

# PRAYER UPDATE

## PHYSICAL ILLNESSES & SURGERIES this past week

**Traci Stengl Ghaffarian** - has Leukemia and is undergoing chemo treatments. She had a bone marrow biopsy on 11/3 to determine if she is in remission. Please pray God will provide a bone marrow donor. Pray for healing along with strength for her family, especially her mom Cindi, who is her main caregiver.

**Hank Olson** - will be having heart valve replacement and double bypass surgery at Dominican on 11/12. Please pray for a successful surgery and for peace for Hank and his wife Gale as they go through his recovery together.

**Gail and John Bauer** - Gail is at Dominican due to an infection and John is in ICU.

**Steve Craig (TLC youth pastor)** - had bilateral knee replacements on 11/5 at Dominican. Please pray for peace for his family, pain management, mental fortitude during rehabilitation, miraculously quick recovery and opportunities to share his faith.

**June Parker** - has been diagnosed with cancer recently after 10 yrs of remission. Her surgery will be 11/10 at Sutter Hospital.

**To encourage our shut-ins (those unable to get to church) with a regular visit, or if you'd like us to visit your loved ones in the hospital contact Carrie Clark 465-3368 | care@tlc.org**

**A complete prayer list is available at the Info Desk.**

# THE SEVEN

HOPE FROM JESUS FOR TROUBLED TIMES

## TO PEOPLE WHO NEED ASSURANCE

MARK SPURLOCK NOVEMBER 7 & NOVEMBER 8

To the angel of the church in **Philadelphia** write... Revelation 3:7a



*Remaining pillars from a Byzantine-era church*

## PHILADELPHIA CITY PROFILE

- Founded by brothers famous for their love and loyalty
- Fertile volcanic soil made it prime wine country
- Frequent earthquakes—the city was leveled in 17 AD

*“...the walls never cease being cracked, and different parts of the city are constantly suffering damage. That is why the actual town has few inhabitants, but the majority live as farmers in the countryside...” Strabo*

- aka: Flavia & Neocaesarea following economic aid from “divine emperors”
- Festivals (religious & athletic) were especially popular

## WHEN YOU NEED ASSURANCE...

1. \_\_\_\_\_

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. Revelation 3:7b

I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an **open door** that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. Revelation 3:8

### What is the “open door”? Two interpretations:

• \_\_\_\_\_

(see 1 Cor. 16:9, 2 Cor. 2:12, Col. 4:3)

• \_\_\_\_\_

(see Luke 13:23-25, Rev. 3:12; 4:1)

2. \_\_\_\_\_

I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that **I have loved you**. Revelation 3:9

Since you have kept my command to **endure patiently**, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. Revelation 3:10 (see also: John 17:15)

3. \_\_\_\_\_

I am coming soon. **Hold on to what you have**, so that no one will take your crown. The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. Revelation 3:11-12

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. Revelation 3:13

### Bibliography

*Word Biblical Commentary: Revelation 1-5*, David Aune, 1997.

*The Seven Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia in Their Local Setting*, Colin Hemer, 1989.

*The New International Commentary on the New Testament: Revelation*, Robert Mounce, 1977.

## THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:

We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 1:3

## DAILY MEDITATIONS

Find them in the book “The Seven”, available at tables in the lobby or on line!

## TOUR THE SEVEN CHURCHES

MAY 16-28, 2016 · TURKEY AND GREECE TRIP

Join Rene for a tour of the seven churches of Revelation and more!

Get details at the info desk or [tlic.org](http://tlic.org)