

# THE MESSENGER JUNE 5, 2022

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Congregational Meeting** June 12

#### Weekly Bible Studies

Tuesdays on Zoom, 10 Friday, 12:30, Fayette Mall food court Saturday, 10, Panera (Georgetown) **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 March 4, 7:30

### **Address and Contact**

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

#### **"THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS"**

Our nation continues to try and digest the horror and heartbreak of the Uvalde school shooting. Even in a country as divided as this one there are some things it seems we can all agree on. We can't help but recoil at the evil of the murderer. We can't help but mourn for the devastated families of the slain. We all agree that something should be done, though we are as divided as ever on what it should be.

Some have concluded that whatever avenue is taken, "thoughts and prayers" don't have a place it. They say, "We don't need your thoughts or your prayers. We need your action and your activism. We need you to get out here and actually *do* something." Many sympathize with such statements.

My first thought is that short of a mass, country-wide conversion to Christ the type of evil witnessed in Uvalde will continue to happen on varying scales. If a saint can contribute in a beneficial way in addition to prayer and their daily Christ-like example within their "normal" sphere of influence, I'm not sure why they wouldn't. Doing what we can to positively influence the country or city in which we live is a biblical concept.

Some suggest that "you have my thoughts and prayers" has become a throw away statement for many, similar to someone asking, "How are you?" who couldn't be less interested in how you really are. Others imagine that for many it's a statement designed to avoid having to care or do anything. I'll offer a quick thought and prayer after which I'll not allow myself to be bothered by the current act of evil and immense sorrow it has caused. I sincerely hope none of us who offer our thoughts and prayers fall into either category.

## Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Gary Brown, Joyce Bolton, Julie Patton, Pat Seabolt, Rick Small, John Thompson, Benny Poynter, Janet Brundige, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

### **Others Needing Prayers**

Ernestine Byers, Glen Perkins, Allison Walker, Dwight Antle, Randy Cates, Larry McTeer, Charlene Michael, Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Adam Fusco Duane Harrod. Grace Meyer, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Anderson, Glen Lonnie Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Terry Daniels, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a Cindi). relative of Ron Harmon

#### **To Our Guests**

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

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons. Fellow Christians, please remember this: There is no greater good, no more powerful action, that a child of God can take than in appealing to God directly through prayer. Jesus did what he did to make this avenue available. (Hebrews 4:14-16) The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. (James 5:13-20) This will always be true.

"We don't need your thoughts and prayers. We need your action." I believe the inspired apostle Paul responds to both parts of this statement. First, "pray without ceasing." (1 Thessalonians 5:17) Second, "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith." (Galatians 6:9-10) Pray and do, beloved. This has always been God's intention for a remade people "created in Christ Jesus for good works." (Ephesians 2:10) The greatest good saints can do is to go to their God in prayer. Is there further good that can be done? Seek that as well remembering that sometimes God's positive answer to prayer may very well be in the faithful, loving action of the praying saint his or herself.

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