

News & Notes

Baby Shower

Ladies, if you are interested in helping with a baby shower for Caren Dixon please message Mary Olree at 214-843-8014. We will be preparing for the shower with the date and time to be determined.

Note of Thanks

Dear Westside Family,

This week has been full of so many blessings through many and ongoing prayers from my beautiful Westside family and through God's grace and mercy ALL of my follow up tests have been reported as normal. I will continue to have follow up care every 4 months. ALSO after 44 years in the medical field, 26 of them here in Midland, I gave my resignation at work this week and will retire May 15, 2020. I just want to say Thank You and looking forward to being reunited for worship and praise and partaking of the Lord's Supper with my church family, hugging necks, and embracing each other's sweet souls. I am thankful for each and every one of you.

*In Christ's sweet name,
Martha McFarland and Family*

Update!!!

Tim Prince is no longer allowed to receive cards. Any correspondence must be on plain notebook paper. He has really been encouraged by the correspondence he has received!

A Mother For The Ages

Not all will recall the name of the woman who bore Aaron, Miriam, and Moses, but Jochebed is a mother for the ages. As we prepare to honor our mothers this week, consider three descriptions of this mother for ages and let us appreciate all mothers who strive to meet them.

A mother prepares for her children's safety. Before the birth of Moses, the instruction was given for all newborn boys to be cast into the river (Exodus 1:22). The writer of Hebrews says this concerning the parents of Moses, "When he was born, (he) was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command," Hebrews 11:23). Jochebed prepared for the safety of Moses by making an ark of bulrushes and covering it with pitch and placing him on the river bank for another to find.

Let's face it, if the safety of children were always left in the hands of fathers, some of us might not be here. God bless mothers and the protection they offer! Jesus compared the desire for protection He had for the city of Jerusalem to a mother hen desiring to protect her chicks (Matthew 23:37). That's not to say fathers are unconcerned, but a mother offers special protection. Mother's, please remember that the best protection you can provide is spiritual protection from the enemy seeking to devour the soul of your young one. The best protection you can offer is to remind them of being found in the Father's care!

A mother sacrifices herself. There is no sacrifice quite like the sacrifice of a mother for her children! What did Jochebed sacrifice to keep her son alive? She sacrificed all she could – even with an understanding that another might be the one to raise him. She sacrificed watching him take his first steps, utter his first words, and hold him close each day.

A godly mother will continually put the needs of her children above her own to ensure they are cared for physically and especially spiritually. How many mothers keep a closet full of the same clothes and shoes to ensure their children don't go without. How many mothers have sacrificed even career aspirations to be at home to raise her children (Titus 2:4-5)? Thank God for godly mothers who sacrifice themselves to help their children to be their best!

A mother continually places her trust in God. Once again, Hebrews 11:23 speaks to the faith of Moses, but even more to the faith of his parents.

(Continued on Next Page)

By faith Amram and Jochebed hid the infant for three months from the wrath of Egypt's king. His parents were not afraid of the pagan king. In the providence of God, he was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter and educated in Egypt. Clearly, his mother did not know what all would come of Moses, but her trust in God is shown in the pages of Scripture.

Oh yes, she is a mother for the ages! It seems the same can be said of so many godly mothers that are known and loved in the Westside family. Thank you for the preparation and investment you make in the lives of your children. Thank you for your sacrificial love and the trust you continually place in the God whom all will one day stand before. We honor you today and everyday – thank you for being a mother for the ages!

- Adam Orr

From Mike's Desk

Please take a moment to read the "**Coming Soon**" announcement on page 1 of the bulletin if you haven't already.

It's All About Perspective. Even during a pandemic, it's amazing how much good is being done by Christians! Cards of encouragement being sent, phone calls and texts expressing loving concern, meals being taken to those in need, trips being made to the grocery store for those who are at "higher risk," prayers offered for missionaries and their families, protective masks being made for those on the "front lines," kind words being spoken, technology as never before being used for godly purposes, yards being mowed, people "slowing down" and thinking more about eternity and what really matters, families having more time together, thoughtful acts of service constantly being done by so many "Good Samaritans" and in countless ways. The spirit of Christ is being shown by His people - all to the praise and glory of God. When we are discouraged about things and have a tendency to focus on what we've lost, how we need to recall these examples. Jesus is alive and well in the hearts of His people. Christianity is all about perspective, and while all of us have seen some of the worst of people during this crisis, we've also been privileged to see much of the best. Perhaps most of all this challenging time has made us think about our perspective. ***Do I tend to see life through the eyes of faith, looking to God in trust, hope and love? Or do I tend to focus on the circumstances of this life, so burdened by them that my vision of God gets obscured?***

Continue in Prayer

OUR MEMBERS:

Harky Harkness as he receives treatment for cancer. Eddie Cooley, CeVene Slater, Martha McFarland, Steve Oualline, Bernice Bower, Jack & Carolyn Laschkewitsch, Alan & Skeet McClenahan, Ron & Paula Truex, Margaret Hedges and Sonja Weerstra.

Family and Friends:

Edith and Bernie (Navajo foster sister of Terry Pafford and her husband) Edith is expected to go home Friday and Bernie continues in the hospital in NM with coronavirus. Brad Hocker (husband of Becki Hocker), Dolly Andrews (sister of Margaret Hedges), Bobby Bryan (surrogate brother of Carolyn Laschkewitsch), Tim Prince (son of Jena Prince), Jeremy & Meredith Rowton (Patti Rowes' nephew & niece), Weston Moses (nephew of Mary Olree), Andrew Solomon (missionary from St. Lucia), Sarah Vasquez, (niece of the Lorenz's), and Becky Ekstrom (niece of Tanya McCann).

Those with Cancer:

Judith (Daughter of Andrew & Linetta Solomon) has been diagnosed with stage one cancer. Kyle Thompson (friend of Steve Horton), Wayne Reynolds (father in law of Amber Reynolds), April (sister of Annette Mills), Floretta Dotson (sister of Eddie Cooley), Pat Flores (sister of Ron Truex), and Jessie James (brother of Mary Ann Dickson).

Children Home Needs!

At this time, grocery truck pick-ups for NM Children's Home are temporarily cancelled. They are asking for online donations @ NMCCH.ORG