

University Heights Church
of Christ
445 Columbia Ave.,
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is
immediately followed by a
short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

David Collins

John Thompson

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Troy Antle

Richard Brundige

Matt Thompson

Adam Litmer

Bill Morelan

Jim Parsons

Pat Seabolt

Adam Daniels

Jamie Powell

Adam's Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday (8:30-4:00)

³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. ' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you? ' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me. ' (Matthew 25:34-40)

An article on servitude is appropriate at any time, but especially so at this time. Our brother, Garry Banks, was a servant of the Lord who did not hesitate to serve others. He is now at rest awaiting his final reward. I believe God could have said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant, Garry Banks?" And I believe Garry will hear, *'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.... as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'*

NOTE

The college/young adult class will begin the 21st of this month (next Sunday). The class will be on 1 Timothy-Titus. I encourage everyone who will be attending to take the time to read 1 Timothy a time or two this week as that is where we will begin.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

The Banks' family, Richard Brundige, David Seabolt, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Jake Spivey, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Burnice Richardson, Ruth Poynter, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Tony Tyree, Andrew Westphal, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, Alleen Terrell, the McDonald family

University Heights Messenger

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So Long For Now, Beloved Brother

Adam Litmer

Our dear brother Garry has finished his race. I have tremendous confidence that, like Lazarus, Garry is even now receiving comfort in Abraham's bosom (Luke 16:25). Many tears have been shed and many more will come. Indeed, removing his name from the "Elders" on the back page was the most difficult thing I've done in this bulletin and my eyes filled again as I did it. Our hearts especially go out to Richelle, Alexander, and Anarielle. Brethren, let us resolve to be there for them as the day's progress and remind them just how loved they are.

Certain hymns have been coming to mind since this past Monday. I suppose that is appropriate for at least two reasons. First, hymns are designed to teach and admonish (Colossians 3:16). This means that we can learn from hymns that are based upon Scripture. Second, James says that the cheerful should sing praise (James 5:13). Though I sorrow for our church family (especially Richelle, Alexander, and Anarielle), I am so excited for Garry himself. His faith has become sight!

"As I travel on life's pathway, knowing not what the years may hold; as I ponder, hope grows fonder, precious mem'ries flood my soul" (Precious Memories, 464). I often find myself thinking about loved one's who have passed. My grandparents and uncle, all of whom were faithful Christians, regularly visit my thoughts. Other beloved saints I've known throughout the years, a group whose newest member is brother Garry, often pass through my thoughts as well. I recall their examples and the love they demonstrated toward their Lord and brethren. Those precious memories flood my soul and lift my spirits. Knowing that their hope inspired them throughout life ignites my hope to even greater heights. I love those precious memories and pray that you benefit from them just as I do.

"Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer! That calls me from a world of care, and bids me, at my Father's throne, make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare, by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!" (Sweet Hour Of Prayer, 73) The family here at University Heights has entered a season of distress and grief, not

because we fear for our brother’s soul, but because we miss his physical presence with us. Truly, Garry will be missed because his seat will be empty (1 Samuel 20:18). The first part of James 5:13 says, *Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray.* Prayers will be lifted up even more from saints in this place over the following days, weeks, and months. How wonderful it is that we may find relief at the throne of our God.

“No tears in heaven, no sorrows given, all will be glory in that land; there’ll be no sadness, all will be gladness, when we shall join that happy band” (No Tears In Heaven, 214). Many tears have been and will continue to be shed over the passing of our beloved brother. But there is a day coming when no more tears will *ever* be shed for the reasons for them will have been removed forever. A day is coming when only gladness will reign. Garry looked for this day with great joy and anticipation. *His* tears are gone now. If we will endure as he endured our tears will also be dried.

“If the skies above you are gray, you are feeling so blue, if your cares and burdens seem great all the whole day thru, there’s a silver lining that shines in the heavenly land, look by faith and see it my friend, trust in His promises grand” (Sing And Be Happy, 683). In my experience, no one *ever* led this song the way Garry led it. His voice boomed as he did exactly what the song called for. Our brother sang praises to the Lord and was as happy as he could be to do it. I think the reason is because he knew all about that silver lining shining forth from heaven. He turned his eyes of faith toward Jesus, trusting in every promise, and pressed on. What an example he set!

“How sweet will be the welcome home, when this short life is o’er; when pain and sorrow, grief and care, shall trouble us no more. Welcome home, sweet welcome home, my home sweet home. Welcome home, sweet welcome home, the Christian’s welcome home” (The Christian’s Welcome Home, 228). If we are faithful and true than we know that none of us have *really* said “Goodbye” to Garry. What we’ve said is, “So long for now, beloved brother. We’ll see you later.” Our Lord has made it so that if we walk worthy of our calling and endure to the end, the next time we see Garry there will never be another parting. Praise God for the Christian’s welcome home!

Born (Again) to Serve

John Thompson

Jesus entered Jerusalem about six days before He was to be crucified. One evening at supper with His apostles, he did an unusual thing. Ever the master teacher, he arose, removed his outer garments, tied a towel around his waist, put some water into a basin and began to wash the feet of his disciples. He had a reason for doing this most humbling act of servitude.

¹² *When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me*

Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. (John 13:12-16)

Jesus not only humbled himself, taking on the form of a servant (Philippians 2:7), but he performed one of the more disgusting tasks of washing dirty, dust encrusted feet. Furthermore, he washed the feet of those under his authority: the teacher washing the feet of his students. Finally, he washed the feet of his enemy, his betrayer, for Judas had not yet left to carry out his plan.

Do you remember the story of young Samuel, how he was leant to the Lord by his mother and reared by Eli? After some misunderstanding who was calling him, Samuel was finally advised by Eli to respond by saying, “Speak Lord, for your servant hears.” Can you think of a better way to respond to the Lord? There is so much contained in that short response: a recognition of Deity; an attitude of servitude; and the willingness to learn and carry out the Lord’s will.

You know, some of the godliest people who have ever lived were perfectly content to be servants of God. When Satan appeared before God, as reported in the book of Job, God expressed extraordinary confidence in His servant, Job. ⁸ *And the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?”* (Job 1:8) Paul, who played such an indispensable role in the establishment and spread of the church, was just as prone to refer to himself as a servant of God as he was to call himself an apostle. *Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,* (Romans 1:1). *Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseer and deacons* (Philippians 1:1) See also Titus 1:1. James, Peter, and Jude also begin their inspired letters by identifying themselves as servants of God.

Paul makes it plain that being a servant of God means serving others. ⁵ *For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.* (2 Corinthians 4:5) In a time when entitlements are on everyone’s minds and people are quick to demand to receive what they believe they deserve, servitude will not be very popular. When one becomes a Christian, he or she is born again, born again to serve Christ through service to others. Serving others is, very simply, the means by which the Christian serves God. ³⁴ *Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,*

