

## *Happy Birthday*

**Cassidy Stapp June 2nd**

**Mike Lovell July 16th**

**Keith Stifflemire July 22nd**

## *Happy Anniversary*

**June 14th**

**Will & Autumn Vann**

## **Some Views of Government**

- "I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle." (Winston Churchill)
- "A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul." (George Bernard Shaw)
- "Government is the great fiction through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else." (Frederic Bastiat, French Economist, 1801-1850)
- "Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys." (P.J. O'Rourke)
- "Talk is cheap—except when Congress does it." (Unknown)
- "I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts." (Will Rogers)

## **Those to Serve**

(B) Mike Mallett

(FV) Mike Lovell

(O) Doug Pruett

(A) Calvin Burks

1st prayer Judd Wall

2nd prayer Keith Stifflemire

Announcements: Jack Wall

Singing: Kevin Grant

**June 2nd**

**Mission Sunday**

**June 9th**

**Dalton Vann, Speaker**

**June 16th**

**Father's Day**

**June 20th**

**First Day of Summer**

**June 30th**

**Noon Fellowship**

**July 7th**

**Mission Sunday**

## **Prayer List:**

Letha Sheldon

Jorge Garza

Joyce Windham

Dora Martinez

David Jones

Tammy Parker

Anita Adams

Pray for our Nation

Our Troops

Law Enforcement

Rescue Personnel

# *Edifier*

**Evant church of Christ**

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

**June 2, 2024**



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."*

**Sunday Worship:**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

**9:30 am Bible Study**

**863-899-0987**

**10:20 am Worship**

**Email: [wvann@yahoo.com](mailto:wvann@yahoo.com)**

**12:30 pm Afternoon**

**[www.evantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.evantchurchofchrist.org)**

**Wednesday Night**

**6:00 pm**

## ***A Tale of Two Churches***

To begin the book of Revelation, Jesus reveals to John in a vision the content of letters that he was to write and send to seven churches in Asia Minor. In the letters, Jesus gives a specific, pertinent message to each church. Jesus' purpose is to both fix any issues going on within the churches and encourage the Christian recipients with messages of hope to remain faithful to Christ amid difficult times.

In **2:8-11**, Jesus writes to the small but strong church in Smyrna. To them he says, "I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are of the synagogue of Satan" (**2:9**). While the Christians who made up this congregation felt the sting of persecution and poverty—and maybe were struggling to remain faithful because of their struggles—Jesus reminds them that they are rich. According to Jesus' message, their riches come not from monetary gain but from something much greater. In encouraging the Smyrnaeans to remain faithful as they experience persecution, he says to them, "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life" (**2:10**). The Smyrnaeans' riches were a result of God's grace in salvation, and Jesus encouraged them to use that grace to stand firm.

Later, in **3:14-22**, Jesus writes to a church that, from the outside looking in, seemed to have everything together. The reality, however, was much different. Jesus tells the Christians in Laodicea that he will spit them out of his mouth due to their lukewarm nature. They are neither hot (actively for Christ) nor cold (actively against Christ). Jesus goes on to explain the reason: "For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked" (**3:17**). The lukewarm nature of the Laodiceans came from their desire to rely on themselves rather than Christ.

When studying this tale of two cities, Jesus clearly gets to the heart of the matter. In Jesus' mind, the church who had nothing really had everything, while the church who had everything really had nothing. In a world full of trials, Jesus calls for churches to rely on him rather than themselves. In a world full of trials, Jesus calls each individual Christian to rely on him rather than himself or herself. As tempting as it is to feel as though we have 'made it' when we are rich by worldly standards, may we always be a people who seek to be rich in our Savior's eyes. God loves you, and so do I.

**By Jared Green**

## ***Those In High Places***

By Lance Cordle

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high places, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. (2 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV)

I recently attended a meeting in which a local law enforcement official was the guest speaker. The few minutes of formal sharing of information, as well as in answering of questions were valuable and seemed to me to be time well-spent. I would like to share some observations gleaned from that time together.

Most law enforcement officers seem to be sincere and hard-working men and women. They care about our community and want to do all they can to help us. They also care about moral principles and desire to stick to them in this community. The request for prayer, uttered in our meeting, impressed me and encouraged me to think more and more about the verse printed at the beginning of this article.

Beverage alcohol is a menace. Though many people were concerned about increase in DUI arrests when our county went "wet," that particular thing has not increased as much as another problem. Domestic violence incidents and arrests have increased dramatically, according to our local official. Vital relationships are harmed, not enhanced by the presence of alcohol. Are revenues raised through alcohol sales worth the dissolution of relationships and infliction of physical harm? The poignant truth of Proverbs 20:1 still rings in our ears: "Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

Law enforcement officers cannot "do it all." In order for law enforcement to be effective, the vast majority of the citizen ship must be cooperative. Christians should be the best citizens of a county, city, state and country. When we obey the laws and support the punishment of law-breakers, we keep the law of God (Romans 13:1-4).

In times of chaos throughout our country, the corruption of some law enforcement officers and higher officials, let us praise and support the good ones. Let us pray for all of them. Let us be the best citizens we can be.