



Church of Christ

April 12, 2026

Watch Your Step! (Ephesians 5:15-6:9)

If a group of people is going to live both according to the laws of the land *and* be constructively subversive to that culture, it is going to be necessary to be wise. It needs to be a wisdom that comes from above and not from our own imaginings. It needs to include behavior that both challenges the structure of the world and provides a better way of conducting oneself.

It is easy to challenge the structures of the world. It is easy to tear down without building something better in its place. It has happened in the past, but those events are rare – and I would suggest that many of the best changes have come because of the quietly subversive nature of the gospel and the teachings of the apostles.

It may seem odd to us as first, although it shouldn't, that treating other human beings as equal before God is subversive. It is. It always has been and always will be. Have you ever been in a room where you can clearly hear what is being said and others are talking about you to figure out what to do with you, or what to do about you? If you haven't it is very likely that you have done it to someone else. I am not talking about trying to solve a personal crisis or being helpful, in which case one may have given permission to be talked about.

I am talking about a person being in a place they "don't belong." You know the sort of thing that might cause a group of people to turn and look and understand that if this is allowed to stand that things won't be the same anymore. Some of these systems are so entrenched that we can't imagine living without them. Some of them are useful and may be rationally defended to keep society from falling into chaos.

It is hard for us to grasp the radical nature of Paul's instruction to the Ephesian churches when he says to them, "walk as wise men." He tells them not to get drunk with wine but to be filled with the Spirit. How? By speaking psalms and hymns, singing and making melody in our hearts, giving thanks to God, and submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Paul goes into detail about what it means to submit to each other. He uses a familiar form – the *household code* – to teach us. In a patriarchal, and socially stratified culture such a Rome (and Greece) the mutual submission would have been met with massive resistance. He adds fuel to the fire by first addressing the wives. Anyone who heard this read aloud would have immediately understood that this was subversive. All the household codes they would have been familiar with addressed only the men because women did not have the capacity to understand or the standing to be addressed. He also addressed children and slaves directly, and the last message to masters, to treat their servants as he had just told the servants to treat them, was culture changing.

Paul is building a place here on earth where we can learn to act and treat each other the way God intended in the beginning. In today's religious and cultural environment, it would be challenging and refreshing. I pray that we can continue to learn how to walk as wise people and make the most of the time we have.



When We meet:

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Small Groups 6pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study 6:30pm

Contact Us:

Office– 9a-1p M-F

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P.O. Box 161, Madisonville, KY
42431

Minister: Sean Niestrath

269-352-9134

sean.niestrath@outlook.com

Today!- Children's Church, Rm 102

Tonight!- Singing Class, 4:30 pm

Tomorrow!- Women's Prayer Group, 10:00 am

Mon & Wed– Walking Group, 12:30 pm

April 19- Singing at Oak Ridge Senior Living,
-3 pm, **No Singing Class**

April 26– PM church potluck

April 29– 5th Wednesday Singing

(all events happening at the building unless otherwise noted.)



Today!– Activity in Bowling Green

Apr 18– Carwash Uplift Fundraiser

-9 am -12 pm, Under Carport

Apr 26– Meet at Church

Contact **Jon**—270-635-1029 or

Jared—270-841-8542 for more info.



April 15– Larry Keith

April 18– Sarah Scott

Welcome Guests! Please scan the QR code or fill out our Connection Card-**Red Folder** . Let us know how we can help.



SCAN ME



WELCOME TO church



Children's Song

Cong. Reading: Ephesians 5: 15-17

Beautiful Lamb

Psalm 19

Prayer— Jared Jones

The Glory Land Way

Come Share the Lord

Lord's Supper

Presiding LS: David Stubblefield

Serving LS: Terry Hampton

Zach Pressley Chason Shoulders

Keith Tapp Micah Bridgman

Contribution

Dismiss Children's Church

No Tears in Heaven

We Are One In The Spirit

Scripture: Eph 5: 21-28 Darin S

Prayer— Bryson Shoulders

Lesson— Sean Niestrath

Hallelujah, Praise Jehova

Benediction: Ephesians 5: 1-2

The Grace

TODAY—

Call to Worship: Dan Rust

Song Leader: Ishmael Almon

Monitor: Landon Duggin

Children's Church: Hamptons

Sound Booth: Barry Webb

NEXT WEEK—

Call to Worship: Barry Webb

Song Leader: Eric Seesengood

Prayers: Tim Teel/Dan Rust

Scripture: Kenneth Ashby

Monitor: Sam Lupo

Children's Church: None

Sound booth: Carson Clark

Presiding LS: Terry Hampton

Serving LS: David Stubblefield, Zach Pressley, Chason Shoulders, Keith Tapp, Micah Bridgman

Alternates for April:

Jon Stubblefield Buster Almon

Communion Prep: Ashby

For the Record

Last Sunday:

Bible Class— 57

Worship— 153

Contribution— \$5,799.00

Wednesday— 40

Announcements:

Next Quarter Adult Class: Today!!

[Understanding The Apostle Paul](#)

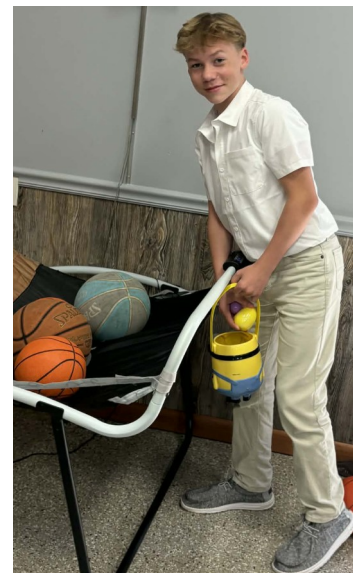
Carwash: Youth Group Uplift Fundraiser

April 18th, 9am-12pm, Under Carport

Bulletin: Thank you Card- Phillip's Family

Expecting Parents:

Aaron & Mallory Ashby (Girl, Oct)



Lisa Phillip's family, Lisa passed away on March 27th

Ed Saley, recovering from carpal tunnel surgery on left hand

Suzanne Brummer, mastectomy, April 13th

Dexter Black, having hip surgery, April 14th

Callum Pruitt, surgery scheduled for April 28th

Carol Warszona, recovering from foot surgery

Marcy Heldreth Cherry, (Shoulder's friend), has breast cancer

Donna Stephenson, recovering from a fall

Todd Templeton & family, (Ken's friends), he has cancer & they have ongoing health issues



Ongoing Health Concerns and Prayer:

Diana Adams, Kathy Black, Suzette Mooney, Sherry Rushing, Jim Miller, Sister Josephine, Jama Doc, Dennis Warszona, Barbara Lynch, Everett Beatty, Wyatt Brown, John Phillips, Linda Smith, Alberta Rust, Rebecca Niestrath, Sherry Logan, Karen Wilkerson, Benson Holmes, Lauren Turley, John Benham, Johnny Allen, Kathy Killough, James Allen

Praying For Our Military Members:

Ryan Hill, Tyler Malik, Christopher Goodale, **Jason Rushing (deployed)**, Hans & Suraya Niestrath, Dalton Davis, Andrew Ashby, James Brahm, Christopher Brahm, Nathan Dees

Sunday 6 pm, The Vision In Daniel, Daniel 2: 1-13, Roger