

# The Messenger

*N. Ft. Myers Church of the Nazarene*

*A loving, caring, serving community of believers in Jesus*

**August 2021 ~ Volume 12, Issue 3**

## **Some Basics in Praying for our Children**

To say that we have no greater power in our arsenal as Christians than the power of prayer, is a bold statement, but one that is undeniable. For those of us who are parents, whether we have our children and grandchildren living nearby, or whether they are many miles away, prayer may be the most valuable gift we can offer them. Not living near our children can be difficult. However, when we put all of our trust and faith in God to look after them and guide them, we are blessing them each and every time we offer them up to Him. *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”* (Proverbs 3:5). We must acknowledge that God is our provider, our protector, our comforter, our Lord and Savior, our Heavenly father and He is the same for our children and grandchildren. He is always there for us, and hears and answers our prayers. We must remember, *“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”* (1 John 5:14-15).

There are many scriptures that we need to focus on as we pray for our loved ones. The first thing we remember to pray for our children is for them to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and that they will acknowledge that He came to this world to be the perfect sacrifice for all of mankind’s sins. We all desire that they know that whoever believes on Him, shall receive the free gift of salvation, eternal life with Him in Heaven. *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”* (John 3:16-17). It is important to remember the promises held in the words: *“But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”* and *“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”* (John 20:31; Romans 15:13).

As we pray for our children, we pray that they will have faith in God and that they will live lives pleasing to Him. We pray Proverbs 3:6 over them, that they will acknowledge Him in all their ways. We also pray for guidance and direction that we will continue to be the parents we should – even when they are grown and no longer under our direct influence.

The goal for all children – especially our own – is that they will grow up in strong, Christian homes. But even if we may not have led our children in the most Christlike way, we can ask for forgiveness from God, and as He leads us, perhaps ask for our children’s forgiveness if we have let them down in the way we raised them. We also hold tightly to Proverbs 22:6: *“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”*

When we completely trust God, and believe that He is our protector, and provider, then we find comfort and reassurance that He will always be there for us, for our children, and our grandchildren, no matter what. John 10:28-29: *And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.* These scriptures, and many more than these offer us hope and reassurance that even if we are struggling, or our children or grandchildren are struggling, God will always watch over them and guide them.

We consistently pray, *“What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”* (Romans 8:31-32).

God hears our prayers for our families and our families never stop needing those prayers. Don’t stop. Always remember He is at work on their behalf – at all times.

Pastor Becky

## August Events

- 08 – Back to School Sunday
- 10 – Lee County students 1<sup>st</sup> day of school
- Church Board Meeting
- 29 – Zone Missionary Rally 6:00



## August Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 17 – Doug & Karen Haiflich
- 20 – Susie Lorenson
- 21 – Ronnie Kiser
- 24 – Janet Heath
- 27 – Pat Abrams
- 30 – Jerry & Martha Pickett
- 31 – Sam Kuster



## Prayer Needs:

Paul & Jane Clark	Eloise Garner
Perry Souzis	Julia Moore
Ronnie Kiser	Woodby Family
June Carsey	Drew Baker
Shelby Pickett	Elis Lodge
Rev. Greg Story, D.S.	Eileen Massett
Paul Jones	Tom Blakeman
Dorothy & Laurel Chapman	Paul & Grace Boling
Louis Perez	The Monroe Family
Kenny & Gail Goodman	Eileen Jennings
Roof Repairs and Sign	Unsaved Loved Ones
Those affected negatively by the Corona Virus	

- Patrick Lindsey
- Janet Van Skyver
- Lisa Koch
- Greg Atkins
- Martha Wade
- Dave Peck
- Joseph Groves
- Lorraine Jungles
- The Garner Family
- Doug Keuther
- Youth, Children's, and Worship Leaders

- Barr Family
- Darlene Roach
- Jeffrey Hailey
- Anna Marie Anderson
- Cindy Jones' son
- Ernie Rybold
- Regina Williams & Fam
- Jeff Clark
- Our District Family
- The Church Roof

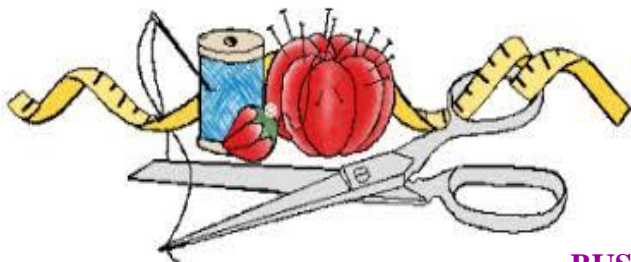


The West Coast Missions Rally will be on Sunday, Aug. 29th @ 6:00 P.M. at our church.

This will be a blessed opportunity for us as we host our West Coast churches and gather together in worship, and as we welcome **missionaries to Uruguay, Eduardo & Rocio Meza.**

Join us as we gather to hear what God is doing through this wonderful ministry!

There will be a special dessert fellowship following the service.



**BUSY HANDS –**  
**Every Tuesday at 9:30 A.M.**  
**in the Fellowship Hall**  
**All ladies are invited!**

## Prayer for Protection this

*School Year*

Thank you, Lord for Your divine protection over our children. Keep them safe as they travel to and from school. Protect them from any physical harm while they are in school. I stand on Your Word that no weapon formed against them will prosper. I thank you that Your angels stand guard over them and surround them like a shield. Guard their hearts and minds as they step out to meet new friends. Let negative words or comments, roll off them and not take root in their souls. Cover them as they navigate this new school year and guide them in the right direction. In Jesus' name, Amen!

*flourishing today*