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FEBRUARY 2024

*How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?  
And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard?  
And how are they to hear without someone preaching? (Rom 10:14)*




**Our Loss, Heaven's Gain**  
BY BILL POWELL

Occasionally I get the question, "Who owns the Cornerstone?" The first answer is, "God owns it." "But whose name is on the titles and licenses?" We are a 501 (c) (3). My name is on the titles and licenses, but it is not mine to sell. The real answer is it's God's and His people's. Those who give of their time, talent, and treasure. In the last 12 months, we lost to heaven 3 people who gave much of their time, talent, and treasure. I would like to pay tribute to them.

when you search the definition of the word "servant", you get Paul. Whether it was climbing a tower, fixing a roof, pressure washing, or just being stumped with a problem, Paul was always only a phone call away. He was also one of our best monitors, as well as a long-time listener.

These three are our loss and heaven's gain. Please pray for their families and those they left behind but know they are enjoying the fruits of their labor in the presence of the Lord. (Rev 14:13) ***And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."***

First, we lost Wayne Wilbur. Wayne probably handled your newsletter for over 20 years. He also probably handled your Operation Christmas Child shoe box for those 20 years. Wayne may have taken or recorded your pledge over those years. Wayne could be known as the employee that didn't get a paycheck. We miss him but we know where he is, and we shall see him again in the Lord's wonderful kingdom.

Who owns the Cornerstone? These three and many of you and others that love the Lord and desire for others to be saved. I have decided to take one of our days of sharathon to acknowledge and remember those who made their mark on this great work. The Cornerstone belongs to those who are His and give of their time, talent, and treasure. May the Lord bless you as we seek to save those who are lost. A special thanks to Wayne, Brad, and Paul.

Next, I would like to recognize Brad Waters. Brad's hands, time, talent, and treasure are in almost every building we have. We don't have any rotten wood, leaks, or damage on the building. This studio is in great shape (yet it's nearly 40 years old) thanks to Brad. Wherever we stand in the building and wherever we look we see Brad's handy work. His personality was infectious, and he will surely be missed. He too loved the Lord, and all his struggles in this life are now over as he rests in the arms of the Lord.

The last person I would like to pay tribute to is Paul Francis who just recently went to be with the Lord. Paul has been one of our Board directors for the last 18 years. Paul had been my friend since 1986. There is no space or time to express the value of our friendship. All our staff and fellow board members loved Paul and valued his love for this ministry. Paul's contributions can be summed up by saying

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As we enter into this month, a time dedicated to reflecting on the boundless love of Christ, we ask that you join us in praying for a reminder of the calling to love others, just as Jesus has loved us. That He would give us the strength to extend love, compassion, and kindness to everyone we encounter. We pray that the Lord would help us to see the needs of others and respond with grace and selflessness. And that He would ignite a fire within us that inspires the community to go out and reach the lost. May our actions be a reflection of Christ's love, drawing others closer to Him. May He continue to guide us in the mission to disciple the saved, that they may grow in their faith and understanding of His Word. Amen

**SAVE THE DATE**

**FEBRUARY**  
2.2 | Ground Hog Day  
2.14 | Valentines Day



SHARATHON 2024 | MARCH 20-22

*Reaching The Lost,  
Discipling The saved*

How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?  
And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard?  
And how are they to hear without someone preaching? (Rom 10:14 esv)

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## Focus On God

BY BRANDON SCHMIDT

When I was in high school, I was part of a Christian tour band. That tour band would practice for several months and then “tour” around the southeast performing shows for Christian high schools, youth groups, and churches. During these performances we would play music, give devotions, and perform skits. One of my all-time favorite skits was called “Focus on God!” In that skit, a group of us student would gather together at the front of the stage, take two fingers of each hand near our eyes and chant, “Focus on God! Focus on God! Focus on God!” while pointing those fingers back and forth from our eyes to God. As the skit went on, the inevitable distractions would begin. For example, one person would start to say loudly, “Focus on me! Focus on me! Focus on me!” Then someone else would join in and begin to get people to say, “No, No, Focus on me! Focus on me! Focus on me!” Finally, someone would stop everyone and say, “NO NO NO! Guys, remember, FOCUS ON GOD!” Then the group would get back on track for only a few moments, but inevitably something else would pull the focus of the group. There were several more examples of distractions like money, clothes, food, girls/guys, and so on. The point of the skit was to show how easily we are distracted by the things of this world.

It reminds me of my favorite part of Pilgrim’s Progress, Vanity Fair. In this section, Christian and Faithful enter into a town called Vanity Fair that has all the pleasures this world has to offer. In Vanity Fair, a person could buy lands, titles, jewels, kingdoms, and even people. We see this type of offer in our world today. A person can become distracted and drawn to the fading things of this world. They are distractions and keep us from focusing on God. I John 2:15-17 warns us, *“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life — is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.”*

This passage shows that the world and its pleasures are passing away. But those who do the will of God last forever! So, I pray that as you travel this world, believer, that you remember to Focus on God. (Col. 3:2; Mt. 6:33; Ps. 121:1-2; Heb. 3:1; 12:1-2) Continue to pray and seek Him all your days and you will be blessed!! Soli Deo Gloria.



## How Will We Love Thee

BY DENISHA STEARNS

English poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning is perhaps most famous for her Sonnet 43, “How do I Love Thee?” It’s so famous that most people, even if they haven’t read the poem, know the rest of the line, “Let me count the ways.” The poem beautifully expresses Elizabeth’s love toward her husband, Robert, both in feeling and in action. Action? Yes. Isn’t love a feeling, like if you feel it, you feel it? So, how can love be an action? Well, can a person be angry or sad or happy at someone’s command? That seems silly. In Mark Chapter 12, verse 30, Jesus quoted Moses’ command to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.” The love Jesus mentioned here must be an action rather than a feeling, showing love toward God even when our feelings don’t cooperate. And let’s face it- sometimes we are experiencing difficulty, and our hearts and minds are more troubled than they are glad. Yet, we CAN do it! Lord, how will we love thee? Below are- let’s count them- more than a few ways from another famous poet, King David. Note all the action words! Psalm 105:1-4 reads:

*Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name; make His deeds known among the peoples. Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wonders. Boast in His holy name; may the heart of those who seek the Lord be joyful. Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His face continually.*



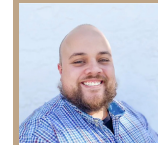
## I Surrender All

BY LUCAS WILLIAMS

I was listening to the old hymn “I Surrender All” the other day, and I couldn’t help but think that the song isn’t very realistic. I mean, who can honestly sing to the Lord that they have surrendered all to Him? Unfortunately, we hold on to some things. We don’t die to ourselves as we ought. Maybe we should sing, “Most (Or even just ‘some’!) to Jesus I surrender/ Most to Him I freely give/ I will sometimes love and trust Him/In His presence, often live.” It would certainly be more accurate to sing it this way!

And yet, Christ has called us to die – die to sin, die to ourselves, die to this world – that we may live in Him. “Whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it,” He told us in Mark 9:35 (LSB). I’m reminded of the words of Dietrich Bonhoeffer: “When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.” Daily we must die to the flesh and our sin. Daily we must surrender to Christ and obey His Word. For while we have been made new in Christ, we still battle against our flesh. We must still, daily, surrender to Him. I pray that we will come to love our Lord more and more, ever growing in obedience and holiness, that we may be able to truly sing those beautiful words, “All to Thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.”

Meet your hosts!



Brandon Schmidt

### WEEK DAYS

6am - 7am  
9am - 12pm

Brandon & Christina

3pm - 6pm



Christina Hutchinson

### WEEK DAYS

12pm - 3pm

Brandon & Christina

3pm - 6pm



Bobby Mitchell

### SATURDAYS

9am - 5pm



## Loving Christ, Loving Others

BY CHRISTINA HUTCHINSON

February, often celebrated as the love month, holds special significance for us Christians who are called to embody the essence of love in our lives. As believers, the ultimate example of love is found in Christ himself. His teachings and actions exemplify a selfless and unconditional love that goes beyond human understanding. In this month of love, we are reminded of our duty to emulate Christ's love in our interactions with others, extending compassion, kindness, and forgiveness to those around us.

If you genuinely love Christ and recognize Him as **the cornerstone** of your faith (pun intended 😊) there arises a natural inclination to share that love with others. The love of Christ is a transformative force that has the power to bring redemption, hope, and salvation to those who may not have encountered it yet. As followers of Christ, it becomes a calling to spread the gospel of Jesus and resources that proclaim it, such as The Cornerstone, who serve as a beacon of light in a world that is lost.

As believers, the call to share the good news is embedded in the very fabric of our faith. Our spring Sharathon is not just an event; it is a collective effort to amplify the impact of Jesus in the lives of individuals in our community. This event provides a unique opportunity for believers to actively contribute to the outreach efforts aimed at reaching the lost and discipling the saved. Your support during this time becomes a testament to your love for Christ, as you play a crucial role in bringing Him to those who may be searching for hope, meaning, and salvation. Together, let's make this Sharathon a celebration of love, faith, and the unwavering foundation we find in Jesus, the cornerstone of our lives.

