



NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

— Growing Together —

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Perhaps you read of the recent oar-powered, 3000-mile crossing of the Atlantic from the Canary Islands to Antigua by British brother and sister, **Anna and Cameron McLean**. They were the first brother and sister to accomplish this feat and the fastest co-ed duo to ever accomplish this.

At one point in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, they were closer to astronauts in the space station, miles overhead, than to any other human beings. A mantra that helped them maintain their focus throughout their journey was “*Teamwork makes the dream work*,” as they alternated, each paddling for 2 hours, with 2 hours of rest, 24 hours-a-day, for 43 days! A lesson the pair learned over and over was the need to rely on each other to succeed safely, even while riding out 40-foot ocean swells, pounding them from all directions.

Using video conferencing technology, Anna and Cameron kept in touch with their parents and other supporters. Their team was much greater than just the two of them. In one crucial communication, their parents let them know there was another competing boat a little over 100 miles ahead. Anna said that this jolted her and Cameron to refocus. They had been rowing just to survive; now they began rowing to compete (Spoiler alert: they did catch and pass that boat several days later).

Their story captivates, but even more for me is the application of their mantra for us as Christians, “*Teamwork makes the dream work*.”

As Christians, God has described us as a family (*adelphoi* – brothers and sisters) that have a common dream or purpose – heaven for us and for others (as many as possible) - to be with God! We are privileged to be a part of a team that together works toward this dream or goal of heaven. At times, we tend to forget that heaven is a journey to be shared with others. We are not a solo rower on our way to home port; we are a team.

Consider this encouragement from Hebrews 10:24: “*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.*” What kick in the flanks do I need, to refocus, to gather up spiritual speed and direction toward the goal for which I am called by God (paraphrasing a bit of Philippians 4:13-14)?

-Billy

Prayer List:

- **For the health of our nation**, physically in the face of the virus crisis, emotionally in the face of civil unrest, and spiritually as we all seek God's help and healing.
- **For our Health Care workers:** for their health, energy and strength as they serve during this time.
- **For all Faculty, Staff and Students:** in their preparation to for the beginning of school during an uncertain, challenging time.
- **For the Economic impact:** for individuals and families in our church family and community whose financial stability has been impacted by the crisis.
- **Covid-19 patients:** **Gary & Maude Caudle**, **Margo Hilderbran** (friend of Savannah Wells), **Lochlan Payte** (8-year old friend of Sydney Colson), **Johnny & Beth Pierce** (Harold Stuart's sister and brother-in-law), **Steve & Phala Tolin** (Paige Garrett's dad and stepmom)
- **Covid-19 recoveries:** **Keith Bryant** (friend of June Cox), **Wade & Kalyn Garrett**, **Sylvia Glover** (Sarilee Nash & Cindy Wallace's sister-in-law), **Mark Knappier** (Mike & Diane's grandson), **Justin & Susan Tolin** (Paige Garrett's brother and sister-in-law)
- **Cathy Hagameier** (co-worker with Rodney Crownover), **Kayla Hickman** (friend of Kim Rippee), **Bob Nossaman** (Rob's dad), **Sharon Pearson** and **Billie Wilson** are in Hospice Care.
- **Martin Feeny** was transferred from Saline to Baptist on Thursday night for a procedure to remove an enlarged kidney stone.
- **Ruth Garrett**, former member, is now in Briarwood Rehab in Little Rock recovering from spinal fusion surgery.
- **Bill Hammer**, member of GriefShare Ministry, will undergo surgery for bladder cancer on Wednesday.
- **Alden Jones** is scheduled for an extensive surgery tomorrow.
- **Glenn Kays** PET scan results showed his throat cancer is contained and doctor's are optimistic is can be treated with radiation.
- **Rod Kirk** was moved to Ally Rehab in Little Rock this week to strengthen his lung capacity and heart strength.
- **Rachael Weekly**, a friend of Nick Rice, was diagnosed with Stage-2 Hodgkin's Lymphoma at the Mayo Clinic this week.

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*Congratulations to **Jared Hastings and Haley Sobczak** who will be married in a small, private ceremony near Cabot this Saturday.*

Park and Pray on Sunday evening, August 23 at 5:00 p.m. All are



encouraged to choose a campus in the Bauxite, Benton, Bryant or Harmony Grove School District to park and pray for 15-30 minutes for the health, safety and success of all staff, faculty and students on the eve of the new school year.

Continue to remember:

Coleman Brady
Joe Campbell
Charles Caradine
Cash Clancy
Casey Cochran
Cam Copeland
Rob Dedman
Nick Dobson
Susan Dorsey
Don & Patricia Flowers
Mike Frost
Kelley Geurin
Alta Halligan
Roger Harris
Danny Hurst
Bud Kirkpatrick
Mike Knappier
Wilma Lunsford
James & Margarete Mayberry
Carole Mayes
Ann Norton
Wanda Otwell
Jordan Parsons
Carol Pillow
Suzanne Reed
Diana Richard
Bess Sanders
Johnny Scroggins
Micah Sexson
Patsy Steele
Phil Stinnett
Letha Styles
Fred & Edith Swaim
Randy Townsend
Ricky & Sissy Treat
Jim Wells
Ruth Whitmire
Autumn Wilder
Angela Wilson
Bartha Wise
Syble Womack