

### New Prayer Concerns:

Justin Thomas, Hannah Mahler's uncle, is now home and is being cared for by Home Health Care. He is doing better, but please continue to remember him in your prayers.

Charles Whittington came home from the hospital on Thursday and is doing well. He would like to thank everyone for their prayers.

Dana, Bob and Nora's daughter, came home from the hospital on Saturday. She is recovering from double pneumonia and will be on home rest for a week.

Earlene Rentz, grandmother of Buster and Mary's son-in-law, has been diagnosed with cancer.

J.T. Aiken, Donna Hosey's father, continues to have health issues.

C.E. Comerford is having medical tests.

Pat Russell, mother of one of the missionaries who works with Robby's brother, has refused further treatment for cancer. Please pray for the Russell family as this dear sister prepares to go home to the Lord.

### Others in our Prayers:

Jesse Brown, Jerry Davis, Sherry West, Robby Dittmann, Frank Faircloth, Pearson Martin, Gynell Chambliss, Missy Williams, Dale Newberry, Gertrude West, Hilda Barnett, Royce & Nada Whittington, The Hall family, Dora Gatlin.

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Our church family, Our Elders and their families, Our Deacons and their families, Our Minister and his family, Our Troops, Our local Law Enforcement, Our Youth & Youth Leaders, Our children & grandchildren

### February Celebrations:

**5<sup>th</sup>** - Greg Waddell's Birthday

**7<sup>th</sup>** - Donna Hosey's Birthday

**8<sup>th</sup>** - Marsha Harper's Birthday

**14<sup>th</sup>** - Tommy Harper Jr.'s Birthday

**15<sup>th</sup>** - Luke Martin's Birthday

**16<sup>th</sup>** - Matthew Dittmann's Birthday

**19<sup>th</sup>** - Bob Day's Birthday

**20<sup>th</sup>** - Greg and Dee Waddell's Anniversary

**22<sup>nd</sup>** - Ruby Comerford's Birthday

**22<sup>nd</sup>** - C.E. Comerford's Birthday

### Upcoming Events:

**TODAY** - 5pm - Ladies Day Mtg

**February 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Children's Home truck arrives

**February 28<sup>th</sup>** - Supper Club at Golden Coral

**March 21<sup>st</sup>** - Ladies Day

### Contribution:

2/15 - \$856.05

### Contacts:

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# Welcome to the Bainbridge Church of Christ

1001 Culbreth Street  
Bainbridge, Ga. 39819

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**



### Elders

Lester Gatlin  
Royce Whittington

### Deacons

Mitchell Comerford  
Don Rabon  
Chad Waddell

### Minister

Tim Mahler

### Services:

**Sunday:** 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Worship  
6:00pm Worship/Youth Program  
**Wednesday:** 6:30pm Bible Study

## In the Valley

by Lance Cordle

*“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me.” (Psalm 23:4)*

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm – Charles Spurgeon referred to it as “the nightingale of the Psalms”. James D. Bales penned an entire book based on its contents and entitled it, The Psalm for the Frightened and Frustrated Sheep. Many people, some famous, some not so famous, have drawn and continue to draw comfort from its simple and plain message. At the heart of this Psalm is a phrase with which we can all identify, either literally or spiritually. Some have driven through valleys; some have walked through valleys; some have lived in valleys. Most of us have also gone through times in life that could be described as valleys – the days seem dark and our friends seem few. It is in times such as these that the Psalm “sings” the sweetest. As we think of the characteristics of a literal valley, let us see them in light of the feeling and emotions we experience in the “down” times of our lives.

**In a valley, it can be very cold.** Because of the blocking out of the sun’s rays by mountains and trees, valleys can be very cold places to be. Emotionally, in our time of discouragement, we may be cut off from the warmth of friendship and companionship. It is in such a time that the presence of God needs to be remembered (Heb 13:5).

**In a valley, it is difficult to stay focused on the big picture.** As one enters a valley, our vision of the distant and far off places is obscured. The dominant view is that of the valley. If we are not careful, we will think that all that is important and all that is going on in our life is that which troubles us. It is in such a time that we must remember that there is a longer, upward way that goes through valleys, but leads to the Father.

**In a valley, fog is common.** Temperatures and moisture conditions can change quickly and fog can roll in within minutes. The road and objects surrounding it can be obscured, making a traveler fearful and confused. Confusion is a byproduct of discouragement and fear. It is in such a time that the light of the word of God (Psalm 119:105) must be used and trusted.

Life is made up of peaks and valleys. A peak awaits us on the other side of a valley. It is the depth of a valley, and our reaction to it, that often makes us appreciate the height of the peak.

## Raintree Village Children’s Home Items

Today, please bring **toilet tissue**.

Next Sunday, please bring **body wash**.

*More expensive items that are badly needed prior to the arrival of the truck:*  
**New bath towels, liquid laundry detergent, and cleaning supplies**

***TODAY is the last opportunity to bring items before the truck comes!!***

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## Don’t Save It for the Funeral

by Alan Smith

An elderly man lay dying in his bed. In death’s agony, he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favorite chocolate chip cookies wafting up the stairs. He gathered his remaining strength and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning against the wall, he slowly made his way out of the bedroom and with even greater effort forced himself down the stairs, gripping the railing with both hands. With labored breath he leaned against the door frame, gazing into the kitchen. Were it not for death’s agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven! There, spread out on the kitchen table, were literally hundreds of his favorite chocolate chip cookies. Was it heaven? Or was it merely one final act of heroic love from his devoted wife, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man?

Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself toward the table. His aged and withered hand made its way to a cookie at the edge of the table. But his wife suddenly smacked it with a spatula.

“Stay out of those,” she said. “They’re for the funeral!”

She’s not the only person to save something for a funeral that should have been shared long before. It often seems a shame that flowers are sent at a funeral rather than before hand when they could truly be enjoyed. Many of the comments made at a funeral reflect the realization that we didn’t express our feelings adequately to those we love while they were alive: “What a wonderful friend he was!” “I never told her how much I appreciated her and what she meant to me!” “I hope he realized how much I loved him!”

If someone means something special to you, don’t save it for the funeral. Share it with that person now!

*“Therefore comfort one another and edify one another, just as you are doing.” (1 Thes 5:11)*