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South Gate Family Counseling Resource
Individual & Marriage & Family Counseling
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Informer

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The BIG 40!!!

So Sunday was my 40th Birthday and I guess this is as good a time as ever to stop and think about life. Please bear with me as I reflect a little bit.

I will always look back at 2015 as the year when many things changed. As I told the elders when I was interviewed, I had tried my entire life to not be a minister. I simply wanted to be a faithful Christian and an involved member of the Lord's church because that is what most people will be. I thought I could fill a strong role and set an example by volunteering my time and effort without working in an "official" role. But God's plans have been different from my thoughts. His plans involved working in youth ministry in 3 congregations for 6 years, and now the pulpit position here at South Gate. These situations seemed to seek me out, and I pray I have honored God with my decision and my actions.

I believe one reason for this is that I have always had a deep and abiding love for the Lord's church. It is His body on earth and is worthy of our total devotion Ephesians 1:22,23. There is no more important work on earth and whatever we do in word or deed needs to be in His name for His glory Colossians 3:17. He deserves our best and others desperately need Him so this leads me to the imperative that we do our best in all things in our work for Him.

The beginning of this new job has brought about so many thoughts. Thoughts of inadequacies, a learning curve, new challenges, exciting opportunities, and new ways to experience God in my life. I know I will make mistakes and fall short of what others need, but I will always do my best to serve our God and each of you. One thing I know, there is no other group of people I would rather do this with. Thank you for all your encouragement! Here's to the future!

John

Living Water

John 7:37b-38 "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him."

As the United States space program continues to explore the universe there is one thing that they are searching for. They are looking for life on other planets and yet they understand that water is necessary for life. They are searching for water. The second verse of Genesis introduced water before the creation began on day one. Water is mentioned within five verses of ending the last chapter of Revelation. Water is mentioned regularly throughout the Scriptures. Both physical life and spiritual life are dependent upon water.

People cannot survive long without water. Water is necessary for our body to function properly. In hotter weather, we require even more. Water is used to make sweat which cools down the body. Not only must we have water but we need clean water. Nations around the world still lack clean water sources and this results in many diseases and poor health. Living water is flowing water. Water that pools will soon stagnate and become detrimental if not deadly.

The Christian life starts with the belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and quickly leads to water. God chose the process of baptism to remove our sins. In baptism our sins are washed away. God uses this act in water to cleanse us and make us right with him. As Jesus explained to the woman at the well, this process will satisfy our inner thirst and well up in us eternal life. Water - without it we will perish physically and without it we will perish spiritually. Thank God for water.

Joe

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

OUR MEMBERS

- Iris Anderson - undergoing chemo
- Mike Andrews
- Kay Beard
- Alice Bolton - surgery soon
- Ann Brady
- Bernice Bratton
- Joy Brown & Fred Brown
- Bill Carroll - 2502 Shangrila Trail
- Ruth Childress - NHC Hillview, Rm. 218B
- Mary Chumbley
- John Churchwell
- Athaleen Cox
- J.W. Gilliam - recovering from heart surgery at Vanderbilt
- Margaret Johnson
- Maetta King - Poplar Estates 215
- Linda Luna
- Katherine Nicholson - heart problems
- Frances Petty - NHC Columbia, Rm. 137-A
- James Ed Pollard - NHC Hillview, Rm. 227-A
- Ned Pollard - Skyline Medical Center
- Jimmy Quirk - going to A.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX in the near future for surgery
- Barney Roland - NHC Hillview, Rm. 101B
- Ethel Spears - NHC Hillview, Rm. 115
- Virginia Staggs-Poplar Estates 101
- Melissa Stutts - undergoing chemo
- Donald White
- Elaine Whitehead

FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Willie Mae McWilliams - aunt of Rita Gray, Doug Wilson, - brother of Peggy Jones, Mary Blocker, Zack Kurtz, Juanita Voss - Life Care, Rm. 141-A, Peggy Truelove, Carolyn Yarber - friend of Sharon Davis, Carolyn Hutcherson, sister of Larry Nicholson, Billie Andrews, Kathy Reed - friend of Linda Mabry, Tracey Davis Baker, daughter of Donnie & Sharon, Sherry Pritchett - mother of Jody - home, Dora Bolton - mother of James, JoAnn Anderson - mother of Katherine Nicholson, Ginger Chesnut - cancer, Jay Morgan - father-in-law of Kim, Elvis Frierson - friend of John Mayberry, Glenda Collins - sister of John Mayberry, Katherine Jones - mother of Alice Bolton, Scott Brown - brother of Barry, Daniel Harrington, Mike Primm, Nick Tank - student at Baker - leukemia, Clara Harvey, aunt of Ray Rummage, Clarence Weaver - Poplar Estates, Rm. 219, Joan Hermsdorfer - aunt of Robin Weaver - Home, Stacey Brown - cystic fibrosis, Billy Oliver (Poplar Estates, Rm. 201) - brother of Corrine Goetz, Evan Rector, Lou Miller NHC Columbia Rm 152, Dorothy Rea - sister/Elmer Lusk, Evelyn Felker, sister/Benny Bolton, Ann Graham - Morning Pointe, Rm. 113, Beverly Dawson, Jack & Daisy White, Jane Davis - sister of Nell Hood, Allen Brown, Ronnie Springer-leukemia, friend of John & Debbie Massey, Stormy Lyle - 1305 Old Mill Road, Moore, OK 73160, David Luther, Jacqueline Potts,, Mary Blocker, NHC Hillview Rm. 106, Marna McAdams - knee surgery today.

WORSHIP LEADERS DECEMBER 20, 2015

SUNDAY 9:00 A.M

Welcome.....Richard Farris
 Song Leader.....Kevin Mick
 Prayer.....Jerry Wilson
 Lord's Supper: Presiding.....Charlie Willis
 Chris Mobley Cody Spires
 Duane Allen Kyle Upchurch
 Jacob Pollard James Bolton
 Tommy Skelley Blake Daniels
 Read: Matt. 1:18-23.....Donnie Davis
 Sermon: Immanuel-God with us.....John Thomas
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Richard Farris

SUNDAY 5:30 P.M.

Welcome/Song Leader.....Blair Keeling
 Prayer.....Conner Arnett
 Read: Luke 2:21-26.....Jason Kelley
 Sermon: The Consolation of Israel.....Joe Macer
 Lord's Supper Presiding.....Trent Hill
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Jim Pollard

Congratulations to Candy Riggins, who was baptized into Christ on Sunday morning. We commend her for her desire to serve the Lord.

Ushers: DeWayne Hickman, Cheyenne McNeese, Larry Nicholson

Greeters: Dave & JoAnn Coleman, Benny & Alice Bolton

Audio/Visual: Jimmy Quirk

Security Team: A.M. Cheyenne McNeese, Chris Mobley 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.

NURSERY CARE

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 23, 2015 - 6:30 P.M.

A.M.....Anna Quirk, Cecelia Willis
 P.M.....Dana & Jessica Daniels, Christie Skelley

Song LeaderSam Quirk
 Prayer.....Byran Farris
 Prayer Service - 4th Week