



THE MESSENGER

MARCH 19, 2023

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

April

Our Next Gospel Meeting

Today through Friday

Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 1 on Zoom

Friday at 1 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

February 3, 7:30

Address and Contact

University Heights Church of
Christ

445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,
KY 40508

(859) 255-6257

www.uheightschurch.com

TRUST

Genuine trust is a powerful and rare thing. In a world where it is usually assumed that people will deal deceptively if they can see a benefit in it, the *trustworthy* person seems to be going the way of the dodo. I suspect most of us, after yet another disappointing interaction in which we were deceived, have exclaimed, “You just can’t trust anybody these days!”

For saints’ honesty is not just the best policy, it’s the *only* policy. (Ephesians 4:25, 28) Yet even knowing this, is there a saint among us who hasn’t been guilty of deception and falsehood since becoming a Christian? Even once is too often. We must work to be honest for the world is working very hard to convince us not to be.

It is a wonderful thing to interact with an honest person, to feel that one can trust what is being said or promised. Yet there *is* a challenge to it. Real trust requires that one “put themselves out there,” so to speak. There is a certain vulnerability in placing oneself in the hands of another person and believing they possess the integrity, ability, and willingness to do what they’ve said they will do. Sadly, many have become cynical and jaded because they’ve been deceived so often. Even the most committed Christian may stumble a bit upon reading, *Love...believes all things*. (1 Corinthians 13:7) The cynic won’t and the jaded can’t. The loving saint *must*, yet even they are reminded not to be naïve and foolish. (Matthew 10:16)

God is the only One who does not and cannot lie. (Hebrews 6:17-18; Titus 1:1-2) Even so, the promises He makes are of such magnitude that there is a challenge to trusting them. Indeed, there is *meant* to be. Consider God’s words to Moses in Exodus 3:12. “*But I will be with you, and this shall be a sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.*” This extraordinary statement leaves a

Members Needing Our Prayers

John Thompson, Mary Weatherholt, Joyce Bolton, Julie Patton, Rick Small, Benny Poynter, Richard and Janet Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Fay Thomas, Glen Perkins, Edra Bernard, Valari Jones-Butler (Valari is Gina Seabolt's former co-worker. Her daughter is undergoing chemo for breast cancer. Her 21 year old nephew was killed in a shooting), Charlie Hoy, Marc Nations, Janice Parsons, Veronica Bowman, Charles Bishop, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

To Our Guests

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great deal to be desired depending upon one's perspective. Much needed to happen between Moses' commission and returning to the mountain. A burning bush was one thing, overthrowing Egypt and its gods was another. Frightened and apprehensive, Moses chose to believe God and went about his assigned task. As he witnessed God proving His faithfulness time after time, Moses' trust multiplied until he became a giant of faith worthy of imitation. Yet it all began with God challenging him to trust His promises.

God has promised us that this world is still in His hands, that He will grant us wisdom and strength to understand His will and overcome the adversary, that the sacrifice of His Son and our faithful obedience to Him has rescued us from slavery to sin and its accompanying guilt, that all of the trials and difficulties we go through in this life will seem as nothing when we finally experience the glory reserved for us, and that we can pray whenever we want and our petitions are carried directly to Him by His Son who lives to make intercession for us. These promises are worlds beyond the promises man makes and often fails to carry out. Why should we believe them? Because *God* made them, and He *will not* lie to us. As God proves His faithfulness time and again the challenge *to* trust is replaced with the settled confidence and peace *of* trust. What a wonderful blessing!

Adam Litmer

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

