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

Singing: 7:30 PM

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

First Friday of Each Month

LEADERSHIP

Elders

David Collins
John Thompson
Troy Antle

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

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)

for it only hours before His death, we can know that it meant much to Him. It is important that we recognize that both unity and division present a message to the world. Let us pursue the things that make for peace without compromising the truth of the gospel. Jesus loved unity among His people. If we would be like Him we must love it, and work for it, ourselves.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Jim Parsons, Declan Weatherholt, Jaclyn Litmer, David Seabolt, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Vicky Litmer, Sheila Lawson, Keia Burton, 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, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, Alleen Terrell, the McDonald family, William Roberts, Kip Pearce, Paul Lyda, Fae Thomas

University Heights Messenger

Volume 9--Number 1

January 1, 2017

Start The Year By Looking Up!

Adam Litmer

Psalm 8 is probably best known for David's awed question, "What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?" Others likely think of the first and last verses which exclaim, "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" This incredible psalm is home to some of the most familiar and beloved statements in all Scripture.

I wish to briefly consider verse 3, which says, "When I look at your heavens, the works of your fingers, and the moon and the stars, which you have set in place." He follows this with the question, "What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?" I wish to consider verse 3 because it was David's observance of the night sky that led him to meditate upon God, to recognize His majesty, and to consider man's place in relation to God and His creation.

Friends, when was the last time you stepped outside in the evening to gaze into the heavens and reflect upon God? When did you last open your soul to be overwhelmed by the creative genius and power of the Majesty on high? How long has it been since you last bowed your head in complete humility and questioned why God gives a single thought to you? When was the last time you really

looked at God's heavens? I could certainly benefit by doing these things much more often.

When David gazed into the night sky he was struck with one mighty thought: its Creator should be worshipped and praised. Praise is due Him not because of what He does for us, not because of what He gives, but simply because *He is*! That He loves us and has granted us dominion over His creation simply provides *more* incentive to worship.

Let us take some time from the hustle and bustle of life to turn our attention to the star filled sky and marvel at the One who created it all. When we do our voices will join with David. "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

A Few New Year's Day Thoughts

Adam Litmer

"Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, 'He is out of his mind'" (Mark 3:21). Jesus was so busy teaching that He didn't even have time to eat. His family assumed He must be out of his mind so they went out to seize Him, to forcefully take hold of Him to make Him rest and eat. Most easily understand the need for great sacrifice as it relates to jobs, family, and schooling. Very few comprehend exhausting oneself for the sake of God's Kingdom. How unfortunate!

"As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. And he did not permit him but said to him, 'Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.' And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled" (Mark 5:18-20).

This demon-possessed man was healed and then given a mission by Jesus. He was one sufferer telling other sufferers where to find relief. No message is more wonderful, or essential, than that.

"And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, 'Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her" (John 8:7). In the account of the woman taken in adultery, Jesus does not teach that only the perfect may punish crimes, but that all must be aware of their own sinfulness. That the scribes and Pharisees brought this woman to Christ reminds us that though one may appear free of outward sin it does not necessarily follow that they are inwardly pure. Personal examination is an essential prerequisite to examining the flaws of others. Such examination forces one to admit personal imperfection and to judge with righteous judgment tempered by humility, mercy, and compassion.

"Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me?" (John 8:46). There wasn't a person alive who could honestly convict Jesus Christ of sin. He had never committed any! You and I would be indicted in a moment if we were to ask this question to people who have known us well throughout the years. A life entirely free of sin seems unfathomable to people who have committed it countless times. When numbering our blessings let's begin with our sinless Christ. If He had behaved as we have at various times, He could not have been our Savior and we could not be saved.

"I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me" (John 17:23). One of the final prayers of our Lord dealt specifically with unity among His people. If Jesus was praying