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Informer

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03

As I See It. . . By Brian Gregory

What are you pursuing? If you were to ask yourself that question what would your answer be? If we asked everyone at South Gate how do you think they would respond? When visitors walk in the doors of our church, after spending some time with us, what do they say we are pursuing? If they spent time with you on a personal level what would be their assessment of what you, as an individual are pursuing? It is not about what you say you pursue but what you are actively, actually pursuing in life.

I wonder sometimes if the truth of the matter is, we need a better answer to that question. It is easy to pursue status quo and keep things the same. It is easy to pursue tradition. It is easy to pursue pleasing people. None of that is risky. It requires little from us. However, pursuing God is risky but churches and people are often willing to avoid risks. Being a disciples is about taking risk and will not be achieved if we pursue what comes to us naturally. No one naturally pursues, "denying self and taking up our crosses" as Jesus spoke of (Mk. 8:34-38).

So what are you pursuing and is your answer sufficient...because we ultimately we all are pursuing something.

Brian *Some thoughts taken from Matt Dabbs.*

A Land Fairer Than Day. . . By Joe Macer

John 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies:

A beautiful song that we sing begins by saying, "There's a land that is fairer than day, and by faith we can see it afar; for the Father waits over the way to prepare us a dwelling place there." Christians have a prepared place for them with the Heavenly Father. In this place, we will have a new body. The same Lord who made the blind to see and those who have never walked to leap with joy will be there. What can give the handicapped hope? It is the resurrection. What can give hope to the man scarred by severe burns to his face? It is the resurrection. What can give hope to the woman whose spouse's mind knows nothing due to Alzheimer's? It is the resurrection. What gives hope to the man whose wife has just been placed in a grave? It is the resurrection. Jesus declared that he is the resurrection and the life. He arose from the grave with a new body and he ascended to heaven. The Scriptures teach that we will have a new body and that we can live eternally in this home prepared for us.

Can you see this by faith? When life seems fragile and falling apart we can know that one day he will make everything right. We can feel assured that one day we will see him as he is and we will be like him. These words can lift the heavy hearted and give the courage to continue on. Faith in Jesus Christ will allow us to achieve this wonderful goal. What gives us this faith? It is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. He was in the grave three days but was seen alive thereafter and it has been declared that he was the first fruits - the first of many to come. Believing in Jesus will allow us to be raised to eternal life with a new body. It will happen as the song goes "in the sweet by and by".

**KEEP YOUR PRAYERS:
SOUTH GATE MEMBERS**

- Mike Andrews
- Charlotte Attkisson-NHC Hillview Rm. 221
- Ann Brady
- Bernice Bratton
- Joy Brown & Fred Brown,
- Rebecca Brown
- Bill Carroll - 2502 Shangrila Trail
- Ruth Childress
- Mary Chumbley
- Sarah Churchwell
- Athaleen Cox
- Clyde Farris, Hillview, Rm. 116
- Ila Goodman - NHC Columbia, Rm. 122-B
- Margaret Johnson
- Maetta King - Poplar Estates 215
- Frances Petty - Sterling House, Rm. 403
- Barney Roland - NHC Hillview, Rm. 101
- Betty Roland
- Albert & Ethel Spears
- Virginia Staggs-Poplar Estates 101
- Elaine Whitehead

Book Signing at Graymere on Sunday, 2 to 4, to celebrate release of Wanda Robinson's new book "Unsung Heroes." Everyone invited—books available for purchase.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Linda Andeson - sister-in-law of Katherine Nicholson, Jack & Karen Raines, James Mullins - nephew of Linda Porter - cancer, Joan Kittrell - recovering from heart & kidney transplants, Jack Craig - uncle of Lisa Kelley, Horace Dawson, uncle of Edith Burgess - Hillview, Rm. 102-B, Ken York - friend of Kathy Garner, Billy Oliver (Poplar Estates, Rm. 201) - brother of Corrine Goetz, Evan Rector, W.M. Morrow, Deak Waldrum, Patsy Loveless, Gerald Boyd, Charles Stofel, Joan Van Hooser, Lou Miller - Poplar Estates, Rm. 205, Clara Totty - Poplar Estates, Rm. 102, Jackie McPeak - liver cancer, Travis Jett, Sherry Pritchett - mother of Jody, Teresa Warf Walkup - cancer, Shirley Woods - mother/Diane Upchurch, Mark Shaw, Bobby Wales, Patricia Luffman, Dorothy Rea - sister/Elmer Lusk, Earline Hensley - sister/JoAnn Coleman, Evelyn Felker, sister/Benny Bolton, Little Gatlin Macer, Sharon Riley, Doris McKennon - sister/Edna Hardison, JoAnn Anderson, Alice Lovett - aunt/Cheyenne McNeese, Ann Graham - Morning Point, Rm. 113, Jenny Miller, Beverly Dawson, Jack & Daisy White, Paul Jackson - father/Rhonda Farris, Alfred & Irma Pagel, Billy Dan & Betty Morrow, Bella Huey, Clara Griggs-cancer-aunt of Donna Altobell - 202 Nowlin Court, Columbia, Jane Davis - sister of Nell Hood, Anne Bryant - recovering from head surgery (no visitors)

Adison, Mary Beth & Cora Mae Duff have moved back to Columbia. Their new address is 505 Hemmingway.

WORSHIP LEADERS JANUARY 25, 2015

SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.

Welcome.....Dennis Thomason
 Song Leader.....Greg Lusk
 Prayer.....Jody Pritchett
 Lord's Supper: Presiding.....Duane Allen
 Sam Quirk Tommy Hight
 Gary Boyd Larry Nicholson
 Jesse Gilliam Ronnie Skelley
 DeWayne Hickman Benny Bolton
 Read Ephesians 4:3.....Joe Macer
 Sermon: "Unity in the Bond of Peace".....Brian Gregory
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Dennis Thomason

SUNDAY 5:30 P.M.

Welcome/Song Leader.....Blair Keeling
 Prayer.....Tim Raines
 Read Gen. 6:5-8.....Blake Daniels
 Sermon: "The Cleansing".....John Thomas
 Lord's Supper Presiding.....Jerry Wilson
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Kevin Mick

WORKING FOR THE MASTER meets Sunday evening after worship. Menu is Lasagna and salad. Bring desserts, if you wish.

Ushers: Danny Lasater, Johnnie Johnson, Mike Lyle
 Greeters: Randy & Melissa Jones, Greg & Kelley Lusk
 Audio/Visual: Alex Jones

Security Team: A.M. Jason Kelley, Benny Bolton P.M. Corey Massey, Greg Lusk

If you are unable to keep your appointment to serve, please call Ray Rummage (446-0668) or Joe Williams (388-9183)
 Or go to our website and follow the "Unable to Serve" link and submit the information.

WEDNESDAY, January 28 - 6:30 P.M.

NURSERY CARE

A.M.....Teresa Lyle, Sara Farris
 P.M.....Alice Williams, Debbie Massey

Song LeaderGreg Lusk
 Prayer.....Joe Macer
 Announcements/Speaker.....Alex Jones