

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

270-825-0304

pennyrilecoc@gmail.com

P.O. Box 161, Madisonville, KY
42431

Minister: Sean Nistrath

269-352-9134

sean.nistrath@outlook.com

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Today!!- No Children's Church

Today!!— Singing @ Oak Ridge Senior Living, 3pm

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

Aug 20th- Summer Series— Chip Palmer Speaking

Aug 31st— 5th Sunday Potluck & Congregational
Meeting, in Fellowship Hall

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



Tonight!!— Devo @ Wilkes,
5-7 pm

Aug 20— Meet @ Church, 6:30pm

Aug 22-24— WKYC Retreat

Contact **Jon**—270-635-1029 or
Jared—270-841-8542 for more info.



Aug 20— Natalie Lutz

Aug 20— Betty Rust

Aug 23— Danny Lutz

Sermon Notes



Church of Christ

August 17, 2025

Assurance and Joy

(Isaiah 54:1-55:13)

Joy is not a thing that can be chased. It is, as C.S. Lewis indicates, something that happens to us that acts as a marker that we are on the right path. There is another way that I think of joy. It is something that we can possess as a gift from God. It is still something that can't be chased. It still acts as an emotion that happens as we are living life. It is also something that can live in us. Perhaps this is what makes it possible for us to recognize it when it happens.

For years, I struggled with those who possessed joy to such a degree that it leached out of them even in difficult times. There have been a few times when I thought that they were pretending, either for my sake or as evidence of denial of the dire situation they were in. The hymn, *Blessed Assurance*, expresses well the connection between assurance and joy.

Isaiah 54 and 55 are the final two chapters in this section of the book. While they are separate oracles, they touch upon the themes of assurance and joy. What if we were assured that everything important in our lives would be a success? What if we knew from the beginning that those projects that we began would be done well? As believers in God through Christ we have that assurance. It is assurance that is not based on human faithfulness, but the faithfulness of God who created us and loves us and wants salvation for us.

This does not exclude difficulty along the way. There is something within us that longs for and appreciates the struggle to overcome obstacles. This is why, when we are doing the right thing and it is hard we don't quit. We work for that goal that will be worth all the effort.

Isaiah 54 tells us that we have a faithful God that he will restore his people. He reminds us that his steadfast love and compassion is eternal. He reminds us that no matter what happens, God's steadfast love will not leave them and his, "covenant of peace shall not be removed." These are words of assurance that we can depend upon. These are not vain and idle promises that are made by well-meaning people who do not have the power to guarantee what is promised.

It is this assurance that makes it possible for us to possess joy that those who do not seek the Lord can't understand. God, in chapter 55, tells us that his salvation to us is free for anyone who will seek him. The encouragement is for us to seek the Lord while we have the opportunity. This, it seems, should be our focus and our goal. If we seek the Lord and we possess the joy that it brings, we will have opportunities to share the faith that we have in God through Jesus.

It can be tempting to focus on the sin of others and tell them that they need to seek God. Perhaps we would be better off seeking God and focusing on forgiveness and transformation. As we are doing that, we can help others do the same.

Welcome



Children's Song

Cong. Reading: Isaiah 12: 2-4

Songs of Moses

Christ Our Glory

Prayer— Dan Rust

Holy Spirit, Breathe On Me

Arms of Love

Lord's Supper

Presiding LS: Jon Stubblefield

Serving: LS: Quincy Stephenson

Bert Pressley Buster Almon
Bryson Shoulders Butch Blanton

That's Why We Praise Him

Contribution

Thank You, Lord

Scripture: Isaiah 55: 6-9 **Pete S**

Prayer— Larry Stone

Lesson— Sean Niestrath

Sinners Jesus Will Receive

Benediction: Hosea 10: 12

The Grace

TODAY—

Call to Worship: Byron Pruitt

Song Leader: Mark Wilkerson

Monitor: Roger Dillingham

Children's Church: None

Sound Booth: Tim Teel

NEXT WEEK—

Call to Worship: Dan Rust

Song Leader: Eric Seesengood

Prayers: Barry Webb/Jared Jones

Scripture: Steve Stoltz

Monitor: David Stubblefield

Children's Church: Melissa B/Sara S

Sound booth: Zach Pressley

Presiding LS: Quincy Stephenson

Serving LS: Jon Stubblefield

Bert Pressley Buster Almon
Bryson Shoulders Butch Blanton

Alternates for August:

Terry Hampton Dan Rust

Communion Prep: Matheny

For the Record

Last Sunday:

Bible Class— 58

Worship— 104

Contribution—\$3,402.00

Wednesday— 52



Announcements:

- Church Walking Group- **Sign Up Sheet in Lobby for preferred times**
- **Outreach Project— Nurse's Station Baskets— Aug 20th** at 6:30 pm
 - Signup sheet & list in the Lobby - Donation Box in Office— **Due Today!!**
- **Bulletin Board:**
 - Thank You Card from *Miriam Gallagher*
 - Potter Children's Home, August Newsletter & Fall Festival— **Sept 20th**
 - Favored Women's Conference, Gatlinburg, TN- **Sept 19-21**

Elders:

Barry Webb (270) 339-8429

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Dan Rust (812) 746-5635

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Byron Pruitt (270) 841-7518

brpruitt65@gmail.com

Sean Niestrath (269) 352-9134

sean.niestrath@outlook.com

EXPECTING PARENTS:

Jared & Kelsey Jones (GIRL, OCT)

Missionaries/Missions

Paolo Mirabelli— Rome, Italy

mirabellipaolo1gmail.com

Marvin Rivera— Tegucigalpa, Honduras

marvinrivera1985@gmail.com

Watata, Kenya

Deacons:

Brock Shoulders,

Buster Almon,

Darin Swaidner,

David Stubblefield,

Jeremy Duggin,

Steve Stoltz,

Tim Teel,

Zach Pressley

Rita Cartwright, (Granny), at Baptist Health in room 302

Judy Horn, (James Allen's brother-in-law's sister), has lung cancer

Shannon Lockhart, (Hampton's friend) has cancer

Benson Holmes, recovering from cancer surgery

Alberta Rust, back injury, recovering at home

Daniel Davis, recovering from back surgery at home

Cathy Saley, recovering from shoulder surgery at home

Pam Stuart, (Emma Jean Scott's daughter), recovering from knee surgery

PRAYER
list

Ongoing Health Concerns and Prayer:

Diana Adams, Dexter & Kathy Black, Suzette Mooney, Del Brock, Sherry Rushing, Jim Miller, Sister Josephine, Barbara Lynch, Lisa Dunlap, Wyatt Brown, Christy Estrada, Curt Frederick, Dennis Warszona, Juana Belgrave, Rebecca Niestrath, Karen Wilkerson, Jama Doc

Sunday 6pm, The Chosen