

# THE MESSENGER

**JUNE 28, 2020** 

#### **NEWS AND NOTES**

## Congregational Meeting TBD

#### Weekly Bible Studies

All temporarily being conducted via Zoom. Check our "friends" page on Facebook for more information.

#### Times of Service Sunday

Bible study: 945 AM Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

### Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM (Immediately followed by a short worship service)

#### First Friday of Month Singing 7:30 PM

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

**Address and Contact** 

#### THE BLESSING OF LOVE AND EMPATHY

In Romans 12:15, Paul said, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." While I appreciate brethren rejoicing with me in times of joy, those who weep with me in times of distress especially move me. Though the sadness does not vanish, there is great comfort in knowing that I am in the thoughts of the best people in the world and that their prayers include me. Empathy is the ability to share and, to an extent, understand the feelings and emotions of another. It is an extremely important trait for Christians to possess.

Shortly after I began the training at Douglass Hills an event took place that left an indelible mark on my heart and showed me the profound comfort a saint can find in the empathy of brethren. On a Wednesday evening, shortly before we met for worship, one of the women of the congregation suffered the rupture of a brain aneurism no one knew existed. The situation was dire. After worship, without any planning or coordination, nearly half the congregation found their way to the hospital to sit and wait with her husband. This was a school night and most everyone had to work in the morning, yet there they were to sit with a beloved brother. His sorrow and fear for his wife did not just vanish, but the look on his face and the tears on his cheeks told everyone how much it meant to him. He was comforted by the empathy of his brethren.

In Philippians 2:25-28, Paul says, I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. Indeed, he was

## Members Needing Our Prayers

Mary Weatherholt, Bennie Poynter, Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Whitney Crouch

#### **Others Needing Prayers**

Jason Shepherd, Chassey Seabolt, Terry Daniels, Mary Laclair, Rachel White, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, Valerie and Barry Boyd, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Cindi's niece, Dana, and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Mark (Carol's son), Victoria Poynter, Ron Harmon

#### **To Our Guests**

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Type in our name on Facebook, YouTube, or our website if you'd like to watch or just listen to our sermons.

ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. Epaphroditus was part of the local church in Philippi. He had been sent to bring Paul their support and to aid him however he could. He became so ill that he nearly died. His brethren back home were greatly distressed. Epaphroditus, having recovered from his sickness, was equally distressed because his brethren had no way of knowing about his recovery. He longed for them just as they longed for him. Imagine the meeting when Epaphroditus came home healthy! They loved one another so much!

There is great comfort in the empathy of fellow saints. I have been the recipient of that wonderful blessing many times. Am I correct in assuming you have as well? Let's pass it on to our beloved brethren. Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Bill Morelan	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	