

The screen on my office phone is fading. I have tried to adjust the contrast and the brightness in a myriad of different ways, but it is still faded. I can see what it says if I adjust my head the right way and look at it in just the right light, but any angle under the just right one it is faded.

I have days when I feel like that screen. I feel like I am fading and like I can keep up the facade as long as people are looking in just the right place, but if they were to look at me from a different angle or in a different light they would see that I am struggling, just trying to make it through the week.

Have you ever felt like that? Like you are fading? Like you are tired, but the rest that you are looking for is too many days away or not in sight at all.

In *The Fellowship of the Rings* Bilbo tells Gandalf, "I feel thin..sort of stretched like butter scraped over too much bread." I come back to that idea often. I find myself pushing through, trying to find the right things to say, the right moments to move, the right ways to spend my resources and energy, but I end up feeling stretched and thin. If I'm not careful, like pizza dough stretched too much, I will develop tears and holes as I try to get everything accomplished.

If you have ever felt this way too, guess what — the Bible has hope for you. In my daily reading today I stumbled on this verse. Lamentations 3:19–24 (CSB)

τZayin

Remember my affliction and my homelessness,
the wormwood and the poison.
I continually remember them
and have become depressed.,
Yet I call this to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

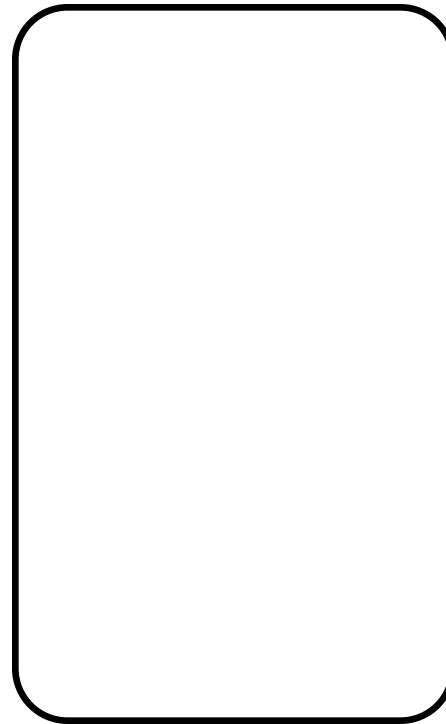
nCheth

Because of the LORD's faithful love
we do not perish,
for his mercies never end.
They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness!
I say, "The LORD is my portion,
therefore I will put my hope in him."

I sometimes feel like I am fading. I sometimes feel stretched thin, but I can call this to mind and have hope. The Lord's mercies never end. They are new and fresh every morning. The Lord is my portion. I will put my hope in him.

On those days when you are feeling stretched; on those days when every word seems like one more attack; on those days when tears seem to live at the corners of your eyes, you have hope. The God who loves you calls you to rest. The God who loves you has a yoke that is easy and a burden that is light. Trust in Him. Hope in Him. He will see you through.

Shane



Weekly Activities

SUNDAY

Sunday School - 9:30 am
Worship - 8:15 am & 10:45 am
Evening Worship - 6:00 pm
Children's Bible Study - 6:00 pm
Youth Bible Study - 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service - 6:30 pm
Youth Bible Study - 6:30 pm
Children's Bible Study - 6:30 pm

COOKIE BRIGADE

Sept. 10 - Pam Samuels
Sept. 24 - Sheri Wright



Help us spread the Good News to children around the world by participating in Operation Christmas Child year-round. The item for August is: **Small or Deflated Sports Balls & Pumps.**

Welcome
to our
New Members

Layla Hall
Doug & Hannah Johnson
Lance Tullis

so glad you are here.

Phone: 270.534.1900
www.friendshiponthenet.org
www.facebook.com/friendshiponthenet
Dr. Jason Browning, Pastor
Rev. Shane Yancey,
Minister to Students & Children
Rev. Chad Davidson,
Minister of Music & Worship

Budget Receipts

Required to Date: \$ 360,923
Received to Date: \$ 373,828

Nursery Volunteers

September 3

8:15 a.m. — Christa Copeland
10:45 a.m. — Andrew & Lacy Halligan
Cathy & Lauren Barks

September 10

8:15 a.m.— Debbie Larson
10:45 a.m. — Kara Allard & Susan Knight
Robbie Spees & Kelly Dixon

September 17

8:15 a.m. — Billie Stuber
10:45 a.m. — Sheri Wright & Patty Bickerstaff
Erin & Jeff Ashenfelter

September 24

8:15 a.m. — Bridget Browning
10:45 a.m. — Nathan & Kathryn Thomas
Phyllis Rambo & Andrea Brewer

The LINK

Friendship Baptist Church

146 S. Friendship Rd.
Paducah KY 42003

Volume 23

September 2023

Number 9

Ministry
Team
NIGHT



Wednesday, September 6
6:30 p.m.

As the new church year begins, Ministry Team Night allows teams to select a chair, begin planning the budget process, and make plans for the 2023-24 church calendar. All Ministry Teams will meet with the exception of Personnel, Finance, Nominating & Youth. There will be Bible Study in the Worship Center for those not involved on a ministry team.



“I will ask the Father,
and He will give you another Helper,
that He may be with you forever;
that is the Spirit of truth,
whom the world cannot receive,
because it does not see Him or know Him,
but you know Him because
He abides with you and will be in you.”
(John 14:16-17)

Do you remember dinner without YouTube, TikTok, social media, and text messages? Do you remember enjoying each other's company, uninterrupted by technology? We are quickly losing the art of communication and intimacy – and I believe it is impacting the time we spend alone with God.

Although Jesus preceded the high-tech age, He was in constant demand as multitudes pursued Him both day and night. Nevertheless, Mark 1:35 tell us: “**In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there.**” Jesus prioritized time to be alone with His Father.

It certainly requires discipline on our part to eliminate life's noise and distractions and be still in His presence and listen. But if you practice it, you will discover a life-changing intimacy and fellowship with God. Would you invest a few minutes reading John chapters 14–16, and let your spirit absorb Jesus' message? You will discover that He wants His disciples to have peace, and He comforts them with the assurance that they are never left alone.

So, how can you find God's peace and comfort? It really is an inside job, because the Holy Spirit abides in you. Jesus told His disciples, “**I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever...**” The Holy Spirit indwells every believer and He is available to provide everything we need to handle life's difficulties. The Helper was promised by the Son, sent by the Father, and today He is ours by faith. Will you embrace Him, trust His power, experience His peace, and follow His unfailing guidance? This is the key to experiencing His peace and comfort.

God is good! All the time!

Jason

Mark Your Calendar for These Upcoming Events:

- September 6 — Ministry Team Night
- September 17 — Adult Choir Retreat
- October 29 — Labor For Your Neighbor
- October 31 — Fall Festival
- November 12 — OCC Packing Party
- November 19 — Harvest Meal



September



- 3 1:30 p.m. — Hawkins Baby Shower
- 4 Labor Day (office closed)
- 5 10:30 a.m. — JOY Club
6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 1
- 6 5:30 a.m. — Family Night Supper
6:30 p.m. — Ministry Team Night
- 10 9:00 a.m. — Coffee & Donuts
7:00 p.m. — Deacons
- 12 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 2
- 13-19 Cuba Mission Trip
- 17 Adult Choir Retreat
- 19 10:30 a.m. — Women on Mission
6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 3
- 20 5:30 p.m. — Finance Team
6:30 p.m. — Business Meeting
- 26 6:00 p.m. — Operation Andrew, Team 1

Tuesdays @ 6:30 a.m. — Men's Prayer Group
Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. —
Ladies Bible Study (begins Sept. 14)
Saturdays @ 8:00 a.m. — Men's Prayer Group

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER HONORING

Audrey and Nathan Hawkins

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1:30 - 3:00 PM
FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
146 S. FRIENDSHIP ROAD, PADUCAH, KY 42003

REGISTERED AT: [AMAZON.COM/BABYREGISTRY](https://www.amazon.com/babyregistry)

With Deepest Sympathy
Bro. Jason & the Friendship Family express Christian love and sympathy to the family of Rosemary Holland. Please remember this family in prayer.

Coffee & Donuts — Sunday, September 10 at 9:00 a.m. in the KidZone. Plan to join us for a time of fellowship before Sunday School!

JOY CLUB The JOY Club will go to Adams Breezy Hill Farm in Princeton on Tuesday, September 5. Meet at the church at 10:30 a.m. to ride the bus. Plan to join us!

Family Night Supper Wednesday, September 6 at 5:00 p.m. The menu is: Smoked Pork Loin, Cowboy Beans, Potato Casserole, Rolls & Dessert. Sign up in the worship center or call the church office by noon on Tuesday, September 5 if you plan to attend.



A lone teenager's masterful poetic message finds its way around the world.

Occasionally, in the search for information concerning the story behind a particular hymn obstacles are encountered. Such is the case with one of our best-loved hymns, "My Jesus, I Love Thee."

It was not until recent years that the identity of the teenage songwriter, William Ralph Featherstone (1846-1873), became known. It is reported that he probably grew up in Canada, and it was in Toronto in 1862, that he became a Christian. His conversion experience must have been extraordinary because soon afterward, and in connection with that life-changing event, the 16-year-old wrote a poem, which is still meaningful to millions of people in many lands.

Some historians have said that William mailed the poem to a relative in Los Angeles. From there, it probably made its way to England in as much as it appeared in print in The London Hymnal, published in 1864, just two years following his conversion.

Years later, in Boston, Massachusetts, as Pastor A. J. Gordon was busy compiling a hymnal for Baptist congregations, he saw in The London Hymnbook Featherstone's "My Jesus I Love Thee." However, he was not at all impressed with the musical setting. He was a masterful pianist, so he wrote different music for young Featherstone's poem, music that has carried the lyrics to every corner of our world.

*My Jesus I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now*

*I love Thee because Thou has first loved me;
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now*

*I'll love Thee in life and I will love Thee in death;
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow;
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now*

*In mansions of glory and endless delight;
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now*

Under the Master's Baton,
Bro. Chad

Ladies Bible Study — Join us for the 7-session study "The Gospel on the Ground" as we learn about the life of the early church in the book of Acts, and that the Kingdom of God is always on the move, always looking outward to bring meaning and joy to a world searching for true fulfillment and hope. This study begins September 14, 9:30 a.m. or 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$20. See Melissa Hawkins for information.