

NORTONVILLE NEWS

ONE THING IS NECESSARY

BY PASTOR JOE

Psalm 27:4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.

One great characteristic of King David was that he was a man who loved the LORD. David was far from a perfect man as the Scriptural record certainly shows, yet he had a heart that was fixed on the LORD. David desired to know the LORD and have deep communion with Him. David longed to be in the presence of the LORD. So, David sought to be in the house of the LORD "all the days" of his life. David wanted to be in God's house so that he could "behold the beauty of the LORD," and to "inquire in His temple." What a great focus this is to have!

We see this same focus in the life of Mary, Martha's sister. While Martha was fuming over her sister's lack of help in preparing a meal, Mary sat at the feet of Christ and learned from Him. When Martha complained to the Lord about Mary's actions, the Lord protected Mary and said to Martha: **"Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her"**(Luke 10:41-42).

Mary had chosen the one thing that was needed, that is, humility at the feet of Jesus, soaking in His word, learning the goodness of His Person. Jesus honored Mary for wanting to learn, and Jesus corrected Martha for her lack of understanding of what is truly most important. A lot of things are secondary, but really only one thing is primary, which is fellowship with the Lord of glory.

The dear apostle Paul also focused on the "one thing." In Philippians 3 he gives his testimony of faith in Christ, and then he tells us that he hasn't arrived to the state of perfection. He clearly states, **"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"** (Philippians 3:13-14). Paul knew the past was the past, and since he had tasted and seen that the Lord is good, He spent the rest of his life focusing on God's upward call in Christ.

David, Mary and Paul were all fixed on one thing: they wanted continual communion with the LORD, the One they loved with all their heart. And we can join with them in the pursuit of fellowship with God. And in this time of isolation and separation from many normal pursuits, let us press towards the goal for the prize! Let us behold the beauty of the LORD in the face of Christ, and let us sit at the feet of Jesus. Let us pursue the one thing that is necessary.

P.S. In the next few weeks we will be learning about the "faithful sayings" given in 1st Timothy and 2nd Timothy. You will benefit if you read through these books in the next few weeks.

Psalm 84:10 For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness."

STAY CONNECTED

Sunday

No Internet?

Simply call **616-846-7309** at 10:45am on Sunday and you can listen to the whole service.

If you would like to watch our Sunday Services, search for Nortonville Gospel Chapel on Facebook or YouTube. You can see the video and discover more resources on our website:
nortonvillechapel.org.

Tuesday

Bible Study of Romans
Tuesdays 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Through "Zoom".
Call 616-842-4285
to find out more.

Wednesday Prayer Opportunity!

To join our prayer meeting at 6:30 pm...

Call **(616) 258-2980**
then enter your conference ID

Conference ID for Men: 543-233-614
Conference ID for Women: 201-429-18

CHARLENE EASEY

WHEN LIFE IS NOT ALWAYS EASY

Charlene was born and raised in Hastings, Michigan. After her father passed away when she was five, she and her siblings were split up, and Charlene went to live with her grandparents. She attended Hastings High School, and their family attended Welcome Corners Wesleyan Church. Her grandfather was even a stonemason in the building of the church! She loves to be outdoors. She always has. When younger, she worked on vegetable farms and cut and sold trees.

After graduation Charlene attended a community college in Battle Creek, where she earned her associates in nursing. Her major was in geriatric rehab care, and she worked in Battle Creek in this field for several years. She had other work experiences as well, such as working in a factory, and being a cook and waitress. At one point, she owned a family restaurant. After having knee surgery and heart problems, Charlene retired from home care, and moved to the Tri-Cities. She wanted to be near family, and her family was here.

Charlene has four children of her own, along with four stepchildren. Her second marriage was to the milkman, who she had known in high school.

Charlene loves to volunteer. She volunteered at the Senior Center, and also at the Love in Action store in Spring Lake, at Savidge and Jackson. She really looks forward to the senior center re-opening because she enjoys going there to socialize and play cards.

Part of Charlene's testimony is that she is a survivor of abuse. God was with her, and kept her safe during times of abuse. There came a time in her life when she left her husband and went to live in Florida, where she stayed until he became sober.



CHARLENE EASEY

Last fall, the unthinkable happened. Her home, with a lifetime of treasure inside of it, burned to the ground. She made it out of the flames safely, and saved her cat in the process. Also living in the home were her daughter and a family friend, who also made it safely out of the burning home. Charlene gives God glory for providing for her everything she needs. Her daughter works at Magnum Coffee, and the owner provided an apartment to stay in. And once all of the donations were collected, there was enough money to buy a mobile home: a safe and permanent home for the three of them.

Charlene, like Paul, knows what it is to have plenty, and knows what it is to have nothing, and she glorifies God in every situation of her life. If there's one thing she would like you to know, she says this: "Believe, pray, and be patient."



**CHARLENE'S HOME
AFTER THE FIRE**

SERMON NOTES MAY 17

"Why Christ Came"

1 Timothy 1:12-17

- I. Christ Jesus came to earth to _____.
- II. The greatest sinner was the _____.
- III. Christ's mercy to _____ is an example to us of how _____ He is.

PRAYER SPOTLIGHTS

Please pray for our spotlight people this week.



Missionaries of the Week: Joe and Ursula Morell

The Morells are with Biblical Ministries Worldwide in Sweden. Please pray for them as they continue to do ministry work through this pandemic, as Sweden has fewer restrictions.



Board Member of the Week: Phil and Char Peterson

Phil and Char have been involved in VBS, Venture Clubs, Sunday School, and many other areas. Phil serves as the church treasurer, is on the missions committee and is currently a church Deacon.



Shut in of the Week: Phil Troyer

Phil is a retired business owner. He lives with his wife, Shirley, in Spring Lake. Please pray for Phil, as he lives with a Parkinson's diagnosis, and that he would be encouraged in the Lord.



Volunteer of the Week: Elizabeth Reynolds

Elizabeth is the mother of five kids: Ben, Hannah, Lydia, John, and Moriah. Somehow, she still finds time to volunteer at Nortonville, helping with the Nursery, VBS, and Sunday School.



Student of the Week: Harley Steadman

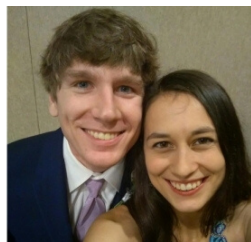
Harley is six years old, and is home-schooled. She enjoys learning at home, playing basketball, and her favorite animals are pandas.

John 13:35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

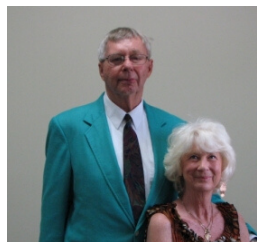
MAY ANNIVERSARIES



Dewey and Marcia Garrett
Anniversary: May 8



Pastor Bradley and Abigail Hendrick
Anniversary: May 27



Reggie and Marilee Stroebe
Anniversary: May 29



John and Karen Kubczak
Anniversary: May 30



Pete and Dottie Pellegrom
Anniversary: May 31

SONGS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 17

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see,
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

(Chorus)

Here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor
(Chorus)

Well, I'll never know how much it cost,
To see my sin upon that cross. (Repeat)
(Chorus)

Once Again

Jesus Christ, I think upon your sacrifice,
You became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times I've wondered at your gift of life,
And I'm in that place once again,
I'm in that place once again.

(Chorus)

And once again I look upon the cross where you died
I'm humbled by your mercy and I'm broken inside
Once again I thank you
Once again I pour out my life
(Pour out our lives to you)

Now you are exalted to the highest place,
King of the heavens, where one day I'll bow.
But for now I marvel at your saving grace,
And I'm full of praise once again,
(Full of praise today),
I'm full of praise once again.
(Chorus)

Better Is One Day

How lovely is Your dwelling place,
O Lord Almighty.
My soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied,
Within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

(Chorus)

Better is one day in Your courts,
Better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts,
Than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask, and I would seek,
To see Your beauty.
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.
(Chorus)

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Jesus Saves!

We have heard the joyful sound:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Spread the tidings all around:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Bear the news to every land,
Climb the mountains, cross the waves;
Onward! 'tis our Lord's command;
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Sing above the battle strife:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
By His death and endless life
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Shout it brightly through the gloom,
When the heart for mercy craves;
Sing in triumph o'er the tomb:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!