



STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

JUNE 9, 2024

WORSHIP – HIGHER GROUND

*I'm pressing on the upward way
New heights I'm gaining ev'ry day
Still praying as I'm onward bound
Lord plant my feet on higher ground*

*My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay
Tho' some may dwell where these abound
My pray'r my aim is higher ground*

*Lord lift me up and let me stand
By faith on heaven's tableland
A higher plane than I have found
Lord plant my feet on higher ground*

*I want to live above the world
Tho' Satan's darts at me are hurled
For faith has caught the joyful sound
The song of saints on higher ground*

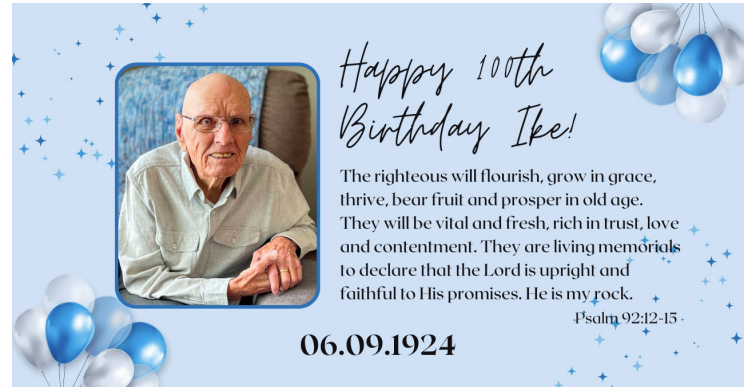
*I want to scale the utmost height
And catch a gleam of glory bright
But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found
Lord lead me on to higher ground*

*Lord lift me up and let me stand
By faith on heaven's tableland
A higher plane than I have found
Lord plant my feet on higher ground*

PRAYER FOCUS – PRAYING PAUL'S PRAYERS

As I consider what Christ has done and the infinite value of knowing Jesus as my Lord, may I consider everything else a loss in comparison. May I forget what is past and strain towards what is ahead, pressing on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. May I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. May I

live daily as a citizen of heaven, eagerly waiting for my Saviour, who is transforming me into His image. (from Philippians 3:7-21)



Sunday, June 9th we have the honour of celebrating Ike Doerksen's 100th birthday! May he continue to flourish, grow in grace, bear fruit and prosper, rich in trust and love and contentment—a living memorial declaring that the Lord is upright and faithful. (from Psalm 92:12-15)



PRESS ON – PASTOR JON

In Paul's letter to the Philippians, he shows great concern for the sort of attitude that is fitting for us as followers of Jesus. In chapter 2, Paul points us to Jesus, who took on the role of a humble servant, even though He was Himself God. Then Paul names Timothy and Epaphroditus as examples of people who have demonstrated this same attitude in their own lives through self-giving and self-sacrificial service.

In chapter 3, Paul describes his own attitude as a follower of Jesus. To say that Paul is single-minded would be an understatement: "Everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of

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knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with Him” (Philippians 3.8-9). Paul’s mind is so set on following Jesus and becoming like Him that nothing else is worth anything in comparison.

Recently my son asked me, “Dad, what’s the biggest number?”

I suddenly found myself trying to explain the concept of infinity to a 4-year-old, which had predictable results (mostly confusion). Even if you arrived at the biggest number, you could always add one more, and one more to that, and one more to that. Infinity is a goal that has no end.

I think that’s something like what Paul has in mind when he describes himself as pressing on toward his goal. The wonder and riches and mystery of the knowledge of who Jesus is and what He has done for us is so vast that we won’t ever wrap our heads around it. You can devote your entire life to following Jesus, only to find that every day new wonders are opened to you. I think C. S. Lewis captures this well, describing life in the presence of God as always only “further up and further in.”

So when we think about ourselves as followers of Jesus, our goal is not one that any of us have arrived at. We long, with Paul, to be resurrected with Jesus. One day, we will be. But until then, we press on to know Jesus more and more. As we do, His own resurrection-life begins to define our own lives, as we are made to be more like the One we follow.

COMMISSIONING OF OUR PASTORAL TEAM

Today, we give thanks to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ who has graciously met our leadership needs with whom He has called to serve at Mclvor Church.

We praise you Lord for hearing and answering prayer. Recognizing the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we affirm our love and support for all of our pastors and their families.

What is our part in the Lord’s work at Mclvor?

We offer our willing assistance and support in the work of teaching, caregiving, encouragement, outreach, missions and many other avenues of the Lord’s work.

How can we further undergird the work of ministry in our church?

We pledge our continued prayer and support for all of our pastors, their families and our work together. May the Lord grant much joy, peace and fulfilment in serving.

In our work together, may the Lord be honoured and His

church built up. For this, may the Lord give grace and strength.

At this time, we ask for God’s special blessing upon all of our pastors and upon our church, as together we serve our risen Lord. Amen.



We celebrated Jon’s birthday this week!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 7–8:30 p.m. – Kids Club and Youth
Thursday, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. – Harvest Food Bank
June 18, 9:30 a.m. – 55+ Walk and Talk
June 23, 10 a.m. – Celebration Sunday
June 27, 5:30 p.m. – Mclvor Year End BBQ
June 27, 7 p.m. – Youth Thursday Worship Service
July 6, 10 a.m. – 2nd Annual Mclvor Garden Tour

WAYS TO GIVE

We accept donations by cash or cheque, as well as e-transfers to mcivor@mcivorchurch.com or via credit card on www.mcivorchurch.com. To arrange a gift via Direct Deposit, please contact the office.

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

As a part of Mclvor, you have free access to RightNow Media and its library of more than 20,000 video Bible studies: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/join/MAMBC>.

WATCH OUR SERVICES

Our services are available to livestream, or watch: <https://mcivorchurch.com/worship-together/>

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