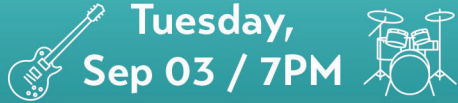


MARY SHARP

Is moving to Batavia.
We will add her address
next week.

PRAISE TEAM REHEARSAL

Tuesday,
Sep 03 / 7PM




21st Church Anniversary
Mercy Community Church
Bartlett, Illinois

Saturday,
Sep 14 @ 6:00 PM
*You are invited
to this great celebration!*

Guest Speaker Pastor Terry Black



CONNECTION CARD

in order to "MEASURE" our church in five key areas. There will be a summary report each week in the bulletin that identifies those five key metrics.

Please turn in your card each week. Members, leaders and guests will be asked to turn these in.

Each week everyone will be asked to fill out a Connection Card



THE Beauty OF the In-Between

FINDING GOD IN THE
SILENCE, THE STRUGGLE, AND
THE PLACES IN-BETWEEN

Sep 01 » The Places In-Between
Sep 08 » Lion and Bear Steps
Sep 15 » Theology for the Middle
Sep 22 » Clarity Addicts
Sep 29 » A Heart for God in
the Palace

PRAYER REQUESTS

► SALVATION

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jason G. | <input type="checkbox"/> Ray H. | <input type="checkbox"/> Gearen Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Tom M. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brian H. | <input type="checkbox"/> Karen W. | <input type="checkbox"/> Rick L. | <input type="checkbox"/> Stein Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benjamin G. | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheyenne W. | <input type="checkbox"/> Mike F. | <input type="checkbox"/> Kirk Aricioglu |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan K. | <input type="checkbox"/> Tyler M. | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill S. | <input type="checkbox"/> Dave S. |

► HEALTH ISSUES

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suzie S. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Barb G. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Chrissy M. » Seizures |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kenny D. » Nuerological | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael D. » MS | <input type="checkbox"/> Eduardo » Dis. Shoulder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shirley K. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken R. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael C. » Health Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toni R. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Keith M. » Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill S., Sr. » Cancer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sam H. » Cardiac Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Craig B. » Leukemia | <input type="checkbox"/> Roy M. » Int. Care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Danny R. » ALS | <input type="checkbox"/> Corrine A. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Bethany » Health Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ruth H. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Cindy S. » Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> Art B. » Health Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phyllis L. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Barb M. » Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> Dave S. » Lymphnode Cancer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jean G. » Health Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Karen W. » Heart Rhythm | <input type="checkbox"/> Denny G. » Health Issues |

► OTHER

- Gabe G. » Guidance

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“Faith doesn’t deny a problem’s existence. It denies it a place of influence.” —Bill Johnson

METRICS THAT MATTER (08/25/19)

ATTENDANCE ► 42 GIVING ► \$733 GUESTS ► 0
VOLUNTEERS ► 21 DECISIONS FOR CHRIST ► 0



THE Places In-Between

"LIFE IS ANYTHING BUT NEAT, CLEAN OR PREDICTABLE, AND NEITHER IS GOD'S PROCESS. GOD'S PROCESS IS FULL OF UPS AND DOWNS, ZIG ZAGS, UNCERTAINTIES, STRUGGLES, SEASONS OF DOUBT, AND TIMES WHERE WE FEEL GOD HAS COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN US. IT MAY NOT FIT OUR PLAN, BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN IT'S NOT GOD'S PROCESS." MATTHEW NELSON

Four Phases ASSOCIATED WITH In-Between Places

1 SOVEREIGN FOUNDATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL TO GOD'S PROCESS

Now David was the son of a man named Jesse, an Ephrathite from Bethlehem in the land of Judah. Jesse was an old man at that time, and he had eight sons. David was the youngest son. David's three oldest brothers stayed with Saul's army, but David went back and

forth so he could help his father with the sheep in Bethlehem.

1 Samuel 17:12, 14-15 NLT

- Family origins
- Personality characteristics
- Good and bad experiences
- Character traits



This is a season of

PREPARATION

CONVERSION/ALL-OUT SURRENDER NORMALLY OCCURS IN THIS PHASE.

2 INNER LIFE GROWTH IS BASIC TO GOD'S PROCESS

There he built his sanctuary as high as the heavens, as solid and enduring as the earth. He chose his servant David, calling him from the sheep pens. He took David from tending the ewes and lambs and made him the shepherd of Jacob's descendants—God's own people, Israel. He cared for them with a true heart and led them with skillful hands. **Psalm 78:69-72**



- Formal/non-formal training
- God's tests: integrity; obedience; submission
- Solitude

This is a season of
TRAINING

3 USE OF OUR GIFTS IS EXPECTED IN GOD'S PROCESS

But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear;

this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

1 Samuel 17:34-37

This is a season of
OUTREACH



4 USE OF OUR GIFTS WITH POWER TAKES PLACE IN GOD'S PROCESS

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, "We are your own flesh and blood. In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'" When all the elders of Israel had come to

King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel.

2 Samuel 5:1-3

- Influence over others
- Faithfulness is rewarded
- Gifts are used to lift others and extend life

This is a season of
CONVERGENCE





"Life is anything but neat, clean or predictable, and neither is God's process. God's process is full of ups and downs, zig zags, uncertainties, struggles, seasons of doubt, and times where we feel God has completely forgotten us. It may not fit our plan, but it doesn't mean it's not God's process. In fact, It's highly possible that God is not trying to get us from point A to point B by the quickest route possible. Maybe there are more important things at stake than our arrival. Maybe he's intentionally taking us the long way because that's the only remedy for a transformed soul.

Maybe, just maybe, God is big enough and sovereign enough that his process doesn't have to be direct or look anything like we think it should."

MATTHEW NELSON