



Morning Star Church of Christ

4249 River Street
Willoughby, OH 44095

(440) 254-6207
February 25, 2007

Welcome to The Morning Star Church of Christ. Our church meets at The Willoughby Christian Church. Sunday Bible classes are at 11:00 a.m. and services are at 12:15 p.m. Thursday Bible classes are at 7:00 p.m. for adults and children.

Food for the Journey

This week, I would like to introduce to you a new series of sermons that I will be preaching over the next five weeks. Beginning today, February 25th, I will be presenting a series entitled *The Renewal of Hope*. This series is designed to help us to understand how we can kindle the fires of hope in our lives and keep them burning brightly. This series will focus on several key components of Christian faith. Among these are the following.

1. Biblical hope – what is it and what does it mean for us?
2. The love of God – why and how does God love us?
3. Blessings of Christianity – what tangible blessings does God offer us in this life?

How do we approach and receive the hope, love, and blessings God offers to us through Jesus Christ? This part of the series will teach us how to practice the spiritual discipline of self-examination, which is composed of two parts – the examination of conscious and the examination of consciousness.

At first glance, it might seem like these sermons are self-centered and focus only on what we can get from God to make us happier and more fulfilled in this life. Let me assure you this is not the case. A more satisfied and peaceful life might be a result of these sermons, but their primary focus is to bring us into deeper submission to God through humility and the willingness to receive grace from his hands.

This series will take about five weeks to complete. Today's sermon will introduce the series by showing us the essence and the reality of Christian hope and by introducing the concept of reaching out to take hold of hope.

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THOSE SERVING FOR TODAY'S SERVICES:

Today's preaching will be done by Micheal West. The usher will be Larry Wilhelm. Song leader will be Bob Bonnell. Josh Meeks has opening prayer, Micheal West has prayer of intercession and Mahlon Tennant has closing prayer. Mike Tankersley has communion and Ken Allen, Larry Wilhelm and Aaron West will assist him. Alternate assistant will be Dan Spence.

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I think the time is right for such a series. I've seen a number of indications that our hearts are ready for such a message, and I've heard many of you request sermons along the lines of hope, renewal, and the love of God.

As we begin this short journey together, I ask some things from you. First, make a commitment to be here to hear these messages and to receive the information with open hearts and open minds. Secondly, be willing to practice what we learn and to put it to use. These sermons are not designed to be intellectual pursuits to fill up the sermon time of our worship service. They are designed to change our lives through experience and practice. They will be useless if we only hear them but do nothing with them. Finally, pray that God will help you to understand these messages and that he will lead you through the process of renewing hope in your life. Together, let's grow closer to God as we learn to tap into his power and the blessings he has in store for us.

IMMEDIATE PRAYER REQUESTS

- ?? Augie Bruno (friend of Dan Spence) has been diagnosed with colon cancer.
- ?? Daisy Tankersley is having surgery March 15.
- ?? Matt and April Adaire (Daisy Tankersley's daughter and son-in-law) are looking for employment.
- ?? Dennis Tankersley (Daisy's husband) will be incarcerated for two years. Please send him a card at Dennis Tankersley 522-146, c/o Lorain Co. I.N.S.T., 2075 S. Avon Beldon Road, Crafton, OH 44044.
- ?? Fred Bishop (Florence's brother) passed away last week.
- ?? Arturo Rea is recuperating after having his shunt redone.
- ?? Gene Price does not have cancer.
- ?? Myndi Allen's mother is still experiencing some health issues and will be going to see a doctor at the Cleveland Clinic .
- ?? Nancy (sister of Flo's sister in law) has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- ?? Rachel Wiant (Dan's niece in law) has been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.
- ?? Rhondi Simpson has requested prayers for personal problems.

ON-GOING PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people who are suffering from cancer:

Valerie Evans' stepsister (Mary), Marge Tennant's brother-in-law, Dave Wojcik (friend of Ken Allen), Myndi Allen's Uncle Sherm and Aunt Peg, David Ward (friend of Norm Meeks), Eddy (friend of the Wilhelms), John Russell's wife (friend of John Addison), Harold Tidd's daughter, Bob Glover

Please pray for the following people who are having health problems:

Valerie Evans' father, Glenn Dunlop (friend of Norm Meeks), Larry Wilhelm's Aunt Sue, Norm Meeks' father, Jim Zukoski, Mike Lackner's sister, Lisa Labonte, Marge Tennant's niece, Bryn Wolanski, Ruth Bell, June Young, Florence Nichols, Rachel and Brian Petti, Marge Tennant, Myndi Allen, Gladys Skidmore, Ruth Glover, Mike Lackner

Please keep Chris Zukoski in your prayers as he is in Iraq again



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 25: Regular potluck after services
- February 26: Melissa Addison's birthday
- February 27: Teen movie night at the Spence's at 5:00 p.m.
- March 1: Chad Zukoski's birthday
- March 2: Family Enrichment at the Allen's house at 7:00 p.m.
- March 4: Jean Addison's birthday
- March 4: Sing at Manor Care after soup and sandwich potluck
- March 11: Regular potluck after services
- March 16: Family Enrichment at the Allen's house at 7:00 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- ?? The food pantry needs restocked. Please bring in any non-perishable items.
- ?? The amount collected on February 18, 2007 was \$671.00 and there were 43 people in attendance.
- ?? The website for Morning Star Church of Christ is www.morningstarchurchofchrist.org.

Please give the following prayer request or concern to the person with prayer of intercession:
