

THANK YOU (dated Nov. 16): “Dear friends, Thank you for making a donation to the Lighthouse Shelter in memory of Barbara Sutton. Barbara was such a faithful servant for the Lord at the Lighthouse for many years. Your support helps make this important outreach ministry possible. Sorry for the lateness of this acknowledgment, but these donations just arrived from the funeral home. Graciously, Wanda Zwick, Board President.”

REGISTER NOW!: The North Carolina School of Biblical Studies continues to offer free online Zoom classes. Sign up today!

“Developing Leadership Practices That Work”. Thursdays, online at 7 p.m. CST, beginning January 7. In this 10 week course, different methods of leadership that will support open communication and encourage member participation will be explored. Any leader, aspiring leader, or encourager of leaders can benefit from this class. Register now at NCSBS.NET or call 336.766.6078.

“Journey Through the Word, Part 2”. This is a class for women only and will help you understand how the characters and events of the Bible fit together for God’s purposes. Class begins Thursday, January 7, at 6 p.m. CST and will continue for 10 weeks. Register now at NCSBS.NET or call 336.766.6078.

SEE THE FLYERS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL : Also check out the flyers from WBS regarding the Bibles for Millions campaign and the new social network for Christians called Mathetis. This also provides availability to a 13-week Bible curriculum to equip Christians to reach the lost.



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Church email: churchoffice@capechurchofchrist.org

Website: www.capechurchofchrist.org

SPIRITUAL FOOD SOURCES

TV Programs

“In Search of the Lord’s Way” with Phil Sanders at 7:00 a.m. Sundays on Channel 9 (Fox 23)

“Good News Today” at 7:30 a.m. Sundays on Channel 49

“A Bible Answer” at 8:00 a.m. Sundays on Channel 24

Internet

Capechurchofchrist.org (<https://www.facebook.com/CapeChurchofChrist/>)
Sundays at 10:00 a.m., Sundays at 5:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

From Harding University: Collegechurchofchrist.org

(<https://www.facebook.com/CollegeChurchofChrist/>) Sundays at 8 a.m.

In Total Control

I'm sure I'm not the only one who has lost control. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has been so angry that I said and did things I now regret. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has made poor decisions under pressure. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has allowed Satan to lead me down the wrong paths. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has refused to let God be in total control of my heart and life from time to time.

I thought of these things after reading in the Gospels how Jesus reacted in the garden when the mob came to arrest him, when Judas betrayed him with a kiss. It struck me how he was totally in control of himself and of the whole scene, even though it seemed otherwise. It was late at night. It was very dark. The Garden of Gethsemane was a secluded place. Jesus and His Apostles were exhausted. After praying, Jesus had to awaken them from their sleep. Just then Judas and the mob of soldiers and officials came with torches, lanterns and weapons (**Matthew 26.47; John 18.3**). It was an explosive setting. The mob was expecting a confrontation; why else did they bring weapons. The disciples were not sure what they should do, so they asked, "*Lord, should we strike with our swords?*" (**Luke 22.49**). Peter, being Peter, decided to take action. He drew his sword and swung it, cutting off the ear of Malchus, the high priest's servant (**John 18.10**).

Amid all of these chaotic events, Jesus never lost control of himself or of the situation. He was in total control. He had just reaffirmed that what was to happen was the Father's will, and Jesus knew what that was. He was resolved to do it. He took charge of the situation by asking, "*Who is it that you want?*" and saying, "*Friend, do what you came for*" (**John 18.4; Matthew 26.50**). He showed who was in control by telling Peter to put his sword up and by healing Malchus' ear (*Jesus' last miracle*). He could have called twelve legions of angels and the Father would have sent them, but he didn't because that was not in the Father's will (**Matthew 26.53**). There were prophecies to fulfill (**John 18.9**). There was a "*cup*" to drink that he willingly chose to drink (**John 18.11**). No doubt the mob thought they had control when they arrested Jesus, but we know better. Throughout this entire scene Jesus never relinquished or lost control. And this continued throughout the night and next day, all through the illegal trial that culminated in his death on the cross. However, no matter what others did to him, Jesus was always in total control.

That is impressive. That's what I want to be like. I want to know the Father's will for my life so well that I have complete confidence in it. I want to surrender to the Father's will so totally that no matter what anyone else thinks, says or does, I will willingly choose to drink the "*cup*" the Father gives me. I want the Spirit to fill me with such self-control (**Galatians 5.23**) that there will never be a doubt in my mind about following in the steps of Jesus. With God's help, I want Him to be in total control of my heart and life.

I'm not there yet, but that's where I want to be.

*Joe Chesser
Fruitland Church of Christ
Jackson, MO
(used by permission)*

SPECIAL PRAYER REQUESTS

Ray Duffey of the Jackson congregation passed away last week. His wife, Marilyn, continues in St. Francis hospital with COVID. Please pray for this family at this time of loss.

Continue to remember the families of Ernie Adams and Michael Ramos.

Mark McAllister is doing well, all things considered, but continue to pray that God provides full healing.

Elaine has been having dizzy spells lately. Dr. thinks it may be a result of low blood pressure. Keep her in your prayers.

| <u>OUR MEMBERS</u> | <u>FAMILY & FRIENDS</u> | <u>WEEKLY REPORT</u> |
|---|---|--|
| Helen Coburn Joan England (Life Care Ctr) David Mattingly (rm 308 Life Care Ctr) Mark McAllister (glioblastoma) Carson Pitman III Pat Smart (stroke/fall) Betty Tanner (shut-in) Jane Volkerding (shut-in) | Betty Allen (hospice) Donna Barnes (cancer) Tom & Mary Bollman Michele Campbell (back) Liam Clark Angie Northern Fabing Scott Hartline Karen Hubbs (brain cancer) Chris Hutson Suzanne Meert (cancer) Kevin Plemons (brain tumor) Barry Tate (stroke) Scott Taylor (cancer) Donna Thieman (cancer) Tony Wells | Sunday a.m. Worship: 34 Contributions: \$3,332.00 Budget: \$3,059.12 Please remember to leave your contribution in the tray on the table at the back of the auditorium. |

CHILDREN'S HOME NEWS

Supplies requested for the January 18, 2021 pickup (**which is only about a month away**) are Dishwashing detergent (Dawn, e.g.), Non-aerosol deodorant, HE Laundry Detergent, Instant Rice, Muffin Mixes and Pickles.

SERVICE CHOICES: While the Cape Girardeau congregation is not meeting on Sunday evenings or Wednesday nights, you might want to consider attending services at the Fruitland congregation on either Sunday nights at 6 p.m. (except for the first Sunday of each month when their second service is immediately after the pot luck meal at lunch) and Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. or at the Jackson congregation on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m.

| <u>Upcoming Birthdays and Anniversaries</u> | |
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| Dec. 15 – Jane Volkerding (let's shower her with cards since she can't get out) | |