

Leave room for God's wrath

"You deserve it!"

That's what Darren Osborne, a 47-year-old man from Cardiff, Wales, yelled after he plowed into pedestrians near a mosque in north London, witnesses say.

One man died and nine people were hospitalized after the assault, which followed attacks by extremists near London Bridge and in the city of Manchester, England. Islamic State terrorists claimed responsibility for those atrocities. The mosque attack appears to be retaliation for the previous acts of terror in the United Kingdom.

We shudder to acknowledge it, but Osborne's words reflect a darkness that we secretly harbor as we watch report after report of Islamic terror in Europe.

They hate us. They seek to enslave us, to destroy us. Don't they deserve to die?

At times like this, we're thankful to serve a God who doesn't give us what we deserve.

"The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed," King David writes in Psalm 103. God is "compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

"He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities."

How, then, should we respond to injustice? The apostle Paul gives counsel in Romans 12:17-19.

"Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord."

These words do not fade or lose their meaning with age. They are not subject to circumstance.

God's truth does not change.

The longer we live, the more time we spend in Scripture, the more we realize there truly is nothing new under the sun.

We mourn for the lives lost — for those deprived of days in which they might have encountered and been transformed by the life-giving power of the cross. We pray that their families may know the comfort of Christ and that the hardships they endure will point them to the Way.

As we wait for God's justice, we must do everything in our power to share his Gospel with this lost and dying world.

May God shine through us as he continues to deny us what we deserve.

- Editorial Council—The Christian Chronicle, June 2017

PRAYER LIST

- **Pauline Alvarez** (recovering from surgery)
- **Lauren Babb** (health)
- **John Beiler** (health)
- **James Bohannon** (Rex Boggs's cousin—health)
- **Keith Brown** (Wayne Brown's son—health)
- **Jim Carpenter** (Cody Chrismon's great uncle—health)
- **Dawn Clarke**
- **Betty Cox** (Brent Barnick's sister—homebound)
- **Bud Davis** (Sharron Mason's brother—health)
- **Dixie** (Debbie Faires's mother—Alzheimer's)
- **Jake Faires** (Air Force, deployed to Jordan)
- **Steven Faires, and Lexi**
- **Leon Giesecke** (Jan Moerbe's father—throat cancer)
- **Nelle Hahn** (health)
- **Gordon Hoffman** (Rex Boggs's friend—spiritual and physical health)
- **Josh Horn** (Jacob White's cousin—health)
- **Debbie Jalufka**
- **Molly Lind** (The Linds' daughter-in-law—recovering from auto accident)
- **Orvan Muelker** (Kathy Winegeart's father—health)
- **Norman Pennock** (Debbie Fougerat's step-father, health)
- **Ada Powell** (Sharron Mason's sister—health)
- **T.J. Reid** (Nelle Hahn's brother—health)
- **Jean Rice** (Rex Boggs's cousin—health)
- **Nancy Tuttle** (Peggy Walls's sister—health)
- **Edwin Weaver** (broken leg)
- **Catherine Winegeart** (Perry's mother—health)

If you have any announcements or prayer requests you wish to have included in the bulletin or to sign up for weekly e-mail updates, please contact Victoria Johnson: 325-518-9205, victoria@gonzaleschurchofchrist.org.

PRAYER UPDATES

Keith Brown, son of former member Wayne Brown, completed his final round of cancer treatments and is waiting on test results to make sure the treatment was successful.

Bud Davis, Sharron Mason's brother, began treatments for pancreatic cancer on Thursday.

Molly Lind, Henry and Pam's daughter-in-law, had a rough few days adjusting to the trach tube, but is beginning to breathe more on her own. She can also respond to questions by nodding and performing physical requests, like wiggling her toes. Yesterday, Molly was moved out of ICU and into Cornerstone LTAC in Houston Medical Center, a long-term care facility, which is a hospital that can address her acute physical needs until she is ready for a rehabilitation facility. She is adjusting to the new location and they are putting her on an aggressive program to recovery.

Please be in prayer for **Orvan Muelker**, Kathy Winegeart's father, and **Catherine Winegeart**, Perry's mother, as they struggle with health issues.

Nancy Tuttle, Peggy Walls's sister in California, suffered a stroke this past week.

Edwin Weaver was kicked by a horse on Thursday and suffered a broken shin bone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GISD Convocation Breakfast

The 2017 Gonzales ISD Teacher Convocation will be **this Thursday, August 10, 2017 from 8:00-9:00 a.m.** at the J.B. Wells Expo Center. The Chamber of Commerce will again be serving breakfast and is in need of volunteers to help with this event. **Volunteers are asked to arrive at the Expo Center by 7:20 a.m. to help set up and serve breakfast.** Please let Victoria know if you will be able to volunteer so the Chamber can be notified and delegate duties for the event.

Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive

Stuff the Bus is hosting a school supply drive on **August 15 and 17**. The drive will be at the Gonzales HEB on Tuesday, August 15 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. On Thursday, August 17, the drive will be at the Gonzales Wal-Mart, also from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. You may drop off supplies in the box in the foyer, or at the stores during the drive.

Wednesday Evening Meal & Bible Study

Please join us **at 5:15 p.m. this Wednesday** for dinner in the annex. **This week's entrée is hamburgers.** Anyone who is able is asked to bring sides to share, but please do not let that prevent you from joining us. Classes for all ages follow at 6 p.m.

Volunteers Needed: Wednesday Night Meals

Volunteers are needed to prepare the entrée for meals on Wednesday evenings. To help, please sign up in the foyer. **If you signed up to prepare a meal, please send Victoria your menu by Wednesday the week before.**

Volunteers Needed: Communion Prep

Volunteers are needed to prepare communion in the coming months. This task takes very little time and is a great service to the congregation. Please sign up on the large bulletin board in the foyer.

Sunday Night Small Group

There is a small group that meets in the annex each Sunday evening from 6-7 p.m. The Lord's Supper is available.

Tuesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at **6:20 a.m.** for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

