

# Vancleave Church of Christ

## Weekly Newsletter

*Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry*

July 25, 2021

### **Something that Lasts Forever** by Duane Patton

Nothing lasts forever, right? Outside of the love mentioned by the apostle, Paul, in **1 Corinthians 13:8** which, he says, "never fails," our universe, the world and all that is in it is gradually wearing out. This is because all things material that have a beginning must, by nature, have an ending. Natural science as we understand it refers to this process of gradual decay as the 2<sup>nd</sup> law of thermodynamics. This is a big word / phrase but only means all material things tend to weaken and eventually fall apart. We can see this all around us. Roads, bridges and buildings, over time, fall into disrepair especially when left completely alone. Even hardened metals when used constantly, given enough use and lack of care, become less effective: they bend, break or rust away. Clothing deteriorates, food spoils. Our human bodies, being mortal, constantly illustrate that we ourselves slow down over time and, eventually, fall apart. The writer of the New Testament book of Hebrews alludes to this by writing, "...it is appointed unto men once to die..." (**Hebrews 9:27**). Moses recorded man's Maker as having spoken this to the earliest of men "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return" (cf. **Genesis 3:19**; cf., **Ecclesiastes 3:20**). These are but a few of many things that simply do not last forever.

But, there is much good news! Through the Gospel of Jesus and the message of the New Testament provided by Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, God has provided something that lasts forever. According to the Hebrews writer, those who have responded to God's kindness by faith in Jesus Christ are "receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved" (**Hebrews 12:28**). It is unshakeable (lit., something *impossible* to move) because its builder and maker is God (**11:10**), and its foundation is the "bedrock" truth that Jesus the man is also the one true and living God (**John 1:1-3, 14**; see also **Hebrews Chapter 1**). The "cornerstone" of this unshakeable kingdom is the eternal standard of righteousness by which all the living line up and to which all life is measured (**Ephesians 2:19-22**). With reference to these things, Jesus, while attending Lazarus' funeral said to Martha, "Your brother will rise again...whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die" (**John 11:23, 26**). The kingdom of Heaven, in which every faithful child is a citizen, is an eternal kingdom – it is the one thing that lasts forever! Be sure to get in it today!

### 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

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# 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:

**Elsie Ashcraft** has been dealing with sick grandchildren and other domestic struggles.

**Norris Flasch** is hospitalized at Providence Hospital with various problems.

**Jerry Wages:** Cyst was found to be benign, and he is doing much better now.

**Rick Bedwell** of KW Church of Christ: has a form of blood cancer. Treatments are forthcoming.

**Virginia Mobley** has been dealing with pain issues and is seeking further medical advice.

**Chip Quave:** His heart is "OK" according to MRI, but he still has breathing problems and other issues.

**Brennen Perry:** The hole in his heart has successfully sealed and the blood clot in his neck is gone!

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

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## Continue to remember these:

**Dino Vecchio**

**Derek Bakker**

**Mike Kenney**

**Jerry Moore**

**Maxine Robinson**

**Earl and Linda Kenney**

**Judy Hinton**

**Grant Lavoto**

**Roscoe Lane Family and their recent loss**

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: Love never fails ~ 1 Corinthians 13:8**

"God is love" 1 John 4:16

## Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2021 Week 30

MONDAY	Isaiah 35-36	Have you ever been so frightened you thought even God couldn't help you?
TUESDAY	Isaiah 37-39, Ps. 76	Ever had a physical or emotional battle but knew God was actively helping?
WEDNESDAY	Isaiah 40-43	What circumstances does the servant in Chapter 42 have common with Jesus?
THURSDAY	Isaiah 44-48	How does these grievances and pleas from God apply in today's world?
FRIDAY	2 Kings 18:9-37; Ch. 19 Psalms 46, 80, 135	Have you ever felt like you were in the same position as the one in Psalms 80?
SATURDAY	Isaiah 49-53	If you have felt that God has abandoned you. Re-read 49:14-18. Think about it.
SUNDAY	Isaiah 54-58	Which of the rewards of faith resonate with you most?

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