



# THE MESSENGER

## DECEMBER 26, 2021

### NEWS AND NOTES

**Congregational Meeting**  
TBD

**Weekly Bible Studies**  
Tuesdays on Zoom

**Times of Service**  
**Sunday**

Bible study: 9:45 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**  
September 3, 7:30

**Address and Contact**  
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Christ  
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KY 40508  
(859) 255-6257  
[www.uheightschurch.com](http://www.uheightschurch.com)

### THE POWER OF “YET”

The bulletin board caught my eye last evening while attending a concert given by the Montgomery County middle school and high school bands. I didn't pay much attention to it at first, thinking it had reference to a foreign language being taught at the school. Eventually, however, I looked closer and was quite impressed with what I saw. The word YET, in large letters, was in the center of the board. Surrounding it were several expressions one might hear young students say when presented with some new educational opportunity. Some of those expressions were: "I'm not good at that"; "I don't know it"; "Things aren't making sense"; "I can't do it".

While such negative assertions may provide an immediate way of escape from situations we have come to believe are too difficult, they do not serve us well in the long run. So, mom says to her child, "You look really bored. Why don't you learn to play a musical instrument? And the child responds with, "No way, I wouldn't be any good at that." Then, time passes, the child grows old, and, sure enough, he never learned to play an instrument. But, adding a little three-letter word at the end of the negative assertion dramatically changes its narrative. For example, take "I can't do it", add the word yet and here is what you get: "I can't do it, yet." What was presented as a permanent condition is now simply a temporary situation.

How is it that YET has power? YET points ahead to the future, not back to the past. It paves the way for what can be, rather than remaining stuck on what will never be because of some self-limiting, self-defeating assertion like "I can't." YET is goal-oriented and full of purpose. YET looks forward to accomplishment and helps restrain the tendency to make excuses for not trying. YET turns failure into a practice session. I have seen the expression "practice makes perfect" reworded to say "practice makes progress." Perfection may be too lofty a goal, but progress is worthy of our best efforts. Failure doesn't bring progress to a halt, rather it helps us learn what did not work and what might work in the future. YET builds confidence as success adds to success. YET provides hope and promise that, down the road, each of us can be better at any number of things than we are right now.

Christians are just as prone to excuses as anyone else. One excuse often used is "I just don't have time." "You know, I would love to go to the Bible study at your house, but I just don't have time." There is no provision for the future in such a statement. However, adding the word, yet, suggests that with some revision of priorities the time will be found. "I don't have time, yet." Acts 24 records Paul

## **Members    Needing    Our Prayers**

The Powell family, Rick Small, Ralph Fox, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Joyce Bolton and family, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

## **Others Needing Prayers**

Harvey Baker, Allison Walker, Randy Cates, Larry McTeer, Charlene Michael, Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Dale Lyons, Adam Fusco, Rachel and Sarah White, Duane Harrod, Grace Meyer, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Debbie Lanphear, Veronica Bowman

## **To Our Guests**

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reasoning with Felix, the Roman governor, about righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come. Felix was afraid and suddenly had no time to act on what he was hearing. He told Paul to go away for now, saying whenever it's convenient, I'll call you. That seems his way of saying he had no time now or in the future.

Perhaps the most frequently used negative assertion is "I can't." I can't lead singing; preach a sermon; teach a Bible class; develop class materials, and so on. I can't carry a tune, stand in front of people, introduce myself to people, etc., etc. One cannot begin to measure how self-limiting and self-defeating it is to have the mind-set of "I can't." Alexander Dumas, the French author of *The Three Musketeers*, is credited with saying, "A person who doubts himself is like a man who would enlist in the ranks of his enemies and bear arms against himself. He makes his failure certain by being the first person to be convinced of it."

The fact that the Lord's Church is to be a group of hard-working, dedicated servants is reflected in many songs. Here are some selected excerpts. *"There's a place in the service of God for workers who are loyal to Him and true; can't you say to Him now, 'I will leave the shirkers, and the work Thou hast planned I'll do.'"* (620 *Room in God's Kingdom*) *I want to be a worker for the Lord, I want to love and trust His holy word, I want to sing and pray and be busy every day, In the vineyard of the Lord. I want to be a worker strong and brave, I want to trust in Jesus' power to save. All who will truly come shall find a happy home. In the kingdom of the Lord. (504 I want to Be a Worker)* Opportunities for Kingdom work will come. And when they do may we not respond with some negative assertion as we may have done in the past, but add that little, oh, so powerful word YET, and keep those opportunities alive. Paul wrote from prison in Rome, *I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)* John Thompson

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Evangelist</b>
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

