Hickory Church of Christ

Imperfect people learning to love perfectly.

Sunday, December 20, 2020 Watch Sunday Sermon Live: https://www.facebook.com/HCOC111/live/ Recorded Sermons: http://hickorychurch.org/sermons/

The Hickory Church of Christ is Praying

HCOC Daily Prayer - May God's Kingdom Grow Here ... Pray for a neighbor or friend to follow Christ **Casey Allen** needs strength for challenges. Megan Bibbee is slightly improved, after starting new meds. Thank God. Dave Bierce had biopsy on his mouth, in checking for cancer. Mark Byers, Ashley Lowman's endeared uncle in Florida, is taking intense treatments for Leukemia. Elsa Barnes has been recovering nicely from Covid. Mary Ellen Bross, Dora's daughter, will have MRI in Jan., to assess effectiveness of brain radiation. Jerry Burton is recovering from major heart surgery. **Shirley Burton,** Jerry's sister in KY, has lung cancer. Johnny Catlett, Ray's brother, has cancer. Sharon Duncan and her mother, Eadie Hopkins, are recovering from Covid and Larry Duncan is still Covid-free. Barbara Eddins is home with health issues. Hattie English, Theresa's cousin, passed Friday in GA, after complications from having two strokes. Rachel Haas, Barbara Gnann's co-worker, has uterine cancer Lisa Hadden, Bobbi Henson's sister, has Covid. She works in a nursing home. **Cathy Hall** is recovering from hip replacement surgery. Ann Henry is taking physical therapy at home and welcomes visitors. Betty Hill, mother of Sandra Hill, an HCOC visitor, has cancer that is spreading. Her chemo is being increased, while doctors don't feel there are more options for Betty's treatment beyond increasing the chemo treatments. Tina Holler had more heart issues that prevented surgery related to her dialysis. Pray for her physical and spiritual needs. Deidre Keller Messer gave birth to a healthy baby girl, Jamie, Friday. Both are doing well. Rossana Lecaros is thankful for prayers, as she is coming out of flu symptoms and is feeling better. Robert Link (Jimmie's husband) is mending at home, while testing positive for Covid. Pray he overcomes confusion soon and regains strength for independent living. Sparkle Lipford is waiting for test results for sample taken from abdominal growth. She may need surgery and radiation. Jane Mays is at Elmcroft Assisted Living. Mary Nichols' daughter, Angel, and son-in-law, John, have Covid. Their daughters, one is 10 years and the other is 7 months, are awaiting Covid test results. Pray for God's merciful healing for these. Joyce Parker, Janet Keever's sister, passed from Covid complications. Joyce's husband, Mike, and their children, Zachary and Emily, need our prayers, along with Janet and all the family. Daniel, Anna Setzer's brother, is improving after having painful eye problems. Marti Shirah is home with health challenges Margaret Sigmon has several friends who have Covid. They are having a difficult time with it. John Stasny is healing from cataract surgery. Edith Steelman, Bryan's Mom, has worsening memory issues. Justin Wharton is healing from struggles with Covid. Tyler Wharton had few symptoms, while he had Covid. Maxine Wharton, 96, is Andy's mother. She is showing signs of memory or cognitive issues.

Coronavirus cases are increasing globally. Pray for proposed vaccines and treatments to be effective, approved and released. Pray for strength for those with the virus; for medical workers; and for all affected by the pandemic.

Pray for the church; families; students & school/college staff; police & military staff; govt. leaders and for our entire nation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec 21 Sara Watkins Dec 22 Hannah Watkins Dec 23 Hester Burkhalter Dec 24 Megan Rae Hollar

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY Dec 23 Tony & Cynthia Lipford

Announcements & Reminders

Temporary Canceling of Sunday 10:30am Times Together in Worship - Due to the number of Covid cases rising significantly in our area, we are cancelling our Sunday Worship Together at HCOC at least until mid-January. We will be mailing handouts for the messages to those without computers or internet access. Others can Watch Kevin Bibbee's 10:30am Sun. message on Facebook Livestream or see the recording later or listen to the recorded message on the church website. The Facebook and church website links are at the top of the bulletin. Today's message: "Where It All Began," from John 1:1-18 in the Sermon Series: "Jesus, God's Love in Action."

Please use these times when we are not meeting together on Sundays, to encourage and pray for one another. Consider using virtual meeting options, where possible, to help stay connected with one another.

Sunday at 9:20am - Adult Bible Class on Zoom. We are studying Acts. Please email office@hickorychurch.org for the Zoom Meeting ID. Workbooks for the study are available in the church library.

Family Movie Night on Zoom - Wed. December 23, 2020 at 6:15pm. Please email office@hickorychurch.org for the Zoom link and more info on this showing of an animated version of Jesus' birth story or contact Theresa Watkins.

The Shepherding Course will tentatively take place in January, depending on the Covid-19 status. Anyone, male or female, who wants to know more about the shepherd's role and is interested in taking the course, please contact Kevin Bibbee for the materials and homework assignment.

Dennis & Gayle Jaschob have moved to live with their daughter, Jeannine, at 3913 Camellia Dr., Mobile, AL 36693. More info will come later, but we are planning on sending a book with notes. Send emails to kevinkamy@gmail.com Or mail your notes to Bibbee's address, 4147 Hemingway Dr, Hickory, NC 28601, to be placed in the book.

AGAPE of NC's 5th Annual Change For Life Giving Campaign is here! AGAPE of NC provides foster care, adoption and counseling services. Collect your change through Dec. 27, in a cup from the lobby or on your own, and turn it in to Tom Keever or give by one of the means below. Campaign Video Link

Donate Today to AGAPE of North Carolina: ~Online at: http://www.agapeofnc.org/donate ~Text GIVE to 919-335-4685. Or ~Send checks to: AGAPE of NC, PO Box 985, Wake Forest, NC 27588

Weekdays 15-minute 12 Noon Prayer Meeting on Zoom Monday - Friday now through Christmas. Please email office@hickorychurch.org, to request the Zoom link for this brief time of prayer and fellowship.

FREE Bibles and Bible study Books from the late Bob Belville's personal library are in the church library in boxes. Boxes on the left walls of the library are open for you to select from

Family in Need - Two Queen Mattresses are needed for twin girls; no box springs are needed. Queen-sized sheets for boys and girls are needed. Please see Theresa Watkins, if you would like to help provide used or new items for these.

- When giving to HCOC (if not on Sundays)
- 1. Mail check to church address listed below
- 2. Use on-line banking to set-up the church as a payee.
- 3. Donate: http://hickorychurch.org/donate/

Lectionary Readings

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55 Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

December Hospitality Coordinator - Dora McDonald

Preaching Minister: Kevin Bibbee 828.228.1641 Church office: 828.464.4983 Address: 1218 Fairgrove Church Road, Hickory NC 28602 Website: <u>www.hickorychurch.org</u> www.facebook.com/HCOC111

Prayer requests and announcements: bulletin@hickorychurch.org