

# WELCOME VISITORS

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet. We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

SUNDAY		ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	
Bible Study	10:00 AM	Morning Worship	28
Worship	11:00 AM	Evening Worship	14
Evening	6:00 PM	Wednesday	14
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM	Contribution	\$867.00
Fellowship Meal (Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)	12:30 PM		
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM		
Last Sunday of every month)			

Visit our website at [www.brunswickcoc.com](http://www.brunswickcoc.com)  
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TO OUR FRIENDS:

## MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



## BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 17, 2014

### Some Practical Benefits of Suffering By Bart Warren

Quite obviously, nobody wants to suffer. Nobody prays for hardship and ruin. However, such is certainly a part of our lives on this side of eternity (John 16:33). The positive news is that this world with its difficulties is not all that there is to existence (Rom. 8:18, 28). In fact, we are told that our suffering can help us to grow stronger (1 Peter 1:6-7). So, practically speaking, how can the bad things that happen to us be used to build our faith?

Suffering should drive the child of God to pray. In 2 Kings 20:1, Hezekiah was told, "[You shall die; you shall not recover." What was his reaction? "Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord" (2 Kings 20:2). What did God do? He said to the king, "I have heard your prayer; I have seen your tears. Behold, I will heal you" (2 Kings 20:5). Remember: God loves, listens, and understands! Cast your burdens on Him (1 Peter 5:7)!

Suffering should drive the child of God to study. The Psalmist said, "It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes" (Psalm 119:71). And again, "Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word" (Psalm 119:67). The answers to many of our questions are found in the revealed will of God, the Holy Bible (John 6:68).

Suffering should open the eyes of the child of God to his own weaknesses.

Continued...

**“...The Churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16**

**Continued...**

It was the “thorn in the flesh” that helped Paul to realize his dependence upon the power of God and that “when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Corinthians 12:10).

Suffering should lead the child of God to a more confident hope. “More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us” (Romans 5:3-5).

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing” (James 1:2-4).

Our hope is in the God that rules...the God that wins. D.A. Carson wrote: “Christians will take refuge from their questions about suffering not in bitterness, self-pity, resentment against God, or trite clichés and religious cant, but in endurance, perseverance, and faith in the God who has suffered, who has fought with evil and triumphed, and whose power and goodness ensure that faith resting in him is never finally disappointed” (How Long, O Lord? 246).

Via Bulletin Gold

**God's Plan for Man**  
**Hear God's Word**  
 Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17  
**Believe in Jesus**  
 Jn. 8:24  
**Repent of Sins**  
 Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10  
**Confess Jesus' Name**  
 Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Mt. 16:15-16  
**Be Baptized**  
 Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38, 41;  
 Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4  
**Live Faithful until Death**  
 Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

**The Bible study topic for Wednesday night:**  
**The Superiority of Christ and His Covenant –**  
**A Study of the Book of Hebrews**  
**Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.**



**“The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank.” - Dante Gabriel Rosset**

**Opportunities to Serve**

<b>Welcome</b>	<b>Today</b>	<b>08/24/14</b>
<b>Song Leader</b>	Don Lockey	Dick Phillips
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	John Bowling	Willie Gore
<b>Communion</b>	Willie Gore	Ed Williams
	*John Lloyd	*Willie Gore
	Bill Bartlow	Josiah Garner
	Albert Sturdivant	Bill Bartlow
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Lynn Means	John Bowling
<b>Speaker</b>	Rick Massey	Rick Massey
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Dick Phillips	Albert Sturdivant
<b>Evening</b>	Albert Sturdivant	Willie Gore
<b>Nursery</b>	Iris/Hannah Garner	BJ Lockey/Gabbie Connolly

The Nursery will be open to receive children under the age of 3 years following the Communion.

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

**HEALTH**  
Richard Hamlen

**GENERAL**  
Christians in Iraq

**TRAVELING**  
Lockey Family                      Barbara Bartlow  
Garner Family

**DEATHS**  
Nicholson Family

The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.

**Ladies Bible Study**

The ladies bible study will be held Tuesday, at 10:00 am in the fellowship room. Our study is about "Study of God's Promises". Our time together will include prayer and songs of praise. You are welcome to join us.

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**Labor of Love**  
 The Labor of Love will meet on Saturday, August 23, at noon. Carolyn Bowling will present the devotion. Don't forget your gift of love for Hope Harbor.