

*A monthly publication of Christian Church of Mountain Home in the interest of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ and goodwill among His people, our friends.*

**In this issue . . .**

**P. 2**

- ◆ Preacher's Pen
- ◆ Newsy Notes

**P. 3**

- ◆ Satan's Tricks Are Not Treats
- ◆ Daylight Saving Time ends
- ◆ Trunk or Treat

**P. 4**

- ◆ Holiday Happenings

**Chief Shepherd**

Jesus Christ

**Pastors**

Gordon Addington

David Benedict      Rick Schmeski  
Don Truitt            Bruce Wolf

**Ministry Managers**

Forrest Cotter

David Benedict      Don Truitt  
Jason Schmeski      Joey Peglar  
LaDonna Mendleski      Ted Bankes  
Louise Addington      Jim Darr

**Preacher**

Gene McCoy

**Youth Ministers**

Eric Dwyer

Vanessa Peglar

**Extended Ministries**

Steve & Rhonda Hayward

Papua New Guinea

Brad & Linda Berg, Mexico

Saleem & Naylah Massey

Pakistan

Jay & Romola Henry, India

Ernest & Numreta

McFarland, India

Stephen & Alyssa Walton,

Ireland

Central Christian College of the Bible

Ozark Christian College

Show-Me Christian Youth Home

Christ on Campus

Mtn. Home Christian Academy

***Living Thanks by Gene McCoy based upon a sermon by Adrian Rogers***

Dr. Adrian Rogers was a popular preacher in Memphis, TN whose books and radio broadcasts are still influencing thousands. His sermon, "How to Turn Thanksgiving Into Thanksliving," is based upon Psalm 107:21-22., which says, "Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!" ESV

If we are to turn thanksgiving into thanksliving, it must involve more than mere words. Action must accompany the words. The Psalmist speaks of "the sacrifices of thanksgiving." A chorus we sing is based upon this passage. "We bring the sacrifice of praise into the house of the Lord. And we offer up to Him the sacrifices of thanksgiving. And we offer up to Him the sacrifices of joy."

Rogers contends that turning our thanksgiving into thanksliving involves what the Bible calls the "sacrifices of thanksgiving." He identifies five spiritual sacrifices that he calls sacrifices of thanksgiving.

**SACRIFICE OF YOUR PERSON**

Paul urges us to present to God our bodies as living sacrifices (Rom. 12:1-2). Why should we do this? Paul says it is because of the mercies of God by which Jesus gave His body on the cross as the sacrifice required for our salvation.

Lyrics from the hymn, "At the Cross," say, "But drops of blood could never repay the debt of love I owe. Here, Lord, I give myself away. It's all that I can do."

A sacrifice has no plans for itself, but has died to self. Those who have died to self have voluntarily and completely committed themselves. Many who consider themselves Christians are unwilling, due to other commitments and desires, to tie themselves down to a specific role or function of service. But the sacrificial animal was tied down just as we should

willingly be tied down in committed service. Such commitment is a reasonable way to express thanks through our lives.

**SACRIFICE OF PRAISE**

The writer of Hebrews says, "Through [Jesus] then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name" (13:15). The Psalmist declares, "I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth" (34:1). ESV

Praising and blessing the Lord is to be a way of life, a regular verbal expression of thanks that glorifies and exalts the Lord. Again, the Psalmist says, "I will praise the name of God with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving" (69:30).

**SACRIFICE OF PRAYER**

David wrote, "Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!" (Psalm 141:2 ESV) Our prayers are like incense, an aromatic perfume that is released when heated. Revelation 5 tells us that our prayers ascend to God as a sweet smelling smoke.

It was fire from the golden altar upon which animals were sacrificed as burnt offerings that released the aroma from the incense. Having presented our bodies as living and holy sacrifices (Rom. 12:1) we then offer incense, our prayers, with hands uplifted (Ps. 141:2).

**SACRIFICE OF POSSESSIONS**

Hebrews 13:16 says our sharing of material blessings is a sacrifice that pleases God. We live thanks when we give.

**SACRIFICE OF PURITY**

This is the sacrifice of a broken and contrite spirit, as David calls it in Psalm 51:17. David's remorse for his terrible sins resulted in a broken and contrite heart that expressed itself by purity of life. Pure living is thanks living. This gratitude blesses and pleases God. Our sacrifices of thanksgiving include our person, praise, prayer, possessions and purity .





## Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

For other articles and information about our congregation, go online [www.ccmhar.com](http://www.ccmhar.com)

### Our Family Grows!

**Paul & Helen Cooper,  
Cindy Turner and  
Joe & Tyler  
Callender,**  
all immersed believers,  
have enlisted for service  
with us.

### Death

**Walt Wolf**  
departed this life on  
Wednesday, October 16.

### Announcement

**Gordon Addington**  
was formally added to the  
Elder team on Sunday,  
October 6.

**Forrest Cotter** resigned  
his role as Elder effective  
October 14, focusing his  
attention on leading the  
Finance Ministry Team and  
working on the Property  
Ministry Team.

### Gratitude

A recent **"Dollar Day"**  
beneficiary writes: "I wanted  
to thank everybody at the  
church and tell you how  
much I appreciate the  
money. It really came at a  
time of need. Thank you so  
much and God's blessings."

A salvation scheme that has become very popular in so-called evangelical denominations is actually a message of salvation through faith in man. Faith is an active response to a command or promise. No one who leads people in what is called ***Sinner's Prayer Discovered!*** "The Sinner's Prayer" we faithfully carry it out. Our obedience of faith verifies that His kingdom has come.

Consider, however, a prayer that results in salvation when the one praying it is sincere. It is the prayer Jesus provided as a model for us and is recorded in Luke 11:2-4. The fact that it is not exactly the same as that recorded by Matthew (6:9-13) indicates that it was not to be recited as a mantra. The variance of wording and even content suggests that it is the meaning of the prayer that is to be incorporated into our prayers. When we actually pray that prayer instead of merely reciting or repeating words, salvation results.

**"Father, hallowed be Your name."**  
Salvation must begin with humble recognition that God is sovereign and alone has the gift of salvation and the authority to bestow it upon lowly and undeserving sinful servants. Matthew further identifies our Father as He "who is in heaven," indicating He is high and holy. As such, He is worthy of worship, reverence and adoration. Rightly understood, this phrase is prayed from a prone position, our heart bowed low and our arms lifted in surrender. Salvation begins with surrender in the most vulnerable position.

**"Your kingdom come."**  
This is at once a prayer of personal dedication and a global petition. Matthew's record expands upon this phrase by adding, "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Salvation is granted to those only who submit to God's rule and enlist for service. People are quick to claim Jesus as Savior but are comparatively slow to respond to Him as Lord. To be saved, however, one must willingly submit to God's will as subjects of His kingdom, over which He rules from the heavenly throne.

To pray that His kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven is to pray that people would serve and obey Him as readily as do the angels

in heaven. When the King instructs us to repent, we repent. When He instructs us to be baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of sin, we quickly and gladly do so. When He instructs us to confess His name before men, we faithfully carry it out. Our obedience of faith verifies that His kingdom has come.

**"Give us each day our daily bread."**  
This expression of constant dependence is critical to not only receiving but also in retaining salvation. Just as we trust God to provide what is needed for daily physical sustenance, so must we nurture similar dependence upon His provision for our continuing spiritual sustenance. This is not to question God's faithfulness. Neither is it to doubt His promises for our security. It is, rather, affirmation that we depend upon God's grace every day. As the hymn lyric says, "I need Thy presence every passing hour." ["Abide With Me"] The sinner's salvation requires daily dependence upon God.

**"And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone who is indebted to us."**  
This expresses our commitment to live like Jesus. As He forgave us, we will forgive others. It is at once an acknowledgement of need for forgiveness and our expression of indebtedness to God for the forgiveness we have received—indebtedness that motivates us to forgive others.

A tone of repentance permeates this part of the prayer. We recognize that a change in our thoughts, motives and actions is necessary as a proper response to His gracious forgiveness.

**"And lead us not into temptation."**  
Seeking salvation must be accompanied by the desire and determination to lead a holy life — separated from the world and dedicated to serving God. The daily prayer of the saved is that the Lord will continue to give strength to overcome temptation as we confess our need for divine guidance and help.

Lest anyone misunderstand, remember that it isn't the recitation or repetition of the words in this prayer that saves us, but rather its practical application in daily attitude and expression. The one who prays this prayer with understanding and conviction will respond in faith to the command and promise of God by repenting of sin and being immersed into Jesus for the purpose of receiving the gift of forgiveness and the Holy Spirit. (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Titus 3:4-7). 

## Satan's Tricks Are Not Treats by Gene McCoy

A recurring imperative regarding our dealings with the devil is to be on the alert against his tricks, for he is like a prowling lion ever ready to pounce and devour us (1 Pet. 5:8). To avoid being outwitted by Satan, we need to be aware of his designs and never give him the least little opportunity (2 Cor. 2:11; Eph. 4:27).

Satan is an opportunist. The account of Jesus' temptations concludes with the statement that Satan departed from him until a more opportune time (Lk. 4:13). None of us dares relax for we know Satan is always up to his tricks. He is a snake in the grass awaiting the opportunity to strike.

His most effective trick is deception. He has effectively made us think we are lion tamers. While none of us would enter the cage in the circus act, our casual approach to sin and holiness indicates that we think the roaring lion is a house cat that we can easily control with the crack of our imaginary whip. In reality, our carelessness is like saying, "Here, kitty kitty."

—We wonder how close to the edge we can live without falling off. Here, kitty kitty.

—We adopt a wardrobe and vocabulary that allows us to look and sound a lot like the pagans. Here, kitty kitty.

—Our speech is characterized by innuendo, the crude and even vulgar. Here, kitty kitty.

—We look at suggestive images and videos that excite our worldly lusts and appetite. Here, kitty kitty.

—Our playlist contains music that makes the illicit sound innocent, drunkenness seem humorous and sin an exciting adventure. Here, kitty kitty.

Another trick Satan has up his sleeve is to feed the deception that he is not real; that he is the mere personification of perceived evil. If this is true, Jesus never cast out demons, but merely accommodated the superstitions of mentally deranged people.

Do we play into Satan's deception when we dress up in hideous costumes designed to scare the life out of people? We then try to calm our frightened children by assuring them that the ghosts and goblins are not real. How confused our children must be when we then try to teach them that Satan is real and that his demons are out to destroy us. No wonder Satan can masquerade as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14) and so effectively deceive us. We have actually become complicit in his deception. Our "playing along" has desensitized us to his reality and the dangers his tricks pose.

Enough of his tricks. We have been treated to victory over Satan by the power of God. But that victory is realized only as we consistently obey several imperatives in 1 Peter 5:6-9.

**Humble yourself.** Warren Wiersbe says we

must bow before God before we can stand before Satan. It is the humble man from whom Satan flees. James 4:7 says, "Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

**Be of sober spirit and be on the alert.** Our judgment must be clear and senses sharp if we are to participate in the victory won by the Lord.

**Resist the devil.** This is a defensive battle stance in which the Christian squares off with his feet firmly planted in the faith and declares, "I am not budging. Like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who did not bow, bend or burn, so will I refuse to compromise or capitulate."

We must never retreat, but we must always resist. We share Jesus' victory, not by engaging Satan in warfare, but by standing strong in faith that he is a vanquished enemy. The extent of our engagement is to quote Scripture, as Jesus did at His temptations, and to put on the full armor of God, as Paul instructed.

The Hebrew writer says Jesus came in the flesh so that, through death, he might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil (2:14). We have the opportunity every day to deal the devil a death blow by humbly submitting to God and boldly taking our stand as victors through Christ. This stand begins and ends with God.

**Remember** the victory has already been won. The outcome was predetermined in eternity and sealed when Jesus emerged alive from the tomb. We were made victors through Christ, Who loved us (Rom. 8:37), when we were baptized into His death and raised in the likeness of His resurrection (Rom. 6:4-5).

**Recognize** Satan's power and tactics. We do not possess the power or prowess to defeat him, except by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. We are no match for Satan without God. Like David before Goliath, we confront Satan in the name of the Lord of hosts (1 Sam. 17:45-47).

**Respect** his subtle slyness; never relaxed, but ever vigilant, knowing how crafty he is.

**Resist** Satan's advances. Do not give him an inch, lest he become your ruler. Put on the full armor of God and stand firm (Eph. 6:10-17).

**Rely** on Christ and the Holy Spirit. First John 4:4 assures us that he who is in us is greater than he who is in the world. Our reliance upon God must be accompanied by our deliberate avoidance of people and places where encounters with Satan are likely. Flee immorality (1 Cor. 6:18-20). Flee from idolatry (1 Cor. 10:14-15). Flee youthful lusts (1 Tim. 2:22). But be strong in the Lord and, in the strength of his might, stand firm against the tricks of the devil (Eph. 6:10).

## NOVEMBER MEETINGS

- 5 Willing Workers
- 5 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 6 Finance Ministry Team
- 10 Family Life Ministry Team
- 11 Elders
- 14 Property Ministry Team
- 14 Outreach Ministry Team
- 17 Missions Ministry Team
- 21 Ingathering Worship



Thursday, October 31

You may assist in various ways with this event that draws people from the community to our church property. Volunteer your service and/or resources by contacting Eric Dwyer.





This annual worship service sponsored and planned by the **Benevolence Ministry Team** gives everyone the opportunity to testify to God's bountiful goodness.

The theme is giving. We give thanks to God for His blessings and share them with others through our monetary gifts. We give praise to God through our singing, the reading of pertinent Scriptures, personal testimonies of how God has blessed us.

Gather to acknowledge the Lord's blessing, to give Him the glory He is due, and to share the bounty with others.



This annual dinner sponsored by our **Family Life Ministry Team** gives the congregation the opportunity to celebrate the two major holidays in the traditional family dinner.

Mark your calendar and plan to enjoy the fellowship and the food.



**Program:** Not confirmed as yet  
**Menu:** Entrée by Willing Workers  
 Veggies, salads & desserts provided by individuals  
**R.S.V.P.** Mary Douglas or Mary Lou Fortier by November 30

Our gift to the community



*Two Fox Noel*

a Christmas dinner theatre featuring two dramatic productions and holiday desserts

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, December 13, 14 & 15

The LORD'S COMMISSION is OUR MISSION  
 Matthew 28:19-20

**Meeting Schedule**  
 Wednesday Evening Sunday Morning  
 5:30 Supper 9:30 Worship  
 6:30 Bible Classes 11:00 Bible Classes

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1365 Eastside Centre Court  
 Mtn. Home, AR 72653 870-425-8323



Sent With a Prayer to

Non-Profit Org.  
 POSTAGE PAID  
 Permit # 35  
 Mtn. Home, AR  
 72653