



On August 21, our area will be in a prime spot for viewing the solar eclipse. We will have many visitors to our community that day. Reports are that hotel rooms may be in short supply because so many might choose our area to witness the rare event.

I started wondering how I would observe the eclipse. One of my first thoughts was how fun it would be to have a big box of fireworks to use in the middle of the day! Or maybe find one of the many gatherings where I could share the time with thousands of others.

Then I remembered about another time when the world was covered by darkness in the middle of the day. Matthew 27:45 records "Now from the sixth hour, darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour." It was the time of our Lord's crucifixion.

He had been beaten with the lash of scourging. He had been mocked and spat upon. He was cruelly nailed to the cross, between two thieves. He had been taunted. "He saved others. He cannot save Himself!" was their cry.

Then the lights went out.

Through the ages, some cultures have worshipped the sun because they understood it was essential for life on earth. But on that day in Jerusalem, the sun withheld its radiance, while every sin on Him was laid. While Jesus was bleeding to redeem me from my sin, there was darkness.

So, during the solar eclipse, I will be looking for a quiet place outdoors. While I may look briefly toward the heavens, I also plan to look inwardly. And to think about what this world would be, if not for the love of Christ, the Light of the world.

"For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of the cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven." Colossians 1:19-20

Bobby Lane

This Week's Lesson

Sunday morning

Our Best Days Are Ahead of Us - Joshua 1:1-6

Collins' Corner

LUKE 15:1-3

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable:

This sets us up for what Jesus was going to say in Luke 15. The Pharisees once again had tried to peg Jesus as eating with sinners and being wrong in doing so. That accusation led Jesus to this string of 3 parables: the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son.

You'll notice that the first two are relatively short, and then the one that we are the most familiar with is the lengthy one. They all, in some fashion, carry the same message, however. The first two mention it, the last one shows it in action: **repentance**. Jesus is showing them, through these first two parables, that they are discrediting the very thing that brings God joy—a repented sinner. This would have been hard to grasp for individuals who would have thought that they required no repentance.

You'll also notice that the first two parables focuses more on the Lord and his seeking relationship. The latter parable focuses more on the son(s) and the return to the Lord. As we dive into the 3rd parable, this question comes to mind...

WHY DID THE YOUNGER SON LEAVE?

He wanted his inheritance (wanted father dead) so that he could leave as he chose to. He wanted independence. Why did he want independence? Because he was operating with a poor definition of what that actually is. He was defining independence as the freedom from rules, punishments, and expectations. When he got what he "wanted", he realized that it was not at all what he had hoped for.

WHERE IS THE GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS) IN THIS PASSAGE?

We saw this truth play out earlier, but the good news in this context is that **REPENTANCE BRINGS GOD JOY**. God is delighted when a sinner repents and comes home.

The good news in this context is also that **HOME IS NOT AS FAR AWAY AS IT FEELS**. In the midst of sin we begin to feel all sorts of things. Pain, grief, doubt, etc. In those moments we may feel as if home may be too far away to go back. I've done too much, I've gone too far. That's just simply not the case here, and it never has been with God. Home is closer than we think it is because God is closer than we think he is. **Matt**

PRESCHOOL-PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE GRADES

Sunday Morning

Cradle Roll	Jane Foy Anna Gilbert	108
Toddlers	Laura Fox Linda Gilbert	105
2 year olds	Rebecca Baggett	106
3 year olds	Kayla McCord	100
4 year olds	Brook Gilbert Seth Gilbert	103
Kindergarten	Jeana Piggott	107
1st Grade	Macey Korth	202
2nd Grade	Jason Bennett Stacey Bennett	203
3rd Grade	Andy Milton	206
4th Grade	Andy Milton	206
5th Grade	Mae Fowler	208
6th Grade	Dave Piggott	210

Wednesday Night

Cradle Roll	Whitney Bowman	108
Toddlers	Cindy Mackie Lauren Mackie	105
2 year olds	Olivia Simpson Molly Chaffin	106
3 year olds	Stephanie Chaffin	100
4 year olds	Lynn Lane	103
Kindergarten	Pam Rawdon	107
1st Grade	Lisa Rhodes	202
2nd Grade	Sarah Lane	203
3rd Grade	Courtney Norton Lindsey Norton	206
4th Grade	Courtney Norton Lindsey Norton	206
5th Grade	Rick Gilbert	208
6th Grade	Glenn Binkley	210

Teens Bible Class—Matt Collins—Downstairs

Adult Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Examples of Faith—Brad Fortner—College (215)
Parables—Matt Collins/Sean Flatt—20s-30s (214)
Give Me the Heart of a Servant—Buddy Johnson/ Jason Fowler 30s-40s (213)
Gospel of John—Charlie Moore/William Birdwell—Library
21st Century Galatians—John Rhodes—Fellowship Hall
Christian Growth: My Salvation + Your Salvation = Our Salvation—David Whiteaker—Small Auditorium
Hebrews—Morris Mabry—(114)
Jude & Revelation—Laura Jackson—Ladies (115)

Wednesday Afternoon Class 1:30pm

John—David Vaughn—(115)

Wednesday Night

Philippians—Brian Carver—College (215)
Survey of Church History—Houston Bynum—Auditorium
Glory Days by Max Lucado—Joe Hill—Room (114)
Exciting Stories in Genesis—Buddy Johnson/Doug Fowler—Fellowship Hall
James—Delores Wheatley—Library (Ladies)
Breaking Free- Anna Gilbert/Carrie Simpson-Ladies-115

News & Announcements

Remember in Prayer!

It was great to see **Herman Bean** and **John Bates Sr** in worship with us Sunday!

Audrey Birdwell, daughter of **William and Valerie Birdwell**, suffered a stroke on Thursday. She is in ICU at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital in Nashville, and is scheduled to be released on Friday. Please keep her and her family in your prayers as she recovers.

Bruce Westbrook, brother of **Donnie Westbrook**, was dismissed from the hospital to his home for isolation. He is to gain enough strength for strong medication on Friday. Please continue to pray for him.

Ruby Holloway was dismissed from NHC on Monday. Please continue to pray for her recovery.

Gaylon Presley remains at Bethesda room #107 for therapy, and treatment for pneumonia.

Matt Collins has completed his isolation and is doing well. He will have a full body scan today and we are all praying for good news. Please keep him in your prayers.

Kaye Bowman remains at home recovering from surgery. Please keep her in your prayers.

Sympathy to Kathy Adams on the death of her nephew, **Chris Smith**, who passed away on Sunday. Visitation is today Wednesday, at 12 noon until the time of service at 1:00 pm., at Hooper-Huddleston-Horner Funeral Home.

Remember those who are dealing with cancer:

Kathy Adams, Linda Alcorn, Kenneth Allen, Dean Boles, Kaye Bowman, Rene' Canfield, Matt Collins, Walter Fitzpatrick, Tim Jennings, Dave Leaf, Angela Leffew, Rhett Massey, Paula Palk, Jan Shepherd and Marty Smith

Our Shut-Ins

Remember Our Shut-ins:

Bethesda: Gaylon Presley, Jan Shuster, Cornelia Steakley & Lyda Taylor

Heritage Pointe: Peggy Cooper and Wilma Hayes

NHC Healthcare: Evelyn Solt & Aletha Tino

Signature Health-Algood: Matilda Craighead

At Home: Hugh & Kathy Adams, Herman Bean, Sue Clack, Margaret Cunningham, Mary Dyer, Neta Ford, Geneva Glasgow, Peggy Mackie, Ralph Medley, Pat McCannless, Leighton Sissom, Claudine Smith, Frances Smith, Marty Smith and Jordan Terry



I just want to thank everyone for their cards, visits, calls and prayers during my recent illness and hospitalization. It meant so much to us. I'm feeling much better and glad to be up and around again. God bless. **Bill Flatt**



A bridal tea for **Rachel Roberts**, bride elect of **Chase Jordan**, will be this Sunday, **August 20, from 1:30—3:00**, in the Fellowship Hall. They are registered at Borden's, Belk, The Painted House, Target, Bed Bath & Beyond and Amazon.



MAGI Work Night: Our next work night is **Tuesday, August 22 from 4:30-7:30pm**. We will have a meal so please let Lisa Rhodes or Judi Williams know if you plan to attend.

The Amazing Ladies are going to the Duck Pond Manor for lunch in Sparta on **Tuesday, September 12**. We would like to invite anyone and everyone to enjoy this time with us! If you have never experienced this treat, now is your chance. **Come go with us (young-old-married-single), join us widows and let's have a great time.** The cost is \$14.00 plus gratuity and will include beverage, meal and dessert. Please sign up on the YAH Board by Sunday, September 3! Transportation will be provided for those who ride the vans and they will leave at 11am. Please signify "V" for van and "C" for car by your name when signing up.

Young at Heart—Fellowship Cookout: Our cookout this year is **Friday, September 1 at 6:00pm**, at the Ogden Center. Sign up sheet is on the YAH board. Please indicate if you are bringing covered dish, soup, dessert, fixings, etc. *Hotdogs, buns, drinks, plates, forks, spoons, napkins and ice will be provided.* See **Adriel Stout**.

College Kids: Please give us your college address and email, so we can keep in touch. You can write it on the back of your attendance card or call the church office.



Blood Assurance will be in our *front parking lot* in their Blood Mobile on **Monday, August 28, from 12:30pm to 5:00pm**. Go to bloodassurance.org/jacoc or call the church office to schedule an appointment.

Church of Christ
521 S. Jefferson Ave.
Cookeville, TN 38501

Web Site: <http://www.jacoc.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JeffersonAvenueCOC>

Say a good word for Jesus this week!

<p>SUNDAY, August 13, 2017</p> <p>Bible Class.....264 Sunday Morning.....571 Sunday Evening.....231 Wednesday Night.....259 Contribution.....\$21,249</p> <p>Church Office.....931-526-4605 Information Line.....931-528-1006 Fax Line.....931-520-8708 Mother's Day Out.....931-260-7861</p> <p>Church Office.....info@jacoc.org Buddy Johnson.....buddy@jacoc.org Matt Collins.....mattc@jacoc.org Bo Perez.....bo@jacoc.org Mother's Day Out.....laura.fox@jacoc.org</p> <p>Service Schedule</p> <p>Sunday Bible Study.....9:00 AM Sunday Morning.....10:00 AM Sunday Evening.....6:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 PM</p>	
<p>SHEPHERDS</p> <p>Glenn Binkley Jann Cupp Doug Fowler Don Foy Bobby Lane *John Mason John Rhodes Leighton Sissom *Chairman of Month</p> <p>MINISTERS</p> <p>Buddy Johnson Pulpit Minister Matt Collins Youth Minister Bo Perez Hispanic Ministry</p> <p>DEACONS</p> <p>Jason Bennett William Birdwell Sam Brown</p>	<p>DEACONS (cont.)</p> <p>Phillip Burr Brian Carver Randy Chaffin Ken Clark Jim Dale Jason Fowler Chad Gilbert Seth Gilbert Jim Hicks Chuck Lankford Bryan Limer Bob Mackie Ken Mayes Brian McDaniel Andy Milton Dean Olson Jimmy Patterson Dave Piggott Gaylon Presley Bud Simpson Pete Story Don Viar Donnie Westbrooks</p>

BIRTHDAYS

August 20 - 26

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 21 – Megan Burnett | 25 – Annie Brown |
| 21 – Linda Williams | 25 – Rita Lafever |
| 23 – Cheri Harold | 26 – Leighton Sissom |
| 24 – Steve Flatt | 26 – Katherine Stafford |
| 24 – Katie Korth | 26 – Lyda Taylor (100) |
| 24 – Jan Shuster | |



This Week's Bible Reading August 16–22

- Wednesday, August 16—Jeremiah 32-34
 Thursday, August 17—Jeremiah 35-37
 Friday, August 18—Jeremiah 38-40, Psm 74, 79
 Saturday, August 19—2 Kgs 24-25, 2 Chr 36
 Sunday, August 20—Habakkuk 1-3
 Monday, August 21—Jeremiah 41-45
 Tuesday, August 22—Jeremiah 46-48



AUGUST

- 16—W.A.S.
 20—T4C—Double Springs
 23—W.A.S.
 27—Devo @ the Gilbert's; Kaige Whitaker speaking
 30—W.A.S.

October 20-22—Fall Retreat at Cedar Lake Camp

