

LEADERSHIP:**Ministers:**

Kevin Kasparek

Pulpit

918-470-5873

Cooper Atkeson

Family/Worship

417-461-4834

Raoul Ferris

Outreach/Involvement

210-253-0901

Secretary

Cheryl Brown

830-261-7667

Elders:

Dale Alexander

361-537-3219

Gene Bosse

830-285-3241

Ray Faught

512-971-0637

David Moore

830-928-1869

Deacons:

Orlando Barraza

Doyle Brown

Cody Bush

Jerry Durbin

Darrell Fudge

Tom Lovelady

Chris Mulliniks

Gary Swanner

ATTENDANCE**7/5/2020: 89**

Can we overemphasize Jesus? Paul told the Corinthian church, “And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (1 Cor 2:1-2, NKJV). Could we be so bold to have such a singular focus? Or do we too quickly run to the “finer points” of Christianity? Paul didn’t. Paul put his emphasis where it belonged – on Jesus. Do not think that such an approach is unrefined, unnecessary, or too elementary. Satan’s goal is to distract us from Jesus. This is such a danger that Paul was worried for the Corinthians: “But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Cor 11:3). Jesus is not a topic of Christianity that can be worn out. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no overemphasizing truth. There is no avoiding life. Jesus should always be the continual emphasis of His disciples.

By Cooper Atkeson

“...He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:2-5

If there is a need for food, medications, etc., and a member is unable to get out, please contact either the staff, or one of the elders.

Jody Wilson was injured in a fall on Tuesday. She was in a San Antonio hospital, but was due to be released Wednesday or Thursday. The x-rays showed a broken vertebrae in her neck. She will wear a neck brace for 6-8 weeks, and she will have limitations in her movement. Please pray for Jody, that her healing will be complete, and for her family.

Bill Whitt had a heart catheterization on Monday, and the results were very good. He is home, and very grateful for the prayers offered on his behalf.

Martha McDuffie is at home, but still not feeling well. There will be more tests scheduled in the near future. Please pray for good results, and that her pain will cease.

The Whartons requested prayers for their granddaughter Erin Wharton, who is 14 years old, and has been diagnosed with hip cancer. She is undergoing testing at MD Anderson hospital.

Doyle Brown was discharged from the hospital on Wednesday. Although he is at home, he cannot have visitors at this time. He loves all of his brothers and sisters at Riverside, and he looks forward to the time when he can rejoin in worship and fellowship. Doyle and Cheryl appreciate the cards, calls, texts, and prayers during this time.

The following was received from **Reba Durbin**: "I received an update from **Treva** (her sister). She has stage IV kidney carcinoma with metastases to the liver. The doctors are saying no surgery can be performed. The PET scan was Wednesday. I guess this will determine the extent of the disease. They are talking MD Anderson for a second opinion and consult. Please continue to pray for Treva and her family. Also, I have had a COVID scare today. A family member of a coworker has tested positive for COVID. Jerry and I will be tested Monday. I will work but have chosen not to attend services. Please pray these tests are negative. "

Raoul Ferris made the following prayer request:

Brady and **Holley Baughman** are a young couple that have visited us several times on Sunday evenings and they attend my Monday bible studies.

They are expecting a child and child is currently in a breach position. Holley has been doing several exercises to encourage the child to flip. Let's pray the child rotates the correct direction in time to be born.

Let's remember all of the health care workers we have in our congregation, **Rona Barrozo, Ashton Bosse, Jolene Fudge, Kaysi Garrett, Karen Wootton, Karla (Wootton) Carter**, and those around the nation and world, who are on the front lines of the pandemic.

Food Ministry

If you know of a need for food (meal) for the month of July, please contact Susan Kasperek at 918-470-5879.

Health Updates:

Please pray for **Don Taylor**, as he deals with several health issues; **Garland McConal** as he recovers at home from surgery; **Tara Brubaker**, recovering from hip repair surgery; **Scott Stork** (son of Chuck and a missionary in China), who is having radiation treatments; **Desire' Dunn** (daughter-in-law to Beverly Barke) battling Stage 4 Leukemia; **Sarah Lucas**, (family member of Jeanie Haby) who has some serious health concerns; **Reba Durbin's** nephew **Terry Beasley**, who was diagnosed with cancer; **Erin Wharton**, 14 y.o. granddaughter to the Whartons-diagnosed with cancer; **Rona Barrozo's** friend **Lalaine**, and her 11 y.o. daughter **Pia**, who has been diagnosed with osteosarcoma; John **Meadows**, as he recovers at home from several medical issues; **Bill Fitch**, son of Katie Fitch who is having surgery on 6/16; **Larry Smith**, friend of the Lovelady family, suffering with colon cancer; **Vida Spangler**, recovering at home from a broken pelvic bone; **Dennis Lange's** and daughter-in-law in Albany, NY working on the front lines in the hospital; **Chris Mulliniks'** sister Cindy, a nurse in Tennessee; and **Jeanie Haby's** sister **Julie Browning**, who is an RN at a Houston nursing home.

Please pray for **Holly Macy, Jordan Barraza, Jim Mays, and LaJean Hendrick**, as they continue their treatments.

Continue to pray for all Riverside family and friends facing health concerns.