

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

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|---------------|----|
| Bible Class | 35 |
| Attendance AM | 86 |
| Attendance PM | 42 |
| Wednesday PM | 46 |

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: April Gilbert; Richard Melson, Jr.; Rosella McGhaee; Otis and Glenna Adair; Debbie Rowland; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Carolyn Morrison; Tina Shafford; Sheree Collins; Mary Sanders ;

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson

Prayers:

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: September— 3 Ruby Holt; 5 Michael Blanks, Jr. 23 Walter Tolley; 24 Alexandria Thomas; 27 Christina Barnes; 28 Jean Samples; 29 Florine Thomas

Anniversaries: September— 1 Chris & Tally Poole; 27 — Dollie & Samuel Jones

Ladies Reading Group:

Men's Meeting: First Saturday of month @ 9:00 AM in the auditorium

Potters Children Home: Coin Cans collected week of October 17th

| September 12 | BRETHREN TO SERVE AM | BRETHREN TO SERVE PM |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Announcements | Patrick Thomas | Patrick Cook |
| Opening Prayer | Frank Brock | Frank Brock |
| Song Leader | Patrick Cook | Phil Tydings |
| Lead Lord's Supper | Lyle Cole | Lyle Cole |
| Server 1 | Anthony Grigsby | Anthony Grigsby |
| Server 2 | Patrick Thomas | Alfred Willis |
| Scripture Reader | James Grigsby | Michael Blanks |
| Sermon | Walter Tolley | Walter Tolley |
| Prayer for Responses | Walter Tolley | Walter Tolley |
| Closing Prayer | Norris Cole | Norris Cole |
| Greeter | Richard Melson, Jr. | Richard Melson, Jr. |
| Greeter | | |

A.S.A.P. = Always Say A Prayer

**"Pray without ceasing"
1 Thessalonians 5:17**

TO OUR VISITORS

Our goal in the church of Christ is to be the New Testament church, which you can read about in the Bible. We invite you to observe our worship assemblies, the doctrine that is taught and the structure of the church organization. Make a close comparison with your "church" and the church of the Bible -- **The Church of Christ**. We also invite you to join us as we strive to be the church of the Bible and restore New Testament Christianity.

Needmore Road church of Christ
PO Box 13963
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place
Stamp
Here

Visit our website at <https://www.needmoreroadcoc.com>



THE EDIFIER

Volume 02

September 12, 2021

Issue 37

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
 Fax: (937) 401-0286

Meeting Location:
 2211 Needmore Rd
 Dayton, OH 45414

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30
 Worship 10:30 A.M.
 5:00 P.M.

1st Sunday
 No 5:00 PM service

Wednesday

Bible Study
 7:00 P.M.

Preachers

Richard D. Melson
 937-321-3973
 dr.rdmelson@yahoo.com

Walter Tolley
 937-238-7752
 walt944@aol.com

Ministers

All Members

Supporting

- Christian Courier on The Web
- Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
- Memphis School of Preaching
- Greater Midwest Lectureship Dayton, OH
- Potter Children's Home

FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

Cody Westbrook

Imitating the popular spirit of the day, many brethren have raised the "white flag" and refused to engage in any type of spiritual aggression at all. But, while Christianity is indeed a religion of peace and love, it is also one that includes warfare and combat—spiritually speaking. Paul's charge to Timothy was to "fight the good fight of faith (1 Tim. 6:12), and "war a good warfare" (1 Tim. 1:18). The clarion call to join the battle rings clearly throughout the pages of the New Testament.

We fight against Satan and his ministers. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walketh about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). The master of deceit seeks to engage us in battle constantly. His work is clearly seen through his ministers who try to deceive us and lead us down the path of destruction (Matt. 7:15; 2 Cor. 11:13-15).. Satan and his minions are behind every threat to our soul and we must be willing to engage them in battle.

We fight against the lusts of the flesh. Peter urged that we "abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul" (1 Pet. 2:11). The things in life that can give us the most pleasure can also cause us the most pain. Satan knows this and he uses fleshly lusts to lure us away from the path of righteousness. We must be willing and able to recognize this wicked plot and fight against it.

We fight against the vain philosophies of this world. "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ" (Col. 2:8). There are hundreds of false doctrines and ideas that are promulgated throughout the world. These doctrines are dangerous because they have deadly effects. They can destroy individuals and entire congregations at the very foundation. The empty philosophies of man must be defeated and it is the children of God who have the responsibility to do it.

The battle that we fight is the most important battle in the world. With the word of God as our weapon (Eph. 6:17) we will be victorious. Not a single false idea can withstand defeat by the power of God (Rom. 1:16). The only question is our own willingness. Are we ready and willing to "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 1:12)? 📖

"SEEK THE LORD"

Words of Wisdom For Youth ... 1 Timothy 4:12

A little jam on the bread

The teacher asked the pupils to tell the meaning of lovingkindness. A little boy jumped, up and said, "Well, if I were hungry and someone gave me a piece of bread that would be kindness. But if they put a little jam on it, that would be lovingkindness."

The gift of lovingkindness travels in every direction. This gift only travels when God's people are loading their hearts daily as they influence others for the Master. Come to think of it, I have jam to spare – just for you! May you be a blessing of lovingkindness to some soul today.

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God (Philippians 1: 9-11).

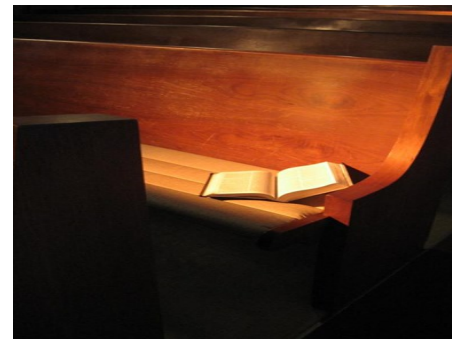
In Christ We Have...

A love that can never be fathomed.
A life that can never die.
A righteousness that can never be tarnished.
A peace that can never be understood.
A rest that can never be disturbed.
A joy that can never be diminished.
A hope that can never be disappointed.
A glory that can never be clouded.
A light that can never be darkened.
A happiness that can never be enfeebled.
A purity that can never be defiled.
A beauty that can never be marred.
A wisdom that can never be baffled.
Resources that can never be exhausted.

For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them (John 13:15 – 17).

Glenn Hitchcock

It's none of the elders' business!



So often--when shepherds of a congregation are making efforts to shepherd straying sheep whose attendance at worship has fallen off--a member will be heard to say, "Well, that's none of the elders' business! They just need to leave me alone! If I'm there or not there is none of their business!" As gently as I can say this, such a position is absolutely baseless.

Here are two things to think about. First, whether a Christian is "there or not there" for worship absolutely does make a difference, for a child of God is under command to "not forsake the assembly" (Heb. 10:25) and "not to put a stumbling block...in our brother's way" (Rom. 14:13). Second, that same God ordained elders to be shepherds of His flock and "watch out for your soul" (Heb. 13:17). For your soul, the elders "must give account" to God (Heb. 13:17). The instruction to every member of the flock is, "Let [the elders] do so with joy and not with grief."

For a Christian to assert, "If I'm there or not there is none of the elders' business," has no Biblical foundation! Shepherds cannot afford to shirk their God-given responsibilities!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Malachi

Melson's Musings ...



Six Reasons Elders Should Shepherd

Every now and then when I finish reading an outstanding bulletin article, my response is, "I don't believe it could be said any better." When I read the following article from the pen of Adam Faughn I immediately knew it would profit everyone.

The greatest work of an elder/pastor/bishop/shepherd (the entire eldership) is that of shepherding the flock of God. Over and over this is seen in Scripture, but too few elders do that work. Many see the eldership as nothing more than a "governing board" or a "board of directors," in place only to make decisions. While elders certainly must make decisions—sometimes, very difficult decisions—that is not their primary work. Their primary work is shepherding.

- It's commanded.** This is the easy one! An elder who is not shepherding the flock isn't doing what God has charged Him to do. Elders, always remember that this is your primary work, because God has said as much (Acts 20:28).
- It's wise.** If elders will shepherd, it will lead to easier decision making. There will not be as many "blow ups" in the church, because those who work and serve will know that their leaders are constantly striving to help (Heb. 13:17).
- It's common sense.** I think this is why many don't do it. Benjamin Franklin is quoted to have said, "Nothing is less common than common sense." Elders need to see that it just makes sense for them to be involved in this work. The more they shepherd, the more they help their own work.

- It leads to greater respect.** While we should never berate elders, many members wonder why elders don't do their primary work. When elders truly shepherd, it not only ends those questions, it also goes much farther. In fact, it leads the members to have a high level of respect for their leaders (1 The. 5:12).
- It helps raise future elders.** Can you imagine how many young men would aspire to the office of an elder if elders took the time to shepherd them from birth throughout life? When leaders invest that kind of time in young men, our congregations will not suffer for future shepherds.
- It helps the church grow.** Many congregations aren't growing because they are losing as many members as they might be gaining. When elders shepherd the flock, weaker members will be more likely to remain and grow. So, when we baptize the lost, we aren't "replacing" someone, we are growing.

Adapted from an article by Adam Faughn

Elder/Pastor/Bishop/Shepherd Nomination Process

- Each member of the congregation should study the biblical qualifications before they place the man's name on the form they will submit.
- Understand that just because you submit a name does not mean that the man can be appointed.
- This is not a "popularity contest".
- This is not an "election", it is not who gets the most votes.
- It is about who meets the New Testament qualifications.
- It is also about members obeying the doctrine of Christ and submitting to follow spiritual leadership.
- Once the names are submitted those men will be interviewed, to validate that they meet Bible qualifications.
- If there is a plurality of such men, then following Titus 1:5 they will be ordained.

NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; www.searchtv.org; <http://gbntv.org/>; <http://kibbystreetcoc.org/index.php/let> (Let The Bible Speak); www.thegospelradionetwork.org
- View In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish network Sunday 7:00 am Channel 239; DirecTV Channel 307; GBN 7 PM
- Check out Tullstar Archives at <http://media.Tullstar.org> for lessons from faithful brethren.

GOD'S PLAN FOR MAN'S SALVATION

"Sirs, What must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30

- The Gospel Must Be Heard - John 6:44-45; Romans 10:17; John 8:32
- The Gospel Must Be Believed—John 8:24; Mark 16:16
- Sins Must Be Repented of – Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38
- Christ Must Be Confessed—Romans 10:10; Acts 8:37
- There Must Be Baptism (Immersion) for Remission (forgiveness) of Sins—Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
- Christian Growth and Faithfulness—1 Peter 2:2; Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 3:18