

**We are a church with one mission:** to grow followers of Jesus through grateful worship, genuine community, and generous service to each other and our world. We believe by loving God and loving people we can have an impact that really matters, and would like to tell you more about that. If you are interested in being a part of what God is doing with us, or just have some questions, **fill out the contact card** or ask the person next to you. **Please feel free to call or email too if you have any questions.**

## FAMILY NEWS AND NOTES

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### GOD'S FAMILY TIMES

**BIBLE CLASSES**  
Building—9:30 am Sunday

**WORSHIP**  
Building—10:30 am Sunday

**GROWTH GROUPS**  
Grose's -- 6 p.m. Sunday  
Tonkin's -- 6 p.m. Sunday

**BIBLE CLASSES**  
Building—7 pm Wednesday

**Family Covered Dish Dinner:** TODAY after services. Hope you planned to stay.

**No** dinners before classes for November and December because of the holidays.

**Ladies' Class:** Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. at the Building. The lesson will be on Discouragement.

2018 Sign-up sheets for monthly communion preparation and organizing the Wednesday night meal are on the bulletin board. Please sign up if you can serve the body in this way.

Regular monthly support for our Betikara lamb, Toavina, for November & December is being collected. Please give your donations **directly** to Sally Duriez.

Sally Duriez is also collecting a little extra money this month for Toavina for a Christmas present. If you are so inclined please give your donation **directly** to Sally by **November 26th**. Ample time is needed to send and receive the gift in time for his caregivers to shop for needed items.

*Happy Birthday*

11/7 Shirley Stiles

11/19 Sam Kirk

11/19 Chris Masterson

*Happy Anniversary*

11/18 Bob & Ronna Reininger

## PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER

**PS:**

family and their ministry in North Africa. Pray for peace and protection, for what God wants and for many connections with others God has called there. mercies and renewed connections as they are in the states on furlough until the

# FAMILY MATTERS

*Indiana*

*Church of Christ*

724.463.7240

November 12, 2017

PART TWO

## **The Most Dangerous Thing Luther Did**

*And other facts about Bible translation that transformed the world*  
BEN WITHERINGTON III-- professor of New Testament interpretation at Asbury Theological Seminary

### **Forerunners and Followers**

Too few people, however, have said enough about the precursors to Luther's act of translating the Bible into the vernacular. For example, John Wycliffe's team preceded Luther by a good 140 years with the translation of the Bible into Middle English between 1382 and 1395. Wycliffe himself was not solely responsible for the translation; others, such as Nicholas of Hereford, are known to have done some of the translating. The difference between the work of the Wycliffe team and Luther is that no textual criticism was involved; the Wycliffe team worked directly from the Latin Vulgate. In addition, Wycliffe included not only what came to be called the Apocrypha, he threw in 2 Esdras and the second-century work Paul's Letter to the Laodiceans as a bonus.

Like Luther's efforts, Wycliffe's work was not authorized by any ecclesiastical or royal authority, but it became enormously popular. And the fallout was severe. Henry IV and his archbishop Thomas Arundel worked hard to suppress the work, and the Oxford Convocator of 1408 voted that no new translation of the Bible should be made by anyone without official approval. Wycliffe, however, had struck a match, and there was no putting out the fire.

Perhaps the most poignant tale of this era is that of William Tyndale. Tyndale lived from 1494–1536 and was martyred for translating the Bible into English. Tyndale, like Luther, translated directly from the Hebrew and the Greek, except presumably for cross-referencing and checking. He actually only finished the New Testament, completing about half of his Old Testament translation before his death. His was the first mass-produced Bible in English.

As Alister McGrath was later to note, the King James Version (KJV), or Authorized Version, of the early 1600s (in several editions including the 1611 one) was not an original translation of the Bible into English but instead a rather wholesale taking over of Tyndale's translation with some help from the Geneva Bible and other translations. Many of the memorable turns of phrase in King James—"by the skin of his teeth," "am I my brother's keeper?" "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak," "a law unto themselves," and so forth—are phrases Tyndale coined. He had a remarkable gift for turning biblical phrases into memorable English.

But even the Authorized Version was not the first authorized English translation of the Bible.