### Sept Birthdays:



Jeanne Strawn -1<sup>st,</sup> Mary Jones – 5<sup>th</sup>, Jim Thornburg -7<sup>th</sup>, Jeff Lewis, Riley Helmick – 13<sup>th</sup>, Josh Eagon - 15<sup>th</sup>, Cary Leach - 17<sup>th</sup>, Judy Lucas – 20<sup>th</sup>, Wesley Lewis - 21<sup>st</sup>, Jeremy Hall – 23<sup>rd</sup>, Dee Dee – 24<sup>th,</sup> Mary Lou Carpenter - 25<sup>th</sup>, Blake Burkhart – 29<sup>th</sup> Carl Lewis - 30<sup>th</sup>

Duty Roster	Sunday AM	Sun PM	Wed
Announcement	Jeff Lewis	Jeff Lewis	Zach Leach
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Rick Lucas	Jared Kernen	Darren Leach
Song Leader	Darren Leach	Wesley Lewis	Gary Lucas Jr
Preside Table	Ty Leach	Jeff Lewis	
Bread Fruit of vine Offering Bulletins	Mike Anderson Cary Leach Rick Hamilton Colby Strawn		
Script Reading	Tony Wells	Easton Hall	
Lesson / Inv.	Zach Leach	Rick Lucas	Mike Anderson
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Jake Leach	Eric Kernen	Ty Leach



Building Lockup: Jeff Lewis & Josh Eagon

Meeting Times		
Sunday:	Bible Study – 9:30 am	
	Worship – 10:30 am	
Sunday Evening:	Worship: 6:00 pm	
Wednesday:	Bible Study & Worship – 7:00 pm	

Anyone wishing to be baptized please contact one of the elders or deacons .

West Main Anchor

Hebrews 6:19a Which *hope* we have as an *anchor* of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil

# "Little Strokes Fell Great Oaks"

Ben Franklin



#### Psalm 1:1-3

"How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers."



09-17-2023

WEST MAIN STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

237 West Main Street, Barnesville, Ohio 43713

WHEN YOU PRAY, PLEASE REMEMBER:

Dee Dee, Greg Wehr, Kodee Leach, Betty Eddy, Ida Blatt, Connie Willison, Mary Jones, Vivian Anderson, Allen Withrow.

Study the Bible

Would you like to be more familiar with the scriptures? Ask us about our Bible correspondence program.

## **Little Strokes Fell Great Oaks**

#### Author: Unknown

We've all done it. We commit ourselves to making some serious changes. Losing weight. Becoming debt free. Reading our Bible every day. So, we make the decision, get ourselves motivated for the change, and start putting a plan in place. Maybe we even write down specific goals and read books to help us do it right. For the first week or so things look good, and our motivation stays high, then problems arise. We get sick. A major problem gets dropped on us at work. We get tired and stressed. The next thing we know, our motivation is gone and so is our goal. Many times, this is where it ends.

One of the most difficult challenges in life is self-improvement. This is the case because our goals seem so enormous and we usually we try to tackle too much at once. Benjamin Franklin wisely said, "Little strokes fell great oaks." The changes we want to make are often these massive oaks in our lives and the plan we put in place attempts to chop it down huge chunks at a time with massive swings. But soon we tire out, our motivational axes become dull, and we give up at the gigantic goal tree in front of us.

The problem is our mindset. The goal just seems too long, too big, and too hard. So, when the first challenge hits us, it's a challenge to bounce back. This is when a change in thinking is most valuable. Perhaps the best frame of mind is to focus not on the big goal, but simply on becoming 1% better every day. That is it, just 1% each day.

Here is the new zoom link. It will be used for Sunday and Wednesday services. This is also posted on our website. West Main Street CoC's Zoom Meeting Room Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3048575705?pwd=VHRub2ZJeW5T Q0xJTEhkcDhTOHJmdz09 Meeting ID: 304 857 5705 Passcode: 12345 Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 So, if a person's goal were to do 100 pushups, then they would start with one on the first day, two on the second day, and so on until they were doing 100 pushups each day.

While there is certainly value in eating better and losing weight, as Paul pointed out, "for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come" (1 Timothy 4:8). We need to be the people who are striving daily for spiritual gain. The problem is this is hard to do. These oaks are sometimes the largest of them all. Praying with consistency. Reading through the Bible. Really studying the word with depth. Once again, taking "little strokes" will help us to take down these "big oaks." If we strive to become just 1% better every day, we will make huge improvements over time. This is typically more than we could say after we have burnt out and quit with previous goals.

Psalm 1:1-3 says it well, "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers." We know must be people who are learning and growing from Scripture (Ephesians 4:15; Hebrews 6:1). But how does a person get to the point of meditating on Scripture day and night? By attacking it with small strokes.

We can take amazing steps in our spiritual growth if we keep working. Perhaps just striving for 1% improvement per day is the best mindset. No matter which method works best for you, let us just make sure we keep learning, growing, and striving towards heaven (2 Peter 1:5-11).

The Elders: Jeff Lewis – 425-9269, Darren Leach 238-1370 & Rick Lucas 782-1748 Deacons: Mike Anderson, Ty Leach & Matt Palmer,