

## **The Great Physician**

In the ancient world the physician has an unique honor among men. Not only was he well respected for his profession but he was considered the leading citizen of the community and was often referred to as the “great one”.

In order to fill this prestigious position, one had to possess the proper qualifications. He must have the proper endorsement, sympathy for the sick, knowledge of health and disease, a preventive, and a remedy. Jesus, the Great Physician, possesses each of these qualifications perfectly. As the physician for sin-sick souls, Jesus possesses the following qualifications:

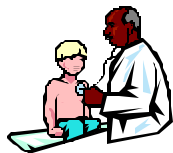
1. **PROPER ENDORSEMENT.** Jesus has the endorsement of heaven. The goodness of His life, the lessons He taught, the miracles He performed, and His victory over death, all testify to His divine son-ship. At the Mount of Transfiguration God gave a ringing endorsement of Jesus when He said, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, hear ye Him” (Mt. 17:5).

2. **SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE.** Jesus heard the cry of distress and came (Mt. 9:36-38; 11:28,29; Lk. 9:51-56). He suffered with and for mankind. His death on the cross was an expression of His matchless love (Is. 53:4). He possesses the same sympathetic attitude toward His 21st century children.

3. **KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISEASE.** Jesus has knowledge of the disease afflicting mankind and the moral and spiritual health to conquer it. No man has so understood human life and its problems (Jn. 2:25). Though never afflicted with the malady of sin, He knew all about it (Heb. 4:15; I Pet. 2:22). He points out the cause of it (Mt. 15:18,19), the symptoms of it (Mt. 12:34), and the consequences of it (James 1:15).

4. **REMEDY.** Jesus has the remedy, His Word (Is. 1:18; 53:3; Rom. 1:16; James 1:21). This remedy is of proven worth. By it countless numbers have been saved from death and prepared to live in a better world. Though the remedy is infallible, restoration to health is conditioned upon the patient’s attitude toward it. The patient may neglect it. He may not completely follow the directions for application. The results are the same: spiritual death. Faith in the Physician and willingness to follow His instructions are necessary (Mt. 7:21; Mk. 16:15,16; Acts 2:38; 17:30; 1 Pet. 3:21). “The Great Physician now is near, The sympathizing Jesus; ...O hear the voice of Jesus.”

# Sick



Continue to remember in prayer:  
**Marguerite Charles, Lyn Anderson,  
Martha Keith, Miriam Majors,  
Betty Jenkins, WJ Wood, Steve  
Harrah, Margaret Kratz, Martha  
Keplinger, Sandra Wood, Ruth**

**Cooke.**

Dee House has started her treatments.

Buddy Martin is waiting on PET results to start his transplant procedure.

Several have been out with the usual illnesses this time of year.

## Happy Birthday this week to:



Sydney Durham—1/25  
Jeff Reed—1/25  
Murphy Scott—1/25  
Jerry Anderson—1/26  
Fred Altizer—1/30  
Jennifer Laplante—1/30

## Happy Anniversary this week to:

Tom & Melissa Rogers—1/30,  
Marc & Jennifer Laplante—1/30



## JANUARY ITEMS FOR THE

**STAFFORDS:** Plain instant oatmeal & instant sugar-free chocolate pudding. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!



## MILITARY

In Iraq: Aaron T Stricklin

## Upcoming Events:



Team 2 (Garby) will be having a planning lunch on February 1 after morning services. Bring a dish and your ideas!

Team 3 (Valentine) will be having a Sweethearts Dinner at Tom & Melissa Rogers on February 7 at 5:30 pm.

## Teens



## February Dates

2/7—WYD—at Christiansburg  
2/8—BB Study  
2/8—Teen Bible Study  
2/14—Mock Bible Bowl  
2/22—BB Study

Mark your calendars now for March 7. We will also be having the Bidy Bible Bowl for the kids ages 5-8.

**Bi-Monthly Bible Bowl Study Sessions** will be held in the large classroom at 5:00 on the following Sundays: February 8 & 22. Mock Bible Bowl will be held on February 14 at 9 AM. Breakfast will be provided. See Jim or Charlotte Harrington for details.

## WOW



Please sign up on the WOW board for the video auto-biographies being done by Richard Simms.

Lunch at Harbour Inn today!!!



Next WOW meeting will be on Tuesday, February 10, at 10:30.

Sign up on the board for the bus trip to the Maple Festival on March 14. Cost is \$10. Sign up by Feb. 15. See Don or the board for details!!

## For Your Information

# Weekly Reminders

### PRIMARY TEACHERS

See Tom Richardson for recording and making all your Bible class songs on CDs and cassettes. He has all the equipment in the media office to get you going! Thanks Tommy!

### TURN, TURN, TURN

If you are interested in planning this years Turn, Turn, Turn or T3 please sign up on the board. T3 will be on October 3, 2009. If you have questions see Velda.

### SPRING QUARTER LADIES CLASS

There is a sign up sheet on the board if you want to order the book for the ladies class.

### EDP MEETING

There will be an Elders, Deacons, Preacher Meeting on Sunday, February 1 at 4:30.

### SMOKY MOUNTAIN MARRIAGE RETREAT

The 2009 Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat will be on February 11-14 in Pigeon Forge, TN. Brad Hurrab and James Watkins will be the guest speakers for the retreat. See the board for more details!!

### FEBRUARY LNO

The February Ladies Night Out will be on Thursday, Feb. 12, at 7:00 pm. Marsha & Becky Cooke will be hosting.

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

The February Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 8AM at Famous Anthony's.

### EDUCATION BANQUET

The Education Banquet will be on February 21 at 5:45. All teachers, helpers, resource room workers and spouses or friend are invited to attend.

### PRIMARY TEACHERS' MEETING

The next Primary Teachers' Meeting will be Sunday, March 22, at 4:30. We will all practice learning Bible Class songs. PLEASE make a strong effort to attend to improve our attendance. Mark your calendar NOW!

### Prayer list:

Lyn Anderson  
Marguerite Charles  
Steve Harrah  
Dee House  
Betty Jenkins  
Martha Keith  
Martha Keplinger  
Margaret Kratz  
Miriam Majors  
WJ Wood  
Buddy Martin  
Ruth Cooke  
Amanda Brown

### Activities:

WOW Lunch—1/25  
EDP Meeting—2/1



## Observations on “Miracle on the Hudson”

As each of us knows, on Thursday, January 15, at 3:27 p.m., U.S. Airways flight 1549 crash landed into the Hudson River in New York. Dramatic footage of the crash and the subsequent recovery of every passenger and crew member has been seen on internet and news outlets. The pilot, Chesley B. Sullenberger, has rightly been dubbed a hero for his ability to deliver safely all 155 people aboard the ill-fated flight.

Almost immediately after the news of this event comments about it began to circulate. The mayor of New York called it “the miracle on the Hudson.” Numerous other comments spoke of it in terms of the miraculous. It has been portrayed in caricature with angels supporting the wings of the plane as it glided into the river. Other attestations of divine intervention have been touted.

The fact that this event occurred in this fashion with no loss of life is indeed an amazing thing. It is good news of the highest order and a story that we can hold onto in a world that is seemingly filled with terrible news daily. We are indeed thankful to God that none were killed or seriously injured. However, since the Bible clearly reveals that miracles ceased around the end of the first century (Acts 8:18; I Cor. 13:8, 9; Jas. 1:25), it is obvious that it was not a miracle. Miracles involved the direct intervention or suspension of natural laws to the accomplishment of divine purposes. While the gliding of a crippled airliner through the air and a somewhat smooth landing on the surface of a river is not something we see every day, it is not a violation or suspension of any law of nature. It was not a miracle.

Further, is it not even more amazing how people can push God so far into the background of their lives regularly until some drastic need arises, tragedy strikes or unexplained event occurs? Then, they are quick to bring God into the discussion. Usually, God is blamed for things that occur. While it is refreshing to hear people give God credit for an occurrence such as this, it is not the case that God directly intervened (sent angels, performed a miracle, etc.) to escort this plane to safety. Ironically and sadly, the God Who has been praised for delivering this plane safely will be the God Who is blamed by this same fickle crowd when the next one does not land safely.

-Eddy

### Jan. 25 (Acts 25)

- Read Acts 25 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 25—Paul appeals to Caesar
  - Paul before Agrippa
  - Write a note or card this week
  - \*Increase your contribution by \$1 today

### Jan. 26 (Acts 26)

- Read Acts 26 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 26—Paul relates his conversion to Agrippa

### Jan. 27 (Acts 27)

- Read Acts 27 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 27—Sea voyage to Rome begins
  - Euroclydon (storm) & shipwreck

### Jan. 28 (Acts 28)

- Read Acts 28 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 28—Paul snake bit while gathering wood
  - Arrival in Rome
  - Paul meets with Jews at Rome

### Jan. 29 (Acts 1)

- Read Acts 1 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 1—Ascension of Christ
  - Matthias appointed in Judas' place

### Jan. 30 (Acts 2)

- Read Acts 2 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 2—Apostles receive Holy Spirit
  - Sermon on Pentecost

### Jan. 31 (Acts 3)

- Read Acts 3 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 3—Peter & John heal lame man at Beautiful Gate
  - Write a note or card this week
  - Increase your contribution by \$1 Sunday

### Those to Serve in January

**Announcements:** Bob Garby  
**Preside at Communion:** Tom Rogers

**Opening Prayer:** Collin Gregory  
Next Week: Barry White

**PM Song Leader:** Charlie Gwaltney  
**Opening Prayer:** Richard Simms  
Next Week: Mike Durham

**Serve Communion:** Cameron Brown, Sam Valentine

**Wednesday Song Leader:** Bob Garby

**Open/Close Bldg:** Fred Altizer  
**Ushers:** Roger Mays, David McFalls  
**Greeters:** Bush/Brown

Last weeks attendance (1/18&21/09)

Bible Class: 143    Worship Service: 175

Contribution: \$4883

**Song Leader:** Jeff Durham  
**Serve Table:** Jeremy White, Ethan Rogers  
Adam House, John Black

**Closing Prayer:** AC Janney  
Next Week: Bob Garby

**Scripture Reader:** Nathan Pelfrey  
**Closing Prayer:** Garrett Durham  
Next Week: Mark Brooks

**Prayer:** Shawn Simms

**Prepare Communion:** Altizer/Buckner  
**Cards/Pencils:** K. Mickens, N. Laplante  
**Nursery Attend:** Charmaine Bush, Ivy Bush

Sunday Evening: 131

Wednesday: 149

January 25, 2009

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