MUSIC NOTES

Is it already Fall? I can't believe it...even though the choir has been singing Christmas music for over a month now. We are SO excited about our new choir members. If you are interested in joining this awesome group of individuals and sing praises to our Lord, come on Wednesday nights, right after Bible study. *In His Name, Nancy*

WMU

WMU met in September to get the information out on the State Week of Prayer. Our goal for State Missions is \$3,500.00. To date we have received \$2,991. We will receive offering through Sunday October 2, 2022. Thank you for your support for our mission efforts.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

We have had an exciting September with AWANAs starting back up! We are averaging roughly 31 kids on Wednesday nights. We will have **"Trunk or Treat"** on October 31st from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Make your plans to attend this fun, safe, and **FREE** event now! In addition, we have been averaging 6 in children's church each Sunday. We are so excited to see our children's programs growing. *Children's Ministry Team*



UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2	Youth Vocal Ensemble, 4-4:45 PM
October 4	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
October 5	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,
	AWANA (BARF Night) @ 6:00 PM
	Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
October 6	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
	WMU, 10:00 AM
October 9	Building & Grounds Committee, 12N
	Youth Vocal Ensemble, 4-4:45 PM
October 10	Columbus Day
	Budget & Finance Committee, 5:00 PM
	Deacon's Meeting, 6:00 PM
October 11	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
October 12	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,
	AWANA (Crazy Hair Night) @ 6:00 PM
	Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
October 13	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
October 16	Youth Vocal Ensemble, 4-4:45 PM
October 18	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
October 19	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,
	AWANA (Goldfish Night) @ 6:00 PM
	Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
October 20	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
October 23	Youth Vocal Ensemble, 4-4:45 PM
October 25	Precept Bible Study, 1:00 PM
October 26	Mid-week Activities: Prayer Meeting, Youth,
	AWANA (Wear a Costume) @ 6:00 PM
	Adult Bible Study, 6:30 PM
0 (1) 27	Choir Practice, 7:30 PM
October 27	Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 AM
October 30	Youth Vocal Ensemble, 4-4:45 PM
October 31	Halloween
	Trunk or Treat, 6—7:30 PM



CHRISTIAN CALLER

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MISSION STATEMENT: WE DESIRE TO HONOR GOD BY LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOMING FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST.



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BUDDY JOHNSON, PASTOR TREY JOHNSON, ASSOCIATE PASTOR/ YOUTH MINISTER NANCY JOHNSON, MUSIC MINISTER

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Something you may not know about me... my kids do and I think it kind of annoys them a bit, I'm such an old "fuddy-duddy"... but something you probably don't know about me is that I love old crooner music. You know, the old crooners like Frank, and Dean, and Louie, and of course my all time favorite Nat King Cole. He is my favorite. I think my neighbors get tired of hearing my "crooner music" wafting on the air from my back porch. I laugh sometimes when I watch the strollers in the green-belt behind my house. They will be on their walk and hear my music... "boobadee, boobadee, boo!" They'll stop and look around like, "What is happening right now?" I think they might think that old man who lives in that house must be 100 years old. I chuckle to myself! But I love it! I love that kind of music. There is something that is so comforting, so calming and relaxing to me, so nostalgic in a sense. It probably sounds a bit cheesy, but there is something about it that calls to me. I'll tell you why...

When I was growing up, one of my biggest heroes, was my "firefighter" grandfather with his "flat-top" haircut, and black horn-rimmed glasses. He was strong, silent and kind -hearted. He had a keen sense of humor and put up with a lot from my wonderful and colorful grandmother who was sometimes harder on him than she should have been. But he took it in stride and loved her with a grace and patience that I noticed even as a child. He was strong, a man's man in a lot of ways, and I looked up to him. I remember when I was young he would flex his muscles and have me do pull ups on his flexed arm. That really happened! He could hold me up more than I could hold myself up to do those pull ups. He was also me and my brother's barber. About every other week, he would set us down on a stool and throw one of my grandmother's "good" towels around our shoulders (he'd hear about that one), clip it with a clothes-pin, and burr our heads. I don't know how he knew I had red hair for most of my young days because I didn't have hair at all. He cut it all off, but I didn't mind. It made me look like him. He was my hero. I wanted to be like him. He was a fireman. And for a long time I wanted to be a fireman too. His name was "Horace," but I called him "grandaddy." He called me "red-on-the-head," "Kyle Dutchman," but mostly just "red." He never missed one of my games... football, basketball, or a track-meet I ran in, and he came to see me and my brother and sister every week bringing us gifts from afar... Shastas and Dixie Crème Doughnuts. I went to his house every Saturday when I was growing up. He

would be barbecuing in his back vard... ribs, and he would always be playing... you guessed it... that crooner music. All the greats, Frank, Dean, and my favorite Nat King Cole. I think that is why I love crooner music so much, why it does something to me, moves me, helps me think, and calms me. It takes me to a place where I am able to focus and relax enough to get out of my own head and really quiet my heart and spirit and hear. My grandaddy and mamaw were Christians... Church of Christ... never missed a Sunday at Holland Street Church of Christ in San Marcos, Texas. But my grandaddy always said he was a "Baptist" at heart and always would be one. His closest brother was a Baptist preacher in Texarkana. My grandad said he just went to the Church of Christ because my grandmother did and he wanted to support her, and they thought he might get into heaven even as a Baptist because he went to the Church of Christ. He got into heaven because he was a believer in Christ, and not because of what church he went to, or what music he listened to, or because he was a fireman, and a good husband, father and grandfather who I believe set a great example for this young impressionable "red-on-the head" (when it wasn't burred off). But I still hear that gentle soft easy way of the crooners and it takes me back, reminds me, carries me in some way... I'm so glad for it! I think my grandad was a bit of a crooner himself.

You know crooners have a strong but gentle way of moving you along... not forceful, not pushy like some, strong but full of grace and patience, a lilt to their voice, a comforting and soothing sound that makes you want to lean into what they are saying. I like that! The Apostle Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12, "Make it your ambition to lead a guiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands, just as we commanded you, so that you will behave properly toward outsiders and not be in any need." I think something I've learned from this life and watching a life like my grandaddy's is that a key to reaching others for Christ and ministering hope in this world is the integrity Christians manifest to a sinful, confused, and agitated world. Dr. John MacArthur says, "When believers display diligent work attitudes and habits and live in a loving and tranquil manner that respects others' privacy and does not intrude or gossip, it constitutes a powerful testimony to unbelievers and makes the gospel credible." We need a "credible" gospel crooned to a lost and struggling world around us that is often clamoring for something that will bring peace, calm and rest to their weary souls. Walk in the green pastures behind my house sometimes and you might just hear something in the air to help you along the way... it might at least calm you enough to hear it! *Love and Blessings, Bro. Buddy*

YOUTH RE+MIND

"Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

– Philippians 3:12-14

We are several months into the school year and already for many of us we have experienced many kinds of circumstances as the fall of 2022 rolls along. As it comes to our spiritual walk as believers, and the mission of sharing Jesus with others many of us have seen several: obstacles, distractions, frustrations, victories, hope, failures, and fears. Welcome to the Christian life any believer in Jesus reading this that is over the age of 20 can attest to this rollercoaster of success we feel as we continue in this journey with our Lord.

This is why I absolutely love this passage of scripture in the book of Philippians, because it is here that Paul is talking about the hope of eternal glory where the struggle of following Jesus is complete, and the work Jesus is doing in our lives is done. But in these 3 verses we see Paul confess that this work is not done in him yet, even he has done great things in the name of the Lord. Paul still sees the mixed results in his own soul as he wrestles with Jesus and his sin daily. Take this as an encouragement that you are not alone in whatever you're experiencing in your walk with Christ, the advice we find here is simply, "straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

- Trey

TRIVIA

Did you know? October translates into "the eighth month" in Latin. (In 451 BC the two months of Lanurarius and Februarius were added to the beginning of the calendar, making October the 10th month.)