



# Dekle Dispatch

**Update on the Dekles**

**November 2022**

**Dr. & Mrs. John Dekle**

**6310 Cedar Cove Ln**

**Harrison TN**

**37341-9668**

**home**

**(423)508-8051**

**John cell**

**(423) 364-1268**

**Turning411@Yahoo.com**

**Di cell**

**(423) 902-2576**

**Disews247@Yahoo.com**

1 John 4:14

The Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the World.



The holiday season has kicked into full force around here. This is a great time to reflect on all God has done for us and all mankind. Our times are in God's hands and we are so grateful for that assurance. When God moved Abraham out of Ur, he did not know where he was going but by faith trusted God to lead him. We never know what tomorrow holds, but if we know who is in control of our tomorrows and follow Him, we will have no regrets.

The phrase "you reap what you sow" has been on my mind lately. On my prayer list I have an entry of "PTL". This is a reminder for me to take some time to reflect on all of God's goodness to me and give Him thanks for His blessings. Often the phrase "you reap what you sow" is focusing on the sowing aspect for people in the Spring/Summer seasons of life. How true this saying is. As we progress to the Autumn/Winter seasons of life we may begin to focus more on the reaping aspects. We are still sowing if we are living, but I think we understand the reaping concept better. If we are unhappy with that which we are reaping, we need to focus on sowing something better not blame others for what we now reap.

Having walked with the Lord and sought to follow His plan for our lives we find little regrets in life. We have not always known where He was leading us but by faith we did what we felt He wanted us to do. Our plans for retirement were ultimately in God's hands.

He led us to Tennessee and now we see some of what He had in store for us. Recently our pastor resigned with 2 weeks notice. In seeking God's will it was clear God did not want me to volunteer to be the interim pastor but I agreed to handle all the administrative aspects of the church during this period of time. Our son Tim is here with us for the winter and the deacons asked him to be the interim pastor—to preach on Sunday morning and teach the mid-week study. He has been doing a brilliant job. (How did we get such a smart godly son?) It has been a joy to watch him in this role.

The homecoming event, mentioned in the last newsletter, Oct 2nd, turned out well. The special musical group scheduled to sing for Homecoming called that morning at 7:15 to cancel as their lead singer woke up sick. It was a scramble but we were able to recruit several willing singers to perform that afternoon. God has blessed us with a church family that is very willing to serve Him. This was evident recently when we had the opportunity to help a handicapped man in the church who needed a place to stay. A dozen of us enclosed a porch with walls inside and out, ceiling, flooring, insulation and ran electrical lights and outlets.

Now as we enter the holiday season we are planning to use an advent candle working up to Christmas day. We also have a special Christmas eve service planned. We are working toward a

number of events for outreach in the months ahead. Our congregation is small but there is good unity and willingness to serve the Lord. Our daughter-in-law, Mari, is helping to revitalize the children's ministry by teaching Sunday morning and Wed. evenings. Our prayer is to attract new families with children to rebuild that area of the church. I am looking to focus the congregation toward being more involved in prayer. With so much going on in December, I think I will wait until January to emphasize prayer. My goal is to recruit people willing to pray for every person in the church daily. If not daily at least a couple times weekly. We also want to initiate a prayer team to pray for special concerns that arise. God has already provided a leader for that.

I've always admired people of prayer but had a hard time being consistent and praying as much as I felt I should. Better than a year ago I started getting up during the night to pray. Of course, that is not for everyone but I believe we have to have a set time or we tend to be hit and miss in our praying. What can we pray for? I guess that is up to you and the Lord. I can give you an idea of what I pray about. On my prayer list

I have a list of missionaries and their families, our family (siblings, children & spouse, grand children and great grand-children), personal items of praise and concerns, friends, neighbors others individuals, supporters, people from the church that are not currently attending, all the people are in our church directory, and other things going on in the church. I have other goals to spend more time waiting on the Lord during my prayer time. I want to continue to grow in this area of my life. I guess I got to writing about myself and I want you to know Di is also involved in praying for the people of our church daily and reaching out to meet the needs of people. I hope this is somewhat informative as to what God is doing in our lives.

I trust you will have a wonderful Christmas season. Sorry no pictures this time. We continue to make things and look for ways we can bless others. Di just completed a quilt for the man which we built out the room. She has been busy sewing items for others too. I turned some lighthouse ornaments which will be used with an explanation of how they are a significant Christmas ornament because Jesus is the light of the world and all He brings to us. These will be used as center pieces at the Christmas dinner from the turning club in December. I hope you can have family with you this Christmas but most of all our Savior as you celebrate His birth and all God has given us. Our younger son, grand daughter, great granddaughter and my sister plan to be with us for Christmas along with Tim and Mari. A house full to celebrate our Savior's birth.

# From our family to yours

