rick Bedwell
Chip Quave	Brennen Perry	Dino Vecchio	Derek Bakker
Mike Kenney	Jerry Moore	Maxine Robinson	Grant Lavoto
Judy Hinton	Earl and Linda Kenney	Jerry and Virginia Mobley	

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](mailto:vco_christ@att.net) or simply text or leave a voice message at 601-436-0868.

**WEEKLY WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: The low places in life are a testimony to us that high places are all around us – but we must look up in order to see them!**

“...we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal” 2 Corinthians 4:18, NKJV

## Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2021 Week 31

MONDAY	Isaiah 59-63	How do Chapters 59 and 60 differ?
TUESDAY	Isaiah 64-66	Reflect on hope while reading Chapter 66.
WEDNESDAY	2 Kings 20, 21	Think back on the good deeds of King Hezekiah.
THURSDAY	2 Chron 32, 33	Consider the differences between Hezekiah and Manasseh.
FRIDAY	Nahum 1-3	150 years after Jonah preached and Nineveh repented, what happened?
SATURDAY	2 Kings 22, 23; 2 Chron 34, 35	Why was Josiah's good response and reformation unable to prevent Babylon from invading Jerusalem?
SUNDAY	Zephaniah 1-3	How might the first half of Chapter 3 remind you of modern times?

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