

Memorial Day is about all the lives that have been lost in the wars. Most of us have no direct contact with war in our lifetime, but we have seen movie depictions or documentaries that give us a good appreciation. I want to direct our thoughts to what it must feel like to personally endure war and to live through it to hear these words, "WAR IS OVER!"

You have probably seen photos or footage of people celebrating the end of war. Doesn't that make you feel good? If you had endured brutal attacks, constant bombing, loss of loved ones, fear, hunger and torture for extended periods of time, how would you feel to know that you would be free from all that from now on? In parts of this world, there are souls born into lives like that and who never know anything different. To go from living a nightmare to experiencing peace and joy would be hard to believe, wouldn't it?

The sad part of this is that we live in a world that returns to war, so it is truly hard to believe those words "WAR IS OVER". As Christians, however, we can look forward to a moment when King Jesus will return to this world to take us home, and we have His promise about that. Meanwhile, the faithful in Christ are caught up in fighting the good fight and we are under no illusion about the tribulations we are to endure while we are at war. Many have already given up and joined the enemy, but others are determined to fight on, at all cost.

Know this – The Lord will descend with the voice of the archangel when He comes to take us home. We may not hear the words "WAR IS OVER!" but we will be celebrating victory when our enemy surrenders and we get to take off our armor. Can you begin to imagine how that will feel? Fight on for the joy!

...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews12:2 Arthur Barry



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840 (570) 886-1838 Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732 Paul Cowles, Evangelist- (607) 592-8091

May 30, 2021

WELCOME!

SundayBible Class- 9:30 a.m.Worship- 10:30 a.m.WednesdayBible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today's Sermon: Singing and Prayer

Scripture Reading: TBA

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website. Bulletins are archived on the website. **valleycitieschurchofchrist.org** Find us on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc</u>

Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS…

- Sunday Morning Bible Class: Teachings from the Psalms by Paul, with complementary songs.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class: June 2nd, at the building,
 6:30pm- We are studying the Gospel according to Matthew.
 Come at 6 and eat with us before the lesson if you like.
- Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little, and Doug and Sandy Zimmerman hope to be here by June 18th or just after to start work on the 21st and will remain here until July 8th.
- ✤ Potluck: Sunday, June 20th.



- Rhoda Sutryk, Paul's former mother-in-law who we have been praying for, passed away on Friday from Covid19. She was being treated at Packer Hospital here in Sayre where her husband Frank hopes to be discharged today. Pray for the family in their loss.
- **Paul's son Zachary Cowles** has been spending time with his family here before he ships out overseas with the Army later this month. He has returned to OK now and will be deployed for two years. **Pray for Zachary and family while he is away.**
- There will be a workshop conducted by the Sojourners on "Life after Covid" in the church on June 26th here at the Valley Cities building. We have invited area churches to join us and hope to brainstorm ideas of how to go forward.
- Regional Singing: TODAY, May 30th at 5pm, hosted by the Horseheads church on Miller Street. There will be fellowship and food after the singing, as usual.

PRAYERS

- Sam Barry, Robin and Katie's son, is home now and getting used to his newly diagnosed Type 1 Diabetes. He is almost 15 and working on getting his blood glucose numbers down.
- **Pat Gutherie** from Kittanning has lung cancer again in his left lung and is on chemo. Pray for another remission. He says he is only moderately sick from side effects and loves us all. He thanks us for praying for him.
- **Gail Westerhold** has cancer on her left kidney. She had surgery Thursday and they had to remove the whole kidney in order to get rid of all the cancer. Please pray for her. She is reported to be recuperating well.
- Pray for Linnett Short, a former coworker of Paul's. She has stage 3 lung cancer.
- Arthur's younger sister, Sue, has metatastic breast cancer and is treating it with chemo and other medicine. Pray that she can get rid of all cancer.
- Please pray for **Arthur's brother Chris** from England, who has Alzheimer's Disease. Pray that he can decide to be a Christian while he is still able to understand.
- Pray for a good turnout at Horseheads today for the regional singing and fellowship meal that follows.
- Winni Carlisle, one of our sojourners in 2019, has breast cancer. Please pray for her.
- Jackie is still suffering from aftereffects of Covid19 and rheumatoid arthritis. Darlene is working on getting her help with housework and nursing. Pray for the family.
- **Rick Stapleton**, one of our neighbors who has visited with us, had heart surgery last week.
- Jonathan Russel who worships at Ithaca is in poor health and in need of prayer.
- There was a request in our Prayer Box for Kenneth who is in need of disability income.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at <u>barncat7237@gmail.com</u> or text or call (607) 261-0911.