

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

A Season To Be Prepared

It's the time of year when some of us question why we live in the frigid Midwest. Temperatures start to drop below freezing. The "Hawk" hits for the first time. Then the first snowfall. We complain during the first sign that winter is here for its annual visit. Pull out the sweaters, boots, and heavy coats. Dig the shovel out of the garage and tune up that furnace. This is *gonna* take a while.

Our Christian journey calls for us to be prepared. We learn about Christ, how to accept Him according to the scriptures, and how to worship God. We learn how to incorporate what we read into how we live. We learn to "add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love." (II Peter 1:7).

We can't anticipate every challenging situation that will occur in our lives. It's *gonna* rain so hard sometimes, we may not be able to see where we are going and run off the road of life. It's gonna get so cloudy sometimes, we wonder if we'll ever see the sun again. We must learn to be prepared for the seasons of our lives.

Paul teaches us to be prepared! "Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering and teaching." (II Tim. 4:2). Being able to meet the challenges we face can give us hope and joy, knowing that our faith pulled us through! If we finish the race, if we fight the good fight, we WILL BE rewarded! And we won't need those boots, those "heavy garments," that old furnace! Bring on the "SONSHINE"!

Bro. David A. Brantford

***"Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all long suffering and teaching."
(II Tim. 4:2).***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDERS:

~Please silence your *cell phones*.

~**No eating** in the auditorium.

~Please be diligent in observing *CDC COVID-19 guidelines*.



Returning guest please **print** your name in the *Returning Guest Log* in the foyer.

There are *prayer request cards* and a *suggestion box* in the foyer.

There will be a men's meeting following worship service today. Please plan to stay for a brief meeting.

The *Ladies' Ministry* will resume in the Spring of 2023.

Annual Ladies Lectureship Retreat

Theme: *Christian Women Living Courageously in a Spiritual Pandemic*

Date: April 20-23, 2023 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Website: www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org

Thanksgiving Service

Sis. Selma Murphy-Reece, Sis. Young's cousin

Funeral: Sat. January 14 at 1:00p.m.

**Park Forest Church of Christ
4010 206th Street. Matteson, IL 60443**

Bro. Hardy's mother, Robertine Hardy was laid to rest yesterday. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend the services and support the family whether in word, thought or deed.

Bro. Fred Merriweather was laid to rest yesterday. Please remember the Merriweather family in your prayers during this difficult time.

FOR PRAYERS

Goldman family, Reece family, Young & Raglin families, Palanca family, Sis. Errika Williams, Sis. Debra Ellis & family, Bro. Croom & family, Sis. Kenya & Kristopher Strickland, Sis. Davis, the Brantfords, J. W. Kinds, Sis. Wyatt and Sis. Whitney Taylor

Sis. Wyatt was re-admitted to the hospital last week. She is in need of much prayers.

The Palanca family, the Websters former neighbors, lost their father suddenly on Christmas night. They had lost their mom in May of 2020. They need lots of support.

Please continue to pray for and encourage our newest members Bro. Croom Sis. Reba & Michelle Metevia, and Sisters Tillman and McLaurin.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

Children's Bible Class taught by Sis. Whitney Taylor (lower level).

Young Adult Class taught by Bro. Taylor. (upper level)

Adult Bible Class - main auditorium

Please send any announcement to be made or included in the bulletin to Sis. Ruthie Gamble.

THIS WEEK:


BIRTHDAYS


BRO. MICKLES SAT. JAN. 8TH

SIS. SIMPSON MON. JAN 9TH

ANNIVERSARIES

- NONE



GOSPEL BROADCASTING NETWORK 

"The Truth and Nothing but the Truth" via Satellite TV

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Dish Network, Channel 9407 (or 9396), Noon Eastern

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SKILLS BANK

Remember to submit your information to be added to the skills bank and be diligent to do your verification for relevant licensing.

Sis. WebsterReal Estate Agent
Sis. Debra WoodardFinancial Advisor
Gambles Property Preservation & Custom Home Décor

Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	83
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	45
Last Sunday offering	\$2681.93
Weekly Budget	\$2625.00