

## The Hall of Faith

By David R. Ferguson

Hebrews 11:1-2 [ESV] reads as follows: <sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> For by it the people of old received their commendation.

So begins this wondrous chapter in God's word, a chapter which has been aptly named the Hall of Fame of Faith.

A life spent learning to obey God is like a journey with a starting point, a route and a destination or ending point. For Abraham that journey began when he left his home in Ur of the Chaldees to travel wherever God would lead him. He didn't always know what route that journey would take. But he learned through faith to trust in God to direct his steps.

We can all be encouraged by these examples we read of in the Book of Genesis from the life of the father of the faithful, Abraham. Just like Abraham, one doesn't learn to live by faith all at once. It does not come naturally. You must learn and, as you learn, you will make mistakes. But those mistakes need not cut you off from God. He's a patient, compassionate and merciful teacher. He's a gracious, loving Father! And for those who do follow God in faith, there's the absolute promise given to us by Jesus Christ: "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5 [ESV]).

Without faith we cannot please God (Hebrews 11:6), yet faith only will not save us, either, as can be seen in Numbers 20:7-12 [ESV]. Moses obviously had faith in God, but he was disobedient when it came to him not speaking to the rock as God had commanded, and he struck it instead. His disobedience cost him from entering the Promised Land.

And for further proof that faith alone doesn't save us, listen to what James writes: "You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone" (James 2:24 [ESV]). It doesn't get any clearer than that.

There is but one true faith. And you and I must examine ourselves and prove ourselves on this point, whether we be in "the faith" as Paul refers to it in 2 Corinthians 13:5 and Jude does in Jude 1:3. By being in "the faith," we can walk in the light of the Lord and bring others to Christ!



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732  
Paul Cowles, Evangelist- (607) 592-8091

Sept 4, 2022

**All the churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

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### WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

### Today's Sermon: **Doing Time**

Arthur will be preaching today.

### Scripture Reading: **Ephesians 5:15-21**

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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**Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Arthur will be teaching a lesson from Romans.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** 6:30pm September 7, on Zoom, lesson TBA.
- ❖ **Next Potluck and Bring-a-Friend Sunday** September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class - Tuesday September 6<sup>th</sup>, Lesson 11, Day 2, 10am on Zoom.**
- ❖ **Next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing- October 30<sup>th</sup>, venue TBA.**



### MAGI BOXES

Work will be done today (hopefully) on the storage room where our Magi Box items are kept. Things will be counted, labeled and organized in bins and boxes. Please leave a note or mark a number when adding things to the donation.

### WHITE ROCK FUND REPORT

David and Paula Tarbet, who administer the White Rock Fund that supports both Arthur and Paul, came to visit the church here on Friday last week. Paul was able to meet with them and show them our building, review the finances and our plans for outreach. They submitted a glowing report about the work here and suggested we increase our direct mail efforts using Christ for Today.

### SOJOURNERS

We have started the application process for summer of 2023. Tentative dates are July 10-20.

## PRAYERS

- **Continue to pray for the people of Ukraine!** Remember to also pray for the people in **Russia**, especially for the church.
- **Molly and Pancho Rivera of Nicholson, PA**, will have to find a new place to live by the end of September. Please pray for them.
- **Pat Guthrie** from Kittanning has been hit very hard by his recent chemo treatment. He is suffering from lung cancer.
- **Arthur** had his drain tube removed on Friday, but there is still some concern about a small buildup of fluid. Pray that it does not become infected before his body can absorb it naturally.
- **Deb Barnhardt**, a former colleague of Paul's who was suffering from lung cancer passed away Thursday, 8/25. Please pray for Deb's family.
- **Please pray for contacts those of us who knocked on doors may have made. Pray that some seeds were planted in good soil.**
- Pray for these people:
  - **Linnett Short** (lung cancer, tumor on liver)
  - **Mike Walls** (frontal lobe dementia), also pray for wife Carrie and the family.
  - **Amy's friend Ann Stasny** (shingles and pain in eyes)
  - **Dan Myers** spots on lungs and chemo
  - **Henry Rounsville** recent heart attack and cancer surgery. Also pray for Henry's sister Caroline.
  - **Zachary Cowles** (deployment with the Army)
  - **Jerry Lowe (recovery from heart attack and connection with a church in Las Vegas)**
  - **Darlene's friend Connie** (stage 4 lung cancer,)
  - **Doug Elsbree's friend Dave Merrill**- liver cancer
  - **Steve Noble** (lung transplant) out of ICU, still in hospital.
  - **Jim Sexton** (esophageal cancer)

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