



# Midtown Messenger

Volume 1

May 6, 2018

Issue 8

## SHE WAS WEARING HER OVERSHOES

*Ronnie Scherffius*

On May 31, 1889, William Pickerill, telegraph operator at Mineral Point, PA, was facing a dilemma, his telegraph lines were dead in both directions and the South Fork Dam of the Conemaugh Lake had just been breached by rising flood waters. Within minutes Mr. Pickerill could hear the roaring floodwaters followed moments later by the horrifying spectacle of floating debris and people struggling to escape what appeared to be certain death.

A few hundred feet west of the tower, an engine waited on the tracks. In the East Conemaugh railroad yards the Day Express, eastbound from Chicago, was laying over, waiting for word that the tracks had been cleared. Twenty-year-old Jennie Paulson and her traveling companion Elizabeth Bryan sat in the first section, chattering unaware and unconcerned. The young women were headed to Philadelphia for a weekend house party at Elizabeth's home. Suddenly, there appeared trainmen hurrying through the cars, calmly telling the passengers, "Please step up the hillside as quickly as possible," and refusing to discuss the order further.

Elizabeth and Jennie were among the first passengers to get off the train and start for the hillside, but once outside the Pullman, Jennie caught her friend's arm, staring in dismay at the dirty water swirling around her new white shoes. They went back to the car for Jennie's overshoes and were just descending the platform steps when the flood struck the train and carried it off. Many days later, and many miles downstream, their bodies were recovered. Jennie was wearing her overshoes.

How much like the spiritual attitude of many today! The warning has been sounded of approaching danger; the overwhelming and deadly effects of temptation and sin has been made known— having heard the warning, and in many circumstances at first giving heed to it, they are turned back because of a trivial inconvenience. For some, the inconvenience is the forfeiting of possessions, but in His sermon on the mount Jesus instructed, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Mt. 6:19-21). Warning further of earthly possessions Jesus taught His disciples saying: "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15).

Some are turned back by the love for their family and the close relationship that is lost because of their obedience to the gospel, but Jesus maintained, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Mt. 10:34-37). Another inconvenience that causes some to turn back only to be swept away by the flood of temptation

and sin is the loss of social status and position in society. John wrote that in the days of Jesus there many even among the chief rulers of the Jewish people who believed in Jesus, “but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue” (John 12:42). And how many countless numbers of souls have fled for refuge from the destruction of judgment and laid hold on the hope in Christ, only to turn back because “they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God” (John 12:43)?

Concerning those things that would destroy the soul Paul admonished Timothy “But thou, O man of God, **flee these things**; and **follow after** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. **Fight** the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses” (1 Tim. 6:11-12). James gave a vivid description of temptations complete work when he wrote, “Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death” (James 1:13-15).

From the throne room of heaven the warning of sin’s destructive nature has been sounded. Dear friend, do not allow inconveniences to cause you to turn back from the safety you now enjoy in Christ only to be swept away by the overwhelming flood of temptation and sin!

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## ‘TIL WE PART

It was a busy morning, about 8:30, when an elderly gentleman in his 80s arrived to have stitches removed from his thumb.

He said he was in a hurry as he had an appointment at 9:00 a.m. I took his vital signs and had him take a seat, knowing it would be over an hour before someone would be

able to see him. I saw him looking at his watch and decided, since I was not busy with another patient, I would evaluate his wound.

It was well healed, so I talked to one of the doctors and got the needed supplies to remove his sutures and redress his wound. While taking care of his wound, I asked him if he had another doctor’s appointment.

He said he did not, but that he needed to go to the nursing home to eat breakfast with his wife. I inquired as to her health. He told me that she had been there for a while and that she was a victim of Alzheimer’s disease.

As we talked, I asked if she would be upset if he was a bit late. He replied that she no longer knew who he was, that she had not recognized him in five years now. I was surprised, and asked him, “And you still go every morning, even though she doesn’t know who you are?”

He smiled as he patted my hand and said, “She doesn’t know me, but I still know who she is.” I had to hold back tears as he left, I had goosebumps on my arm, and thought, “That is the kind of love I want in my life.”

True love is neither physical nor romantic. True love is an acceptance of all that is, has been, will be, and will not be.

Peace is seeing a sunset and knowing who to thank. The happiest people don’t necessarily have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have. Remember, “Life isn’t about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain.”– Mike Riley

“So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church” (Ephesians 5:28–29).

From: Glad Tidings of Good Things, March 1, 2018, (Jacksonville Church of Christ, Jacksonville, AL)

## PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

Week of May 6, 2018

### **Sunday Morning:**

Announcements: Bryant Siegel  
Scripture Reading: Sammy Scherffius

### **Lord's Supper & Offering**

Bread: Lupe Escojido  
Fruit of the Vine: Will Cleveland  
Offering: Anthony Scherffius  
Assist: Jeff Cannady, Isaac Jobes, Brant Jacobs

**Sunday Evening:** Lupe Escojido, Will Cleveland

### **Prayer**

A.M. Opening: Don Lynn  
A.M. Closing: Tom Pitchford  
P.M. Opening: Jeff Harris  
P.M. Closing: Mark FitzSimmons

### **Ushers:**

Steve Randle  
Allen Clifton

### **Wednesday Devotional:**

Tom Pitchford

### **Open/Close Building:**

Steve Randle

### **Sound System:**

Will Burleson

### **Greeters:**

Will Cleveland  
Allen Clifton  
Steve Randle

### **Prepare Communion:**

Connie Kasper

Congratulations to our graduate for 2018! Christian Sneeringer will be honored at the Sunday Fellowship on May 20th. Please make plans to attend!



## **A WORD FITLY SPOKEN**

Proverbs 25:11

1. The right words (Matthew 12:36-37; cf. 11:28-30; Proverbs 29:20; 11:30).

2. The right voice (Proverbs 15:1; 27:14; Colossians 4:6; Galatians 6:1).

3. The right impression (Matthew 5:13-16; 10:16; 12:18-21; 26:59-64; 27:11-14; Ecclesiastes 3:7; Isaiah 53:7; 1 Peter 2:11-12, 21-24; 3:15-16).

By: Roger L. Leonard

## IN NEED OF PRAYERS:

DELLA RAMPLEY, who has an appointment early May for more information about her cancer.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8: Men's and Ladies Bible Classes @10am  
May 12: Men's Prayer Breakfast meeting @8am at the building  
May 12: Jr/Sr. High Devo @5:30pm @ the home of Barbara Withers  
May 15: Men's and Ladies Bible Classes @10am  
May 20: Fellowship meal honoring 2018 graduate

## IN THE AREA

May 6-9: Gospel Meeting @ Port Lavaca; various speakers 7pm nightly  
May 5-10: Focal Point @ University (San Marcos)  
May 23-28: Young Men's Development Conference @ Bryan-College Station

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:

Happy Birthday: Sherry Lynch (6); Luke FitzSimmons (10); Tre Cannady (11)

## KEEP IN PRAYER

### MIDTOWN MEMBERS

Jeff Cannady	Sandy Malone
Les Daltry	Ann Pantel
Pat Davis	Glenodine Pitts
Dee Gilpatrick	Bob Smith
Lucille Hawkins	Clark Withers
Faye Henderson	

### FRIENDS & FAMILY

Mary Lou Arguelles (sister of Virginia Escojido)	Cole Ohrt (friend of Ann Pantel)
Bert Haynes (father of Pam Stryker)	Vikram Gottam (brother-in-law of Archana Verma)
Victor Benitez (brother of Virginia Escojido)	Mary Younglove (grandmother of Naomi Flonnory)
Kim Neel-Farthing (daughter of Joyce)	Cynthia Sneeringer (mother of Angela)
Scarlet O'Neill (friend of Yvonne Smith)	Antonio Benitez (brother of Virginia Escojido)
Sarah Randle (mother of Steve)	

If you would like to add or remove a name on the "Keep in Prayer" List, please see Nina Siegel.

# MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Elders:**

Will Cleveland  
Tom Pitchford

**Deacons:**

Adrian Cannady  
Mark FitzSimmons  
Doug Jobs  
Bryant Siegel

**Minister:** Ronnie Scherffius**Secretary:** Nina Siegel**TIMES OF SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00AM  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:00AM  
Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00PM  
Wednesday Bible Class: 7:00PM

**RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

Week of April 29, 2018

Bible Class.....114  
A.M. Worship.....150  
P.M. Worship.....106  
Wednesday Bible Study.....95

Offering      \$5,620

**QUICK REFERENCE**

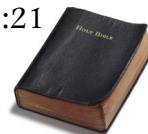
Use this quick reference to help you grow in knowledge:

**Baptism**

For remission.....Acts 2:38

Immersion.....Acts 8:36-39

Mat. 28:19-20; Acts 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21

**SUPPORTED WORKS**

India - Mani Pagidipalli

New Zealand - James &amp; Emily Cammock

Bible Land Passages - John &amp; Carla Moore

Southwest School of Bible Studies - Cody Kilgore

**GO PAPERLESS!**

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