

# Shepherd's Voice

by Allan Myers

## Do I have to forgive...

....this person?.....when they did that?.....after so many times?

Before we attempt to answer these questions, I want to tell you how sorry I am for the broken heart and hollowness deep inside that gnaws at you because someone you loved and trusted has betrayed you. I cannot pretend to fully realize how badly this weighs on you and affects every aspect of your life. I do know Someone who understands it all, better than even you do, and, if you'll give Him your trust and your time, He can bring you out the other side of this stronger and better than you were before.

To anyone who has ever been wronged, God tells us to forgive, over and over. He tells us to make repairs. His words have authority and validity because He forgave originally. He made the greatest reconciliation available to us through Christ. (Romans 5:6-11)

If you are taking advice from anywhere but God's Word then your answers to our three questions can all be, and will probably always be, no. If you are looking to anyone but the Maker of Heaven and Earth for how to operate in the most difficult of times, then the world will say you don't ever have to make repairs because repairs can be long and difficult. Just ask God - the story of the entire Bible is God repairing our sin against Him.

When we are wronged, especially by someone close to us, it stings. We take it personally when that person inside our guard commits a serious offense against us. Trust has been broken and, depending on many variables, can appear irreparable. So now you have a choice to make. If you choose TO forgive, you will have to act on that – maybe many times over – and it WILL require work on your part. But if you choose NOT to forgive, then your actions will follow that decision as well, making it easier to allow the anger and hurt to take over your heart and dictate your actions. Our actions can become habits, so consider whether you want to form a habit of forgiveness or “unforgiveness.”

If you have been offended, I pray you will read and pray on these verses. These are just a start, but they are clear on where Our Lord stands on forgiveness and our actions toward those who have wronged us: Exodus 23:4-5, Proverbs 19:11, Proverbs 24:17, Proverbs 25:21-22, Matthew 5:39-48, Matthew 6:12, Matthew 6:14-15, Matthew 18:21-22 & 23-35, Mark 11:25, Luke 6:35-37, Luke 17:3-4, Ephesians 4:32, Colossians 3:13

Some closing thoughts to consider: First, it's not always the case, but it might make it easier to extend forgiveness if we give honest thought to our own role in the situation. Painful and unpleasant? Yes, but helpful. Second, there are almost always others besides you who will pay a huge price if you choose not to forgive. Remember them when you are deciding what to do. Lastly, don't try to do this alone. Your church family wants to be there for you. Let them lift you up when you don't have the strength to do it yourself.

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## Those Serving in December

Sunday Assignments:	Dec 3	Dec 10
Song Leader	Daniel Hudgeons	Chad Hearne
Prayer/Opening	Mark Vaught	Andy Pennington
Scripture Reading	Paul Rickett	Dylan Ussery
Preside/Communion	Greg Chaffin	Mark Ashley
Prayer/Closing	Mike Baker	Gordon Bond
Nursery 0-12 month	D Lambert, Sara Shipp, Tara Smith	K Ussery, Joseline Keefer, Jenna Koone
12 - 24 months	B Sexson, Jocelyn P, B McBride	Carolyn Mullins, Kristen Woodard, M Smith

Sunday Assignments:	Dec 17	Dec 24
Song Leader	Tim Stroud	Daniel Hudgeons
Prayer/Opening	Adam Harrell	Randy Hudgeons
Scripture Reading	Gary Poole	Don Silvestri
Preside/Communion	Wesley Harris	Jeremy Lowe
Prayer/Closing	Mark Copeland	Michael Ledbetter
Nursery 0-12 month	S Smedley, C Brandon, N DeVorak	B Riddle, Amy Porter, Melissa Smith
12 - 24 months	D Brantley, Tiffany Smith, Rose D	Laurie Bravo, Shanoo Chaffin, B Cooper

Sunday Assignments:	Dec 31	Wednesday Assignments:
Song Leader	Carson Copeland	6 - Young Boys - (2yr - 1st)
Prayer/Opening	Brandon Moreland	13 - Young Boys - (2nd - 6th)
Scripture Reading	Randy Simmons	20 - (S) Randy Hudgeons (P) Charles Harris
Preside/Communion	Jeremy Pumphrey	27 - (S) John Tooke (P) Ryan Overbay
Prayer/Closing	Allan Myers	<b>Greeters: Chad &amp; Dawn Hearne-Info Desk</b>
Nursery 0-12 month	W Janski, Penny Hinson, S Nestor	Harry & Sara Starnes, Brian & Mary Smith
12 - 24 months	J Cunningham, T Harris, JoJo Mills	Berkley & Randy Simmons, Jackie Camper
<b>Food Coordinator: Carolyn Mullins (S-Z)</b>		Ronnie DeLoney, Terri Gill, Marcheski Hervey

Monthly Assignments:
<b>Ushers: Blake Reed, Captain - Bruce Brantley, Co-Captain</b>
Mark Epperson, Cody Sublett, Johnnie Wells, Brian Smith, Clint Smith

<b>Serve Communion:</b> John Holder, Josh McCumpsey, Roland Nolen, Adam Bledsoe
Erin Brown, Tim Capps, Michael Cullum, Quentin Gayfield
James Gearhart, Marcheski Hervey, Jeremy Gillson, Gary Griffin



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2017



"Let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth" - 1 John 3:18

**Give1 Bless1 is a service project that uses every \$1 bill in the collection between Thanksgiving and Christmas to help someone in need during the holiday season.**

**If you know of someone in need, you may submit their name and need. Those who nominate will be asked to deliver the help offered, so include your name as well. Submit names to the Benevolence committee members or place in the office drop box.**

**each \$1 bill in the collection  
Thanksgiving to Christmas**

Robinson & Center  
CHURCH OF CHRIST





# Evening with Santa

December 1st at 6:30 pm

A very special evening to enjoy with the children as they visit with Santa, enjoying cookies and hot cocoa.



## Night Owls

9 am - 11:30 am  
Saturday, Dec 2nd

Volunteers Needed

See Leah Lowe or Brittany Sexson.



## The Great Coat & Toy Give-Away

Saturday, December 2nd

TOYS 1 to 3 pm - church parking lot



## "Senior Angel Tree"

Return wrapped gifts by Dec 10th!

See Lisa or Micah Mahan - Names at the Info Desk



## Cocoa & Caroling

Dec 10th -3PM & Dec 17th -6PM

IN THE FELLOWSHIP ROOM

10th - Girls will make Cocoa Mix for a service project.

17th - Girls will go caroling after PM service and deliver cocoa to some of our own. Everyone is invited. See Amber Shapter.

## Bethlehem House Meal Night

December 12th & December 18th

See Debbie Moreland or Michelle Tooke

# December Calendar



Evening with Santa  
DEC 1st 6:30 pm



Night Owls  
9 am - 11:30 am - Dec 2nd

## The Great Coat & Toy Give-Away -12/2

3

Winter Teaching Quarter  
begins December 3rd

Baby Girl Shower  
Sarah Peabody - Dec 3rd  
Ladies Parlor



Taking the bus  
to hear  
UCA Men's  
Christmas  
Chorus  
Dec 5th  
6-9pm

10

"Senior Angel Tree"  
Return gifts by Dec 10th!

EDM Meeting  
Fellowship Room  
December 11th

## GG Fellowship Sunday 10th



Baby Boy Shower  
Lauren Messer Taylor - Dec 10th  
hosted by Kyndall Brown

Bethlehem  
House - 12th

17

SCCH Food Truck  
Tuesday, Dec 19th  
Pick up groceries!

Bethlehem House  
Meal night - 18th

24

24TH  
NO PM  
SERVICES



Dec. 26th

Events for this calendar  
should be submitted  
by the 25th day of the  
month before the event.

31

Please Keep Your Info Updated

Info forms are on the website: [www.r-c.org](http://www.r-c.org) All forms are on the front page

iPhone, iPad and  
Android Versions



Several New Members  
and many info changes  
have recently been added

## New Arrivals

**Caleb & Harrison Ford**  
born November 8th to  
Chris & Karen Ford

**Jordanna Collins Mayfield**  
born November 9th to  
Jacob & Gina Mayfield

## Baptisms

**Lisa Licht**

baptized November 1st  
Mother of Melissa West

## New Members

**Barbara Ellis**  
4955-2 Longwall Dr  
Conway 72034

**Jon Pease**

1578 Hwy 1135  
Bigelow 72016

**Evon Coleman**  
PO Box 2566  
Conway 72033

**Nate & Mandy McCoy**  
Carter, Bentley, Briley, Hayden  
1675 Gardenia  
Conway 72034

## Meeting Schedule

Bible Classes..... 9:00  
Worship ..... 10:00  
Sunday Evening..... 5:00  
Wednesday..... 7:00

Email: [elders@r-c.org](mailto:elders@r-c.org)

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Church Office: [office@r-c.org](mailto:office@r-c.org)

## November Averages

Sunday Worship..... 549  
Sunday AM Class..... 327  
Sunday Night..... 221  
Wed. Bible Study..... 361  
Contribution..... \$19,149