# Wildwood Church of Christ

Theme for 2021 Step By Step: Grow With Jesus

> March 7, 2021 Welcome & Announcements

Song: #542 Faith Is The Victory Song: #349 I Believe In Jesus Prayer Song: #312 Jesus Paid It All The Lord's Supper Song: #382 Living By Faith Sermon: Faith: How Does It Work? Song: #863 What Shall It Be? Song: #5 Step By Step

# Simple Faith: Back Then and Now

When it comes to paying taxes to the U.S. government, which is just around the corner, it can be very complex and confusing. When was the last time you took the time to study the U.S. Internal Revenue Service income tax regulations? According to Forbes magazine, the tax code has now surpassed the four-million word mark. As you can see, the regulations have become burdensome – that even the experts have a hard time processing all the regulations.

When it comes to the subject of faith and how it works, it doesn't have to be complex and hard to understand, to the one seeking to understand it.

During the ancient times of the Israelite nation, through the years, the Jewish leaders made it difficult to understand how one's relationship with God worked. They made the law of God very complex and burdensome by adding to the law with their many man-made traditions and commandments. During the ministry of Jesus, one such Jewish leader asked Him what mattered most in the commandments. Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments is: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Mark 12:29-31

The law given to Moses did not have to be complex and burdensome, because faith in God back under the Old Covenant, was based on a simple trust and faith in His word and an obedient response to what He said to do, and that principle has not changed under the New Covenant. Under the New Covenant, we put our faith in Christ that died on the cross on our behalf (John 8:34); we repent of our sins that caused Him to go to the cross (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30-31); confess that He is the Christ, the Son of God (Matthew 10:31-32; Romans 10:9-10); and be baptized for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38: 22:16; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-5; 1Peter 3:21). From that day forward, we walk in faith to the One that enables us to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and love our neighbor as ourselves. Do not let your walk with God become a burden and become complex. Matthew 11:30 says that "His burden is light" and He also says that He "will give you rest" as you walk with Him each day in faith.

## **Prayer List**

**Joan Strickland** was taken to the hospital Thursday night and had a heart cath on Friday. The doctors found several major blockages. She is being scheduled for open heart surgery as soon as a bed opens up at Shands in Gainesville.

**Jennifer Mikeals'** grandfather passed away this past Tuesday. Please keep Jennifer and the family in your prayers.

**Linda Routzhan's** brother-in-law, Fred Lemcke, passed away in Tennessee and his funeral was last week. If you would like to send a card to Linda's sister, her name & address is: Betty Lemcke, 145 Tara Lane, Goodlettsville, TN 37072. Jim and Linda will be returning home to Wildwood soon.

**Jeanette Harris** had 2 back-to-back chemo treatments at the Moffit Cancer Center in Tampa on the 16<sup>th</sup>. March 9<sup>th</sup> she goes back for 2 more treatments.

**Martha Rushmore** has been struggling for quite a while with severe back pain. She has an appointment to see the neurosurgeon on March 31 and hopefully get some answers and relief.

Remember **Darrel Ponsford** as he continues to recover from his surgery. Keep **Pat** in your prayers as well. She continues to struggle with swallowing, even after all her surgery.

Alicia Barrett – continues to recover from her stroke and is still doing therapy at home.

Continue to remember **John DaSilva** with lung cancer.

**Leigh Workman** has finished her cancer treatments and is doing well. She will be going back to the doctor to make sure all the cancer is gone.

**Guy Grove** will be going back home to Maryland to meet with his doctors there and start his cancer treatment. **Charlie and Mackey Boddy** are doing better after struggling with the Coronavirus.

**Fred Casteel**, had his surgery and he is slowly getting better. They removed his feeding tube last Tuesday. **Remember**: Dale Jones; Linda Grove; Pat Ponsford; Marlin Kilpatrick; Charlotte Martin; Martha Pope; Millie Tudor; Joyce Freeman; Ken Scott; Leigh Workman; Richard Menninger; Joyce Albert; Larry Hyder; Lew Faulkner; Teresa Broyle; Levi Cook; David Deason; Martha Haltaman

#### <u>Announcements</u>

~ On **April 14<sup>th</sup>**, we will start our **Wednesday Bible classes** at 6:30p.m. At this time, the classes will be set up as they are on Sundays: one adult Bible class in the auditorium, Mike in the fellowship hall with 1<sup>st</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades, and the 2 classes for toddlers and babies in the education building.

~ **JoAn Wood**, a member of the church from Mt.Dora has been moved to the Cypress Care Center in Wildwood. We probably can't visit her right now, but she would love a card from the members here: Cypress Care Center, 490 Old Wire Road, Room 404, Wildwood.

~ We will be sending the sheet sets and Bibles to the children's home in Guyana soon. Thank you for all the donations to **help purchase Bibles and send them to Guyana**!

~ Change For Children: there are cans in the foyer for you to take home and put your extra change in for Mount Dora's Christian Home for children. We will collect the cans in May.

There are 3 announcements on the bulletin board in the foyer concerning CFBC (Central Florida Bible Camp) events: Father/Son Retreat - April 16-18; BBQ and Golf Tournament - April 17; Bible Camp this summer
Postcards with a picture of the church building on them are in the foyer for anyone who would like to use them to send a note of encouragement or invitation, etc. Please help yourself!

#### **Pantry Items**

Antibacterial Wipes Rice Instant Mashed Potatoes Green Beans

## March Birthdays

Marlin Kilpatrick-1; Don Tudor-2; Judy Glenn-3; Travis Pickron-3; Olivia Dunn-8; Lynn Martin-8; Mikayla Watts-8; Nancy Menninger-11; John Stone-12; Carol Rollins-13; Britny Jones-16; Macey Watts-16; Richard Menninger-18; Janice Hallmark-19; Janet Hyder-19; Ernie Wise-20; Cody Hileman-20; Marilyn French-21; Shirley Threet-23; Don Young-24; Lori Cook-25; Wayne Freeman-28; Beth Hicks-30

#### March Anniversaries

Joel & Joyce Prather-21; John & Leigh Workman-22

