

# The Lakeview Lamp

*"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." - Psalm 119:105*

**June 11, 2006**

## *My Faithful Father*

Jennifer K. Mercer

(The following song was written several months ago by my friend Jennifer Mercer, whose husband Richard died last weekend after battling health issues for around a year. She said, "It is a song I created during a long night of despair." May it be a comfort to those who are dealing with a long night of despair of your own. – TN)

*With our loving heav'nly Father,  
There is peacefulness and rest;  
When we walk with Him beside us,  
Then our every day is blessed.*

*And so I'll follow Him in faithfulness,  
Put my trust in One so true~  
My Lord, My King, Almighty God,  
day by day, my strength renew.*

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*In the morning I awaken,  
Read His word , bow down in prayer;  
I come before His throne in confidence,  
Cast on Him my every care.*

*Because I know He'll be there always,  
A true shelter for my soul;  
Through brightest days and darkest nights,  
It's His love that makes me whole.*

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*In the times of wondrous blessings  
We can feel His tender care;  
But do we also know He walks with us  
In the times of great despair?*

*Yet each trial lasts but a moment,  
And draws us closer to His side,  
And so I'll trust in His abiding love,  
My help, my Hope, my Guide.*

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*In the midst of pain, be joyful,  
Pray for strength, and stand in faith;  
Wait on Him who is our comfort,  
for His child He'll not forsake.*

*And then you'll see His mighty power,  
As you receive your answered prayers...  
I am precious to Him, as His child,  
and for me, always, He cares.*

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*And so I'll follow Him in faithfulness,  
Put my trust in One so true~  
My Lord, My King, Almighty God,  
day by day, my strength renew.*

*My Lord, My King, Almighty God,  
day by day, my strength renew.  
day by day, my strength renew.*



Jennifer, who has her own health issues, also said “More and more, I understand the verse, ‘*My grace is sufficient for you, My power is perfected in weakness...*’ (2 Cor 12:9). The weaker I am, the more obvious it is that any strength I have is from the Lord. ‘*If the Lord is for us, who can be against us?*’ (Romans 8:31). I pray always that our trials and pain can be used in some way to glorify our Father in heaven. Our reactions to trying situations will either glorify or shame Him. There are many in my family who are not saved. I pray that the strength that God gives to Richard and me to endure will soften their hearts, and that the visual of God working on our behalf will be a mighty example of His power and His mercy. For we are none of us worthy! And if even one can be saved thru this trial for us, it is surely worth all it has cost us and more. I pray for God’s peace and blessings to you all.”

When going through his own great despair, Job said of God, “*Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him*” (Job 13:15). May we all have that same attitude as we go through our own times of great despair, remembering that we serve a faithful Father.

*“The length of our days is seventy years – or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.” – Psalm 90:10*

# **Family News**

**Patsy Bronson**, Jim Stubblefield's mother, is scheduled to receive a pacemaker on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Mary Burnett** was in the hospital from late Saturday until Tuesday. She is now home and doing better. **Andrew Cherry**, Sarah and Julia's brother, will have surgery on Tuesday. This will be to place pins in his arm (which was broken recently).

**Nathan Fultz**, who used to attend here, is scheduled for an MRI this Tuesday evening. This will be a 6-month follow-up to see if any growth is noted on the tumor.

**Sandra Hunt** has pain in her right shoulder and arm. She returns to the doctor on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**John Jenkins**, Robert's father, has lung cancer. He is very weak and is not eating well. Overall he is not doing well.

**Pat Jordan**, Brian Neighbour's aunt, has advanced cancer. She is in a nursing home and remains about the same.

**Ruth Kelly**, who used to attend here, has cancer and is now on hospice care.

**Jennifer Lindzy**, Fran Pickens' 33-year-old granddaughter, has cancer. She has now completed half of the treatments. They did a test on Friday to see if there has been any improvement (no results yet). She is scheduled to be readmitted to the hospital today for another round of chemotherapy.

**Allen Malone** continues to work in Vietnam. He will return home in two weeks. There is a new report in the back.

**There is a new report from Fred Newman in the back of the auditorium.**

**Cotton Read** had eye surgery to put in a new lens last Tuesday. So far he remains unable to see.

**Laura Reed** has had a virus recently.

**Robert Wray** has cataracts. He is scheduled for surgery on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **Bansemers** (back late today); **Ian Cherry** (back tom.); **Justin Edwards** (military); **Ray & Karen Moore** (here today, gone most of week); **Nicholsons** (gone Wed. - Sat.); **Lyda Plank**.

## **Lakeview church of Christ**

**132 New Shackle Island Road**

**P.O. Box 514**

**Hendersonville TN 37077**

**Building: 615-824-1376**

**[www.BibleSaints.com](http://www.BibleSaints.com)**

**Bible Call: 615-824-1310**

Troy Nicholson  
[troyjenn@intergate.com](mailto:troyjenn@intergate.com)

*"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).*