

Sunday, December 17		Sunday, December 24	
Greeters	Julie Carter & Shelia Dendy	Greeters	Matt, Jennifer & Keslee Addison
Bible Reading	Jerry Hall	Bible Reading	Kenneth Grover
Devotional Prayer	Kenneth Grover	Devotional Prayer	Aaron Fletcher
Song Leader (AM & PM)	Paull Gilliland	Song Leader (AM & PM)	James Rogers
Worship Prayer	Chris James	Worship Prayer	Paul Rogers
Lord's Table		Lord's Table	
(B) Jamie Patterson	(J) Chuck Cleghorn	(B) Chris James	(J) Tim LeMay
Frank Pitts	(O) Mark Biles	Jerry Hall	(O) Houston Hutto
Roger Jones	Harry James	Jamie Patterson	Ben Rogers
Bryant Addison	Roger McCaghren	Casey Pirtle	Rex Free
Announcements	Rex Free	Announcements	Paul Gilliland
Dismissal Prayer	Paul Rogers	Dismissal Prayer	Sam Scott
Control Room (Sunday & Wednesday)		Control Room (Sunday & Wednesday)	
-Streaming	Preston Grover	-Streaming	Tim Hester
-Songs/Audio	Sam Scott	-Songs/Audio	Mark Biles
Prepare Communion	Anna Hill & Kelli Barker	Prepare Communion	Benita James & Sabrina Standridge
Sunday Evening		Sunday Evening	
Opening Prayer	Marl Fuller	Opening Prayer	Brent James
Dismissal Prayer	Houston Hutto	Dismissal Prayer	Preston Grover
Wednesday, December 20		Wednesday, December 27	
Song Leader	Ben Rogers	Song Leader	Ken Nelson
Closing Prayer	Matt Addison	Closing Prayer	Ben Rogers
Ushers	Casey Pirtle-Aaron Fletcher	Ushers	David Scarbrough-Matt Addison
Lock Building	David Scarbrough-Sam Scott	Lock Building	David Scarbrough-Sam Scott

ELDERS	
Roger Thomas	Harry James
Brent James	Sam Scott
Nathan Lee	
MINISTER	David Barker
DEACONS	
Benevolence	
Deacon: Windell Denney	
Visitations	
Deacons: All	
Education	
Deacons: Jamie Patterson, Houston Hutto	
Missions	
Deacon: Larry Little	
Youth	
Deacon: Matt Addison	
Building & Grounds	
Deacons: Jamie Patterson, Aaron Fletcher	
Technology	
Deacon: Tim Hester	
Worship Assignments	

FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVATIONS
December 2
December 3
December 9
December 15
December 23
*Please see Harry James for all Fellowship Hall requests.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY			
Mark Biles	Dec 2	Chuck Cleghorn	Dec 22
Keslee Addison	Dec 5	Houston Hutto	Dec 23
Eleshea Jones	Dec 8	Sam Carter	Dec 23
Chy Hutto	Dec 11	Eulene Logan	Dec 26
Patty Huskey	Dec 14	Drake Davis	Dec 28
Liz Vandiver	Dec 17	Landon Davis	Dec 28
Caroline Grover	Dec 18	Kelli Barker	Dec 28
Regina Lee	Dec 20	Sherry Chamberlain	Dec 28
Alison James	Dec 21	Ethan Carter	Dec 30
Jill Cleghorn	Dec 21		
Happy Anniversary!			
Trent & Anna Hill	Dec 12		
Kenneth & Lori Grover	Dec 19		
Danny & Sabrina Standridge	Dec 20		



HOW DID WE GET HERE?

How did we, the church, come to practice meeting on Sunday for assembly and worship?

To begin with, as we read in the New Testament, we see the first disciples of Jesus were in the habit of meeting for worship on the first day of the week. Notice Jesus meeting with his apostles on the first day of the week following his resurrection from the dead (Luke 24:28-43; John 20:24-26). Paul and his brethren stopped in Troas and worshipped with the church “on the first day of the week” (Acts 20:7). Additionally, Paul instructed the church in Corinth “to lay by in store” on the first day of the week (I Cor.16:2). Interestingly, Paul had given the same instructions to the churches in Galatia (I Cor.16:1). Furthermore, he makes it clear that what he had taught in Corinth, he had also taught “everywhere in every church” (I Cor.4:17). Since the New Testament is our “pattern of sound words” (2 Tim.1:13), then we follow these examples.

Secondly, the reason for setting apart the first day (also called the “Lord’s day” (Rev.1:10) is, of course, due to Jesus’ resurrection from the dead occurring on that day (Luke 24:1, 13; Mark 16). Jesus speaks openly about his coming suffering, crucifixion, and resurrection on the third day (Matt.16:21). And, not coincidentally, the church was established on the day of Pentecost and that day occurred on the first day as well (Acts 2:1; Leviticus 23:15). “This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it” (Psalm 118:24).

Third, we remember the warning about “not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the habit of some” (Heb.10:25). If the reality and time of worship had not been established, then this warning would be meaningless.

Fourth, the Lord’s supper cannot be taken, in a reasonable fashion, on any other day than the first day. The components in the communion include: the unleavened bread representing the Lord’s body and death; the fruit of the vine representing his cleansing blood; and the first day representing Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. Without the Lord’s resurrection, our faith would be in vain (I Cor.15:17). The resurrection makes the Lord’s work on the cross complete. In the Lord’s wisdom and plan (I Cor.14:37), the death, blood, and resurrection are inseparable.

Meeting on the first did not derive from mere convenience nor tradition. Rather, respect for scripture led the faithful of the past and present to this practice. “Whatever you do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord” (Col.3:17).

-David



Prayers

- Gwen Owens will be having tests in Vanderbilt tomorrow.
- Jeff Tanner is recovering from surgery. Address..1053 Whitman Field Rd. Wetumpka, AL 36092.
- Merle Zahnd fell and broke her hip and had surgery Thursday. Address.. 590 Co Rd 368, Trinity, AL 35673.
- Continue to remember Jason Cartee in your prayers.

Opportunity to serve

Midway will be preparing weekend take home food bags for 65 children every weekend during the months of January and April. Please place your food items in the Fellowship Hall. See Jamie & Dana for any questions.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Applesauce pouches/cups
- Fruit cups
- Granola bars
- Peanut butter/Cheese crackers
- Snack size Slim Jims
- Microwave Mac & Cheese cups
- Vienna Sausages
- Microwave soup cups, examples- Ravioli, Spaghetti & Meatballs, Chicken Noodle, etc.
- Fruit Snacks
- Individual pks of Trail Mix.

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

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158 East Main Street, Henderson, TN 38340  
Sam Carter  
601 John Wright Drive  
North Campus 326 D, Huntsville, AL 35805  
Lauren Hamby  
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THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRIST’S CHURCH

There may be some things in the Bible which are difficult to understand, but there are others which are so simply stated but often are easily overlooked. Two of these truths are that Jesus established the church and that He never wanted it to be changed.

The rock and foundation, the pattern, never changes.

Read Matthew 16:18 and notice how easy it is to understand the promise Jesus made before He died about what was about to happen. “I will build My church.” Even a child can grasp these words. Continue to read the Bible, and you will see exactly what happened. Just days after He ascended into heaven that church became a reality, and men were added to it (Acts 2:38-47). We must never overlook this truth so plainly stated.

Read the words in Matthew 16 which follow His promise to build the church. He said to Peter, “Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Two chapters later, He expanded this right to reveal God’s message bound upon all men to include others (Matt. 18:18). For the church to exist, there was a new testament which was about to be revealed, but when that truth was bound on this earth it was bound in heaven. We must not overlook this truth so simply stated.

To see how firmly this new way of living was binding on man, read the words of the apostle Paul. “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ” (Gal. 1:6-7). The truth was so firmly bound on mankind that to change it is described as a perversion.

Then, read the next verse to see that the gospel could not be changed. “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.” Do you see how easily these words show that the Lord never gave any man, including the apostle Paul, or any angel from heaven to change the truth that was revealed?

Yet, it is so easy to overlook these two truths. God first gave that Old Testament to the Jews and only God Himself could change it (Deut. 4:2; 12:32). When Jesus gave us the New Testament, He gave this same message—do not change it. How tragic it is that since Jesus left the earth men have changed the church and changed the truth bound on us in so many ways.

What would happen if all those who believed in Jesus decided to return to the simple truth given by Jesus and the apostles? What would the church look like if we established that first-century church in our day? Think about it!

— Dan Jenkins

Upcoming  
EVENTS

- December 24-5th Sunday Singing
- December 31-New Years Eve Fellowshio following worship

NEW YEAR’S EVE

NEW YEAR’S EVE occurs on Sunday evening this year. Lord willing, we will meet at our regular time that evening (6 p.m.). We will plan to worship our God through prayer, scripture, and songs, with several extra songs. Following worship, everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a period of fellowship.

ON YOUR HONOR

Our Lord, through His word (Acts 20:32), teaches us how to become a Christian, how to worship, and how to live faithfully (Rev.2:10). The New Testament is the law of Christ (Gal.6:2), but it is of much different nature than the law of Moses. It does not attempt to regulate our every move and our every decision. The New Testament has three major aims: 1) It guides us through examples. The life of Christ and the lives of the early disciples direct our paths. 2) It also guides us through principled teaching. Conversations, sermons, and letters dominate the landscape of our Bibles, and from these, we are inspired to walk with the Lord. 3) The New Testament is primarily aimed at the heart. “With the heart, man believes unto righteousness” (Rom.10:10). God’s sacrificial love for us (Eph.5:25) is meant to melt our hearts and create a burning desire for Him (Acts 17:11,12). With such a heart, we will not only come with joy to the worship and Bible class assemblies, but first and foremost, we will be meditating “in his word day and night” (Psalm 1:1-2). This means the gospel is to be living and thriving in our families (Titus 2:1-7). Yes, God commands and expects submission, but He also trusts that His followers will develop a heart for Him. He puts us on our honor. Can He depend on us?

WHAT THE LORD IS TO ME (From the Psalms)

The LORD is my rock and my fortress (Psa. 18:2). He is my solid foundation and will never let me down.

The LORD is my shepherd (Psa. 23:1). He is my provider and guide through life.

The LORD is my light (Psa. 27:1). He is my revealer of all truth.

The LORD is my strength (Psa. 28:7). He is my power to make it through anything.

The LORD is my shield (Psa. 28:7). He is my protector from Satan’s arrows.

The LORD is my song (Psa. 118:14). He is my joy all the day long.

The LORD is my salvation (Psa. 27:1). What else can be said!

— Edd Sterchi

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be no bulletin next Sunday. Please see the serving lists and the prayers and cards list on the back tables.

Happy Holidays to all!

SPECIAL EMPHASIS TODAY

During Bible class and worship times today, we will focus on two great subjects: the home and the great commission. This morning for Bible class, brother Philip Hines will teach a combined adult class concerning the home. During worship, he plans to bring a lesson entitled – “Children Matter.” This evening at 6, brother Daniel Gaines plans to be with us. Daniel and his family live in Kentucky, but travel extensively as missionaries in Tanzania. We are thankful to have these two servants of God among us today!

A LITTLE BIBLE STUDY – ACTS 5

- HOW WERE ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA RELATED, 5:1?
- WHAT DID THEY SELL, 5:2?
- WHAT WAS THE PROBLEM WITH THE SALE, 5:2?
- WHO HAD FILLED THE HEART OF ANANIAS, 5:3?
- IN THEIR SALE, WHO DID THEY LIE TO, 5:3?
- AS A RESULT, WHAT HAPPENED TO ANANIAS, 5:5-6?
- HOW MANY HOURS LATER DID SAPPHIRA COME IN, 5:7?
- IN THEIR DECEIT, ANANIAS AND SAPPHIRA HAD \_\_\_\_\_THE SPIRIT, 5:9.
- AS A RESULT, WHAT HAPPENED TO SAPPHIRA, 5:9-10?
- HOW DID THE CHURCH REACT TO THESE DEATHS, 5:11?

WHAT LESSONS FOR LIVING COME TO MIND FROM THIS OCCURRENCE?