



Truth for Today

August 2, 2020

1500 Wellman Road | Shenandoah | 77384 | 281.367.2099

Published for the members and guests of the Woodlands church of Christ

God Rolled Away the Stone, Not the Scars

by Aaron Kemple

Matthew 28:2 - And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it."

I came across a powerful podcast today that really helped me. The title of the Podcast series is *"The Bible Never Said That"* by Clara Donahue. The episode I listened to was *"God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle."*

Among the many profound points she made was one about how Jesus was raised from the dead and given life, but He still had the wounds and scars.

Please think about that and meditate on it. Why did God raise Jesus from the dead, give him new blood and water, allow all His organs and internal functions to work, but still leave the wounds? The wounds were a testimony to the power of God. Jesus could say to His disciples, "Place your hands in the wounds and believe." The wounds were a witness to what God did through Jesus.

Here is a quote from Clara Donahue in the podcast, "I feel some of my own scars pulling tight on the tender healing of my soul, and I wish they would just disappear." Amen. But those scars, she explained, are used by God to show His power, grace and love to others.

Your wounds are not a badge to claim victim-hood through life. Those wounds are a witness to the power of God and His grace. What has God done through you? Look at the scars. Consider how God has led you through your own valleys of the shadow of death and brought you out on the other side.

John 20:20 - When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

John 20:27-28 - Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

2020, Corona, and Churches...

by Wilson Adams

Here's what I know (maybe):

- I know there's a lot of misinformation.
- I know information continues to change.
- I know information can be spun in any direction.
- I know people don't know who or what to believe.
- I know people are afraid and fear drives decisions.
- I know church leaders don't always know what to do.
- I know church leaders continue to re-assess and receive feedback from all points of view.
- I know I've never experienced anything like this before.

From the spring get-go, I believed this was not an "obey God rather than man" issue and... most churches erred on the side of caution. As weeks turn into months, however, I wonder about the long-term effects as "social distancing" has become "spiritual distancing." It's easy to become comfortable with the "new normal" (I hate those words). It's easy to polarize and politicize. It's also easy to become discouraged.

Two observations.

Everyone struggles. Ex: some mega-churches in California resumed in person meetings in defiance of their governor's order, while one of Georgia's largest mega groups suspended all in person assemblies for 2020. The former cited allegiance to God before Caesar; the latter cited health concerns as paramount.

History may be the best teacher: the Spanish Flu took the lives of 675,000 Americans over a period of two years (1918-1919). Religious groups struggled then as they do today.

I know this is beginning to have an adverse affect on spiritual morale. How can it not do otherwise? God's people were meant to be a "one another" community. As quarantining elderly from family members has resulted in a decline of mental/emotional stability, so it is with this.

I do not have the answers although I believe in the One that does. In the meantime, I'm hearing a loud wake-up call to complacent Christianity.

Do you hear it, too?

NEWS & NOTES

UPDATED PRAYER LIST

- **Mark Birdwell** is home.
- **Rommie Back** is going in for open heart surgery on Monday at 6 a.m. Surgery is scheduled Tuesday morning at Christ Mother Frances in Tyler. He wants us to remember him in our prayers.
- **Isaac Crawford's** dad, Michael Crawford, remains in the TIRR center and is doing better.
- **Craig Preuss' dad**, Arthur, has scheduled cancer surgery for 8/4.
- **Dehbrenda Preuss' dad**, Bill Harrison. On August 7, he will have an MRI, scans and labs and on August 11, he will find out where he is and what the plan will continue to be.
- Connor Foster, boyfriend of **Preuss' daughter Lindsay**. Conner is making progress. He is off the ventilator and it is believed that the doctor is trying to keep him stable enough to transfer him to TIRR.
- **Ross Randow's** father, Paul Randow, has been diagnosed with cancer in his lungs. Surgery has been scheduled for 8/11.
- We have asked prayers for young **Mack Moriarity** who had another mass removed on his brain and spine on Monday which is not expected to stop the aggressive cancer he has been fighting. It is hoped to give him more months with the family.
- **ECONOMIC CHALLENGES.** There are still some of our church family who have had pay-cuts, furloughs and job loss. Please let the Elders know. There are many who are ready to help.
- We have added another good worker in Lira, Uganda, **Okello Ambrose Bob**, who is preaching the gospel over radio there and his work has come recommended to us by men we trust. Already he has made and distributed song books in their language as well as dried grape juice for Communion with many churches. Keep him and the others with whom we have fellowship in the gospel of Jesus.
—See *Enews for Ongoing Prayer List*

MEETINGS, EVENTS, SINGINGS & STUDIES

- Sunday Worship Assemblies Worship In-Person

(8:30 or 10:00 am) and LiveStream, August 9th .

- Reserved seating for members and those who regularly attend with us. Please contact an elder if there is any change planned in upcoming weeks: if you 1) will be out of town, 2) are changing your time slot (from last Sunday) or, 3) if you will have more than your family.
- If you will not be present on Sunday, PLEASE let us HEAR FROM YOU that you will not keep your regular reservation and when you will need seating again for the 8:30 or 10:00 am service.
- If you would like to mail your contribution, send to 1500 Wellman Road, Shenandoah, TX 77384
- 2:52 Kids Class [2-12] | (TBA)
- TEENS STUDY [13-18] | (TBA)
- YOUNG ADULTS | (ZOOM study TBA)
- TEEN DEVO [12-18] | (TBA)
- ADULT STUDY [30/40] | (TBA)
- BARNABAS GROUP | See Leo Betancourt
- WORKDAY | TBA (8/1 Cancelled due to inclement weather)
- YOUTH LECTURES is now ONLY an online Video Event only, Saturday, 8/9
- MEETING with Ben Hall | 9/13-16
- WOMEN'S DAY with Carmen Betton | 10/10
- MEN'S DAY with David McClister | 11/7
- Sunday Worship | LiveStream on Sundays, 8:30 a.m.
- KidzOnly Bible Class time (ages 3-12) | LiveStream on Sundays at 8:00 a.m.
BIBLE CLASS MATERIAL is available for pickup for grades preschool through jr. high in the hallway outside class #1
- Sunday Class | Songs Outside the Psalter | LiveStream on Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
- Wednesday Class | 119: The Psalm of the Word | LiveStream on Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.
- High School Classes (ages 13-18) | Available via ZOOM.
- "Building Strong Families" Monthly Class | postponed until the Fall

DIRECTORY UPDATES

- **We would like all families** to update their information and ALL worship leaders to do the same. If you have any questions about the DIRECTORY application of our website, **be sure to see Brian Clark**. The most recent printed directory is in the foyer for members.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- **WOULD YOU TEACH?** Contact John Beighle for info on teaching in September.
- **VOLUNTEER SIGN UPS.** See the Monthly Assignments and let Barrett Blankenship know if you cannot fulfill an assignment.
- **WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE?** See Leo Betancourt about getting involved in Barnabus Group.
- **HOSPITALITY?** Marissa Suarez will coordinate food for members who need assistance during an extended recovery period after surgery or for the family at a funeral.

WEEKLY BIBLE READING

- **Week Thirty-Two** (beginning 8/9)
 - Read Psalm 31, 81, 131
 - Memorize Psalm 30:4-5
- **Signup for weekly reminders at** <https://www.remind.com/join/weeklymemo>

| Attendance | InPerson Average Last-Month | Virtual Average Last-Month | InPerson Last Week | Virtual Views Last Week |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| KidzOnly Bible Class | n/a | 5 | n/a | 8 |
| High School ZOOM | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Sunday Adult Class | n/a | 11 | n/a | 7 |
| Sunday Worship AM | 95 | 24 | 104 | 42 |
| Sunday Worship PM | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Wednesday PM | n/a | 16 | n/a | 13 |

| NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE & WORSHIP ASSIGNMENTS | 8:30 AM Aug 9 | 10:00 AM Aug 9 | Contact Information |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Communion Preparation</i> | G/L Chapman | G/L Chapman | Elders |
| <i>Sound Booth</i> | C. Latson | C. Latson | Keith Arrants 936.582.1244 |
| <i>Foyer 1/Greeting</i> | A. Bohanan | S. Jones | George Chapman 281.298.1303 |
| <i>Foyer 2/Usher</i> | L. Betancourt | N. Shows | Norman Davis 832.326.2966 |
| <i>Song Leading</i> | N. Davis | S. Chandler | Don Hooton 936.443.6230 |
| <i>1st Prayer</i> | G. Chapman | L. Cockrell | Deacons |
| <i>Scripture Reading</i> | Michel Harvey | C. Ford | John Beighle 806.367.3389 |
| <i>Communion</i> | L. Betancourt | J. Crump | Adam Bohanan 281.798.1093 |
| <i>Bread</i> | n/a | n/a | Brian Clark 281.513.0706 |
| <i>Fruit of Vine</i> | n/a | n/a | Gary LeBlanc 281.292.0262 |
| <i>Contribution</i> | n/a | n/a | Craig Preuss 832.477.0578 |
| <i>Assist</i> | n/a | n/a | Evangelists |
| <i>Assist</i> | n/a | n/a | Don Hooton 936.443.6230 |
| <i>Preaching</i> | D. Hooton | D. Hooton | Website |
| <i>2nd Prayer</i> | K. Arrants | S. Jones | www.woodlandschurchofchrist.org |
| <i>Announcements</i> | A. Bohanan | D. Haas | Office Phone |
| <i>InterService Clean—Foyer/Bath</i> | J/J Beighle | M/C Chandler | 281.367.2099 |
| <i>InterService Clean—Auditorium</i> | J. Fancher | J/M Chegin | Church Email |
| <i>DOORS Open @8 Lockup @11:30</i> | C. Latson | D. Hooton | woodlandschurchofchrist@gmail.com |