THE MESSENGER

Magnify God. Minister To People. Make Disciples.



Thank You All So Much!

It has been an exciting and eventful last few months. After having a partial amputation on my right foot due to osteomyelitis, I have been compliant with Doctors instructions and post operative activities. I follow up with the surgeon weekly. The foot is completely healed and the stitches are out. Hopefully we are nearing the end of this issue.

I have had some ongoing issues with blood levels of sugar, potassium and sodium issues in lab work. I have now been hospitalized twice with blood sugar levels above 925! That issue caused me to exhibit stroke like symptoms on Sunday morning, March 6th and then to get sick during my sermon. CT scans and MRI's were done to see if I had experienced a stroke, but unexpectedly those scans revealed three lesions in the right temporal lobe of my brain. The Norton Cancer Center in Louisville, KY arranged for me to have three specific radiation treatments to kill those tumors. Those treatments were scheduled to be done in Louisville on March 20, 24, and 28th, At this writing I have completed the first two and am planning to make the final treatment on Monday the 28th

Again we are being compliant with doctor's orders to get these things under control. The combination of those things caused an "incident" with stroke like symptoms which ended up placing me in Norton Brownsboro hospital in Louisville for a few days.

Through all the lab work and tests, CT, MRI, EEG, etc. it has been determined that there are 3 "new" lesions in the right temporal lobe of my brain (which had not showed up in any previous CT or PET scans. Norton's oncology department was all over it. Even after the radiation treatments are completed, plans are to continue my ongoing immunotherapy treatments for this cancer every two weeks at the Precision Cancer Center in Ashland. Hopefully this combination of treatments will stop further spread of this very aggressive malignancy.

Now here is the main point I want to make.

I thank God for good doctors and ultimately for the Great Physician. I have been reminded of the truth in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. I have known it for many years but we have been reminded of it due to these recent "bumps in the road". But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

To God be the glory!

Everyone has been so kind to me and Linda during my recent "roller coaster"health issues - with prayer and all types of expressions of concern and love.

In saying thanks to family, church family, and friends I am going to echo the Apostle Paul in his message to the Philippian Church (Philippians 4:10-14) and making sure I use Philippians 4:13 IN CONTEXT. This is how I feel toward my precious church family and friends:

"I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived Continued on page 2...



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Online giving is available. Click on the:



button on the church website www.westmorelandsbc.com

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Your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble".



The Deacons Of The Month



Josh Adkins (304) 563-8654



David Spurgeon (304) 521-8453





Orpha Martin	1 st	Glenna Johnson	19 th
Trey Robertson	3 rd	Polly Midkiff	20 th
Rhonda Davis	9 th	Roger Hamlin	22 ^{na}
Debi Dean	12 th	Dustin Rutherford	22 ^{na}
Maddison Legg	12 th	Alanna Cline	23 rd
Marsha Thompson	16 th	Edna Hall	27 th
Faith Robertson	17 th	Bobby Mullins	28 th
Jim Lackey	18 th	Carol Gilman	30 th





Fickle

Matthew 21:8-11 (NKJV) And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'

Hosanna in the highest!"

And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, "Who is this?" So the multitudes said, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee."

Four days later...

Matthew 27:15-23 (NKJV) Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy.

While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent to him, saying, "Have nothing to do with that just Man, for I have suffered many things today in a dream because of Him." But the chief priests and elders persuaded the multitudes that they should ask for Barabbas and destroy Jesus. The governor answered and said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release to you?"

They said, "Barabbas!"

Pilate said to them, "What then shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"

They all said to him, "Let Him be crucified!"

Then the governor said, "Why, what evil has He done?"

But they cried out all the more, saying, "Let Him be crucified!"

We appear to be hearing from two different groups here. A multitude that followed Jesus into Jerusalem and proclaimed "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!" and a multitude who lived in Jerusalem who questioned "Who is this?" and later demanded "Let Him be crucified!". Did some from the first group join those from the second group and call for Jesus to be crucified? Its possible for a couple reasons.

- 1) Jesus disappointed them. They were looking for a Savior that would deliver them from their Roman oppressors and set up an earthly kingdom. The multitude didn't get what they wanted. Are our loyalties weakened when we don't get the job, wealth, or healing that we prayed for? Just as Jesus knew that the spiritual salvation of the people was more important than an earthly kingdom, God knows if the earthly wants and desires of our prayers line up with what is best for us.
- 2) No doubt the multitude that called for Jesus' cruxification were also stirred up by the leaders/ celebrities of the day the sadducees, pharisees, and scribes. How easy it was to call for Barabbas' release when the chief priests and elders persuaded them to. Who do we allow to persuade us today? Is it God and His Word or is it the politicians, actors, and athletes of our day. The position and wealth of these individuals more often leads to corruption rather than to wisdom.

Let us be found in the group that proclaims, "Hosanna to the Son of David". Let us never falter in our faith despite disappointments or the persuasive words of "celebrities".

HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!





The Persecuted Church

From: "The Alabama Baptist Paper"

BORNO, **Nigeria** — Islamic State terrorists are suspected of attacking Borno state's Chibok area and killing three people in continued violence targeting Christians.

Mwada Bulama Wadir was identified as one of those slain in the attack on Kautikari village in Nigeria's predominately Christian Chibok area, according to Morning Star News.

Suspected terrorists of Islamic State West Africa Province, a faction of Boko Haram that in 2016 aligned more closely with the Islamic State group, attacked the village twice in January, killing three people and kidnapping 29 women and children, the report said.

Chibok leaders say their area has been attacked more than 72 times since the rebel group Boko Haram abducted 276 school girls in 2014. Chibok Area Development Association says 110 of those girls remain captive. Since 2012, 407 Christians have been killed in Chibok and at least 332 others (in addition to the school girls) have been kidnapped.

Nigeria is No. 7 on Open Doors' 2022 World Watch List of places most difficult to be a Christian.

NEW DELHI, India — Hindu extremists in India attacked two pastors and forced 40 Christians to reconvert to Hinduism as persecution of Christians increases sharply.

Members of Shalom Kalashya Church in Madhya Pradesh state were threatened Jan. 31 with dire consequences if they did not reconvert to Hinduism, according to a report by human rights group International Christian Concern.

ICC said persecution of Christians has escalated in eight states in India. Quoting United Christian Forum, which operates a toll-free number for reporting persecution, ICC says last year's 486 incidents were the highest figure since the country gained independence. The number of incidents already recorded in 2022 means it could be even worse.

In a separate report, Morning Star News said a mob of Hindu extremists attacked two pastors in Haryana state on Jan. 28. Assailants attacked Pastor Sanjay Kumar and Pastor Inderjit for 90 minutes after the two were seen praying on the roof of a home. The homeowner was threatened also.

India is No. 10 on Open Doors' 2022 World Watch List of places most difficult to be a Christian.



New Delhi is the capital of India and a part of the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi. New Delhi is the seat of all three branches of the government of India, hosting the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament House, and the Supreme Court of India. Although colloquially Delhi and New Delhi are used interchangeably to refer to the National Capital Territory of Delhi, these are distinct entities, with both the municipality and the district of New Delhi forming a relatively small part of the megacity of Delhi.

Religions

Hinduism 79.8% Sikhism 1.7% Buddhism .7% Christian 2.3% Jainism .4%

Nigeria is the most populous country in Africa; geographically situated between the Sahel to the north, and the Gulf of Guinea to the south in the Atlantic Ocean with a population of over 211 million. It borders Niger in the north, Chad in the northeast, Cameroon in the east, and Benin in the west. Nigeria is a federal republic comprising 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory, where the capital, Abuja, is located. The largest city in Nigeria is Lagos, one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world and second largest in Africa.

Religions (approximately) 50% Muslim 50% Christianity





Sunday Morning, April 3 Pastor C.J. has been asked by Pastor Ryan Navy and the River Valley Church (Formerly New Heights Church) to bring the 7th Anniversary message for the River Valley Church which meets at Huntington High School every Sunday morning. Our youth pastor, Ryan Smith will be filling the pulpit here at WBC on that Sunday Morning while Pastor C.J. shares with River Valley congregation.

Good Friday Service - Friday, April 15

This will be a joint service with Pastor Adam Goodwin and the Huntington Community Church joining us here at WBC at 6:00 PM. We will be observing the Lord's Supper on Good Friday (as it should be, and NOT on Easter Sunday, as has been our practice in the Past.)

Easter Sunday we will be celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord (as that should be) We will observe his suffering and death for us on Good Friday. Please plan on being here to welcome the Huntington Community Church and



any other visitors. Please share this information with friends and family and invite anyone to come worship with us on these two important services.

ANTEN ON MISSO

Women On Mission Planning Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 6pm Across from Choir Room

All ladies are invited to attend and help plan mission projects and homebound aifts

Thanks so much, Janora



You are invited to enjoy a Saturday with

Jimmy Houston

world class bass fisherman and TV host.

Saturday, April 23rd
Westmoreland Baptist Church

Doors open at 9:30 am
Meet & Greet 11 am - 1 pm
Door prizes and snacks
Free to the public
Sponsored by the:

GREATERHUNTINGTON baptist association huntingtonwy

Free tickets (\$25 value) will be available for you to invite a friend to hear how Christ changed Jimmy Houston's life, and he became a FISHER OF MEN.

Note: we need volunteers to help with greeting, registration, setup, security, and being available to reach out to people. THIS IS NOT JUST FOR MEN! Even if you don't fish reach out to those who need Christ

A Note From Your DOM (Director of Missions)

What a real time coming up! HERE IT IS

On Saturday April 23rd from 10am-1pm WE (the Greater Huntington Baptist Association) will have a special guest, JIMMY HOUSTON, to give a fishing demonstration and his testimony how Jesus took him from being a fisherman to being a FISHER OF MEN. After the demonstration we will have a meet and greet in our gym. There will be door prizes (and they aren't cheap ones from local businesses!) Pictures etc.

Doors open at 9:30 am Jimmy will start at 10am. This is here at the church!

This is MORE THAN an opportunity to see Jimmy BUT for us to invite unbelievers and unchurched folks! All who are interested will be given tickets to invite your friends. (See me for tickets)

Please pray for this, it has been a LOOOOONG time since we have done something like this, Also we are in need of ministry folks to help with sign in, greeting, just welcoming folks, security.

This is a time for us to be FISHERS OF MEN! All are welcome. but must have a ticket. We have room for about 400 !! Wouldn't it be great to see our church FILLED!!

Come be a part of this day!

Brady Lipscomb

THE MESSENGER



Redeemer

Nicole c. Mullen (1/3/1967)

Nicole C. Mullen is an American singer, songwriter, and choreographer. She was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio. Nicole recorded her first solo album, "Don't Let Me Go" in 1991. She continued her singing-songwriting-choreography career in the 1990s, singing backup for Michael W. Smith and the Newsboys, writing for Jaci Velasquez, and working as a dancer and choreographer with Amy Grant.

"Redeemer" was inspired by the scripture passage in the Old Testament Book of Job when, while under his afflictions, Job said, "As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last He will take His stand on the earth." (Job 19:25) How he was going to see God with his eyes and in his flesh, not another but He himself. How powerful, that

regardless of what we go through, regardless of what the world tells us, that we can stand up with our shoulders back and our head straight and forward and say, I know that I know that my Redeemer lives in spite of what I'm going through, in spite of what I've seen or what's going on around me.

"Redeemer" won the 2001 Dove Award for Song of the Year. Mullen, is to date, the only black performer to win the Dove Song of the Year Award.

Who taught the sun
Where to stand in the morning
And who told the ocean
You can only come this far
And who showed the moon
Where to hide till evening
Whose words alone can
Catch a falling star

Well I know my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives All of creation testifies This life within me cries I know my Redeemer lives

The very same God
That spins things in orbit
Runs to the weary
The worn and the weak
And the same gentle hands
That hold me when I'm broken
They conquer death to bring me victory

Now I know my Redeemer lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry I know my Redeemer He lives to take away my shame
And He lives forever I'll proclaim
That the payment for my sin
Was the precious life He gave
But now He's alive and there's an empty grave

And I know my Redeemer, He lives I know my Redeemer lives Let all creation testify Let this life within me cry

I know my Redeemer
I know my Redeemer lives
I know my Redeemer lives
I know that, I know or I know my Redeemer lives
(Because He lives I can face tomorrow)
He lives, I know, I know.
He lives
(I spoke with Him this morning.)

He lives.
(The tomb is empty)
He lives.
(I've got to tell everybody)

Westmoreland Baptist Church 3401 Hughes Street Huntington, WV 25704

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE MESSENGER