



THE MESSENGER

JUNE 27, 2021

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting
TBD

Weekly Bible Studies
Tuesdays at 11 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
On hold

Address and Contact

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

95% NAKED AND 100% UNASHAMED

I recently tuned into the U.S. Olympic Trials. Being shown were the swimming trials, and as each event finished, the winner was interviewed. During those interviews the winner answered questions showing no discomfort at all over being all but naked. The male swimmers, especially, stood or walked around with less on than the underwear they, no doubt, normally wear. I detected no embarrassment, no feeling of exposure, no shame, no effort to cover oneself. Furthermore, the woman reporter conducting the interviews gave no indication she was uncomfortable in the presence of near naked men.

In the Garden of Eden there was a tree called the tree of knowledge of good and evil. I find it significant that out of all of the things associated with evil the one that first disturbed Adam and Eve was nakedness. *Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. (Genesis 3:7).* They were so unsettled that they made loincloths and tried to hide from God. Later on, before God sent Adam and Eve out of the Garden, He clothed them as it suited Him, knowing that nakedness would be a huge invitation to sin out in the world,

Genesis 9 records an incident of nakedness involving Noah and his sons. After the flood Noah planted a vineyard, produced wine, drank it, became drunk, and uncovered himself. His son, Ham, “looked at the nakedness of his father” and told his brothers. Leaving out the wild speculations of many commentators, there are ample clues in the text to show the incident to be very serious. We don’t know all that might have been in Ham’s mind as he looked, not so much at his father, but at his father’s nakedness. Instead of covering his father, he chose to tell his brothers. They went to great lengths not to see Noah’s shame as they covered him up. That they went to such lengths to respect their father means that Ham was highly disrespectful. Ham dishonored God as well, since it was God who, in clothing Adam and Eve, established that nakedness is not some casual thing to be put on public display. Nor is nakedness to be put before others where it might tempt them to engage in evil behavior.

Nakedness is in the process of being normalized in society at large. Just google the word “naked” and here is a sampling of what shows up:

**I Feel Better Naked: Communal Naked Activity Increases Body
Appreciation by Reducing Social Physique Anxiety** by [Keon West](#) 

Published online: 05 Jun 2020

Members Needing Our Prayers

Pat, Seabolt, Janet Brundige, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Rhonda Boyd (and family)

Others Needing Prayers

Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Dale Lyons, Adam Fusco, Rachel and Sarah White, Duane Harrod, Grace Meyer, Andy Seabolt, 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

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.

Nudity is the ultimate test of self-acceptance. Why are we so afraid of it? By

Monica Tan (describing her experience of attending a nude art tour)

Normalization of nakedness is occurring along multiple fronts: it is being given scientific credibility through sociological and psychological research; it is being mainstreamed all around us as people go about their daily routines, from the shirtless neighbor mowing his lawn to the young woman in short shorts standing next to you in a checkout line. Perfectly honorable activities, such as the art tour, are being tapped to give nakedness more respectability and to eliminate any guilt and shame. Television shows, commercials, the fashion industry all bombard viewers with the assumption that nakedness and near nakedness, without shame, is expected. However, the only time when there was no shame in nakedness is stated in Genesis 2:25: *And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.* The shame came with the knowledge of good and evil. But there is no shame if nakedness is kept within the confines of the marital relationship. Granted, there are other situations in which nakedness happens, such as hospitals, but that is not the same as nakedness for the sake of nakedness. When we unclote our bodies inappropriately, we dishonor ourselves, those who look upon us, and our God who provided clothing so that we not be shamed. Think about it!

John Thompson

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

