

- In Memory -

**Dr. Michael "Mike" C. West**

1957 - 2023



### The Tenant

*This body is my house — it is not I; herein I sojourn till, in some far sky,  
I lease a fairer dwelling, built to last till all the carpentry of time is past.*

*(In a new house away from) this lone star, what shall I care where these poor timbers are?  
What, though the crumbling walls turn dust and loam — I shall have left them for a larger home.*

- Frederick Lawrence Knowles -

The following hymn was one of Mike's favorites.

(Adapted due to space constraints)

### I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away;  
To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.  
When the shadows of this life have grown, I'll fly away;  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away.  
Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away;  
To a land where joys shall never end, I'll fly away.  
I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away;  
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

- Albert E. Brumley -

*"...Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth:  
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them. - Rev. 14:13*

*"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

- Rev. 21:4

### What Is Faith?

What is faith? Some say faith is trusting God to do everything for you. Some say faith is believing that you can change the world. The Bible says, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). Faith is an essential ingredient in the plan of salvation. But the faith that saves is the faith that obeys (John 8:24; Romans 6:3, 4).

Think about the house you live in or the car you drive. What substance is it made of? Is it a strong substance or a weak substance? If it is weak then you are not safe. Now think about your faith — is it strong or weak? It is important for you to know that you can control how strong or weak your faith is. How can you strengthen your faith? The Bible says, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17). You strengthen your faith by learning about God's word. When Jesus was tempted by the Devil in the wilderness, He simply said, over and over. "It is written ... It is written ... It is written ..." (Matthew 4:1-10). Jesus knew the scriptures, and this protected Him from the Devil. Remember Psalm 119:1, "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord."

Abundant faith builds the abundant life (John 10:10).

- Mark Dillon, *The Gospel Gleaner*, Hickory Ridge, AR -

*Spiritual fitness comes from "exercising" your faith.*

### News & Notes

**SYMPATHY:** To the **West Family** at the passing of Mike after his long painful fight with cancer. To Tammy, their daughters Sarah Hill (Geoff), Rachel Kelly (Tyler), their grandchildren, Mike's sister, Abby, extended family members and Mike's many friends. Also to the **Wright Family** at the unexpected passing of Jason's brother, **Richard**. God bless and comfort these families in their sorrow.

**BAPTISMS:** **Noah Toomey**, 675 Gear Rd., New Cumberland, WV 26047, Phone: (267) 565-7345. **Joseph Brubaker**, 205 Carolina Ave., Chester, WV 26034. Phone: 740-971-8094. Welcome and encourage these new brothers.

**LABOR DAY COOKOUT & PICNIC:** **Monday, Sept. 4th, 1:00 p.m.** at Thompson Park, Pavilion 1. Sponsored by the Chester and St. Clair Avenue Congregations.

**SECRET SISTER REVEAL:** **Sunday, Sept. 10th** following the morning worship.

**GOSPEL MEETING:** **Sept. 11-13**, St. Clair Ave. Church of Christ. Studies in Philippians. **Speaker:** Steve Stevens.

**LADIES DAY:** **Saturday, Sept. 23rd, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**, McGuffey Road Church of Christ, Youngstown, OH. Additional details on the bulletin board.

**OUR FALL GOSPEL MEETING:** **Sept. 24-28** with Charles Pugh. **Five weeks from today.** Plan to be here for every service and invite others.

**PANTRY:** Dinty Moore Stew.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** **St. Elizabeth Hospital (Rehab):** Nancy Hadley, 1044 Belmont Ave., Room 5516-A, Youngstown, OH 44504. **Weirton Medical:** Melissa Rosohac (Covid, 3rd time). **At Home:** Anita Hopwood, Glenn McMahan, Linda Parkes, Peggy Linger, Nancy Cox, Blondenia Orr, Barbara DeLong, David Strum, Cheryl Renfro Walker, Lori Rowand (John Sprout's niece). **Fox - Chester:** Mary Johnson (Lois Hissom's sister). **In Ohio:** Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Drive, Lisbon, OH 44432.

### God Grant Us Hope, Faith and Love

by Helen Steiner Rice

**Hope** for a world grown cynically cold,

Hungary for power and greedy for gold ...

**Faith** to believe when within and without

There's a nameless fear in a world of doubt ...

**Love** that is bigger than race or creed,

To cover the world and fulfill each need ...

God grant these gifts of **Faith, Hope and Love** —

Three things the world has so little of ...

For only these gifts from our Father above

Can turn man's sins from hatred to love!