

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	33
Attendance AM	69
Attendance PM	35
Wednesday PM	40

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Katherine Willis and Tena Eslick (recovering from surgery); Samuel Jones (husband of Dollie Jones); Victoria Dudley; Linda Thomas (fell); Virginia Robbins; C.D. Arnett; Otis and Glenna Adair; Clifford Holt; Richard & Florine Thomas; Jim Thomas; Debbie Rowland; Carlene Harley; Steven Crane (hip); Jared Jackson (COVID)

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Nancy Weimer; Cooks;

Prayers: LaMarr Cole (Miami)

Repentance: Carolyn Johnson

Baptism:

Sympathy: Blanks/Thomas/Jones—death of LaVern Blanks (aunt of Dollie and Florine)

Birthdays: December— 11 Nina Netheron; Kimberly Tydings 15 Dwayne Eslick, Sr.; Dana Grigsby; Richard Melson, Sr. 18 Mike Blakley; 24 Mia Gilbert; 26 Theresa Wallace

Anniversaries: December — none

Ladies Reading Group: January 6, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Potter Children's Home:

December 26	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Announcements	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Opening Prayer	Steven Crane	Steven Crane
Song Leader	Lyle Cole	Michael Blanks
Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Server 1	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 2	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Scripture Reader	Denzil Turner, III	Frank Brock
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Alfred Willis, Jr.	Alfred Willis, Jr.
Closing Prayer	Walter Tolley	Walter Tolley
Greeter	Richard Melson, Jr.	Richard Melson, Jr.
Usher	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Usher		

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

December 26, 2021

Issue 52

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

Wednesday
Bible Study
7:00 P.M.

Shepherds
Richard D. Melson
Alfred Willis, Jr.

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
 - Southwest School of Bible Studies: Austin, TX
 - Memphis School of Preaching
 - Greater Midwest Lectureship
 - Potter Children's Home
 - Midwest School of Preaching
 - Central Carolina School of Preaching

EVERY MAN STOOD IN HIS PLACE

Benny B. Bristow & Richard D. Melson

As one studies God and His actions down through the centuries, it becomes obvious that He has given leadership a prominent place in all generations. Whether we consider a patriarch over a family, a national leader like Moses, special judges, kings, elders, evangelists or teachers, they have all been very important to His guidance of mankind; and be assured that leadership today is still of great importance.

In Judges 7, we have an example of leadership in action. Space does not permit us to review the entire event. This is the period of Old Testament history when God uses judges to free Israel of oppressors. Gideon divided his 300 men into three groups, stationed them in strategic places, armed them with trumpets, empty pitchers and torches, and they awaited his orders. Thus, with God's help (trusting Him), Gideon's leadership, and the obedience of his 300 men, the battle was won. God chose a man that could lead others to success, for we read, "And every man stood in his place" Judges 7:21.

One of the greatest needs in the church today is to have leaders and followers to stand in their place. God has assigned all a place, and to refuse to stand weakens the attack against the devil.

The Elders

From before the foundation of the world, the church was designed by God to have elders (also called bishops and pastors) to oversee and lead it (Acts 14:23). Just because millions have ignored this plan does not lessen its importance. The past has witnessed thousands of congregations that have become either weak, stunted, dead, or divided because shepherds did not stand in their God-given place. In Acts 20:28, Paul spells out the eldership's place: "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood." Note that there are five things representing the place of the elders:

- 1) Take heed to yourself. Before elders can shepherd a flock, they must have themselves right. When the qualifications of 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 are met, these men will be ready to properly care for the needs of the flock.
- 2) Take heed to all the flock. Paul did not say "some of the flock" or "most of the flock," but to "all the flock." This means to shepherd the weak and strong, the lovable and unlovable, the good and the bad. Not a single sheep needs to be neglected.
- 3) Oversee by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit has given complete instructions in the Word to guide elders in their care for the flock. There will never be a problem that arises among the sheep but what the principle to solve it can be found! In the words of Peter: "His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3). The Word of God is capable of making the man of God "complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).
- 4) Be overseers. This is why these men are called bishops (Philp. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:1,2; Titus 1:7; 1 Pet 2:25). There is a vast difference between "overseeing" and "overlooking." When an eldership overlooks the sins, weaknesses, unfaithfulness and special needs, they are not standing in their place.
- 5) Shepherd the church. This means to feed and care for the spiritual sheep. Remember, there is only one food that is acceptable with God-the Word of God! Some have felt

(continued on Page 3)

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

This is Life



A group of frogs were traveling through the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit. All the other frogs gathered around the pit. When they saw how deep the pit was, they told the two frogs that they were as good as dead. The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit with all of their might. The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead. Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and gave up. He fell down and died.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out. When he got out, the other frogs said,

"Did you not hear us?"

The frog explained to them that he was deaf. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

This story teaches two lessons: 1) There is power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day. 2) A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill them.

Be careful of what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path. The power of words....it is sometimes hard to understand that an encouraging word can go such a long way. Anyone can speak words that tend to rob another of the spirit to continue in difficult times. Special is the individual who will take the time to encourage another. Be Special to others.

~Author Unknown~

But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. (Jas. 3:8-10 NKJ)

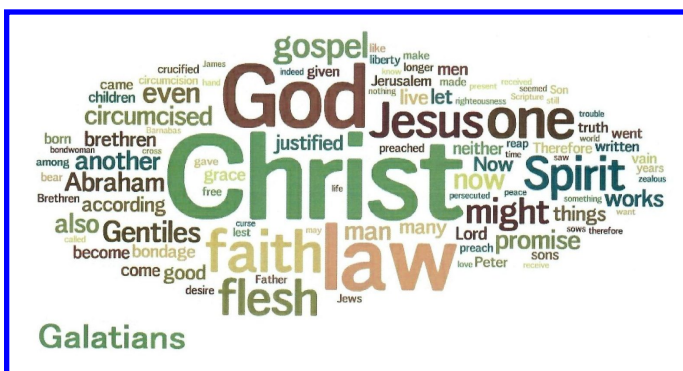
Use your words to make a positive difference



The young lady collecting money at the first drive-thru window was looking pretty down. She was wearing a mask and the afternoon sun was intensely hot that day. She was also wearing two medical bracelets to notify potential first responders of her serious medical issues. On top of all that, the drive-thru was painfully slow that day, as the restaurant was horribly understaffed. Was the slow service this young lady's fault? Not in the least! But, guess who everyone had been taking their frustrations out on that day? This young lady, who was daring enough to get a job, when so many others are not working, in order to make some money to help her family.

Do you know what this young lady needed? Well, she needed what every other human being needs—a kind word of encouragement! Her countenance completely changed when one driver thanked her and took time to encourage her, while waiting for the line to move. Remember, "a good word (spoken in due season) makes [the heart] glad" (Prov. 12:25; 15:23). It only takes a few good words from you to change someone's day!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



(continued from Page 1)

that the pure Word is too rich, and one may flounder; but this is "devil talk," and not of God! Such a deceptive attitude has caused many shepherds to dilute the Word with the thinking of the world and allowed preachers to preach a watered-down type of gospel. Have you not heard sermons filled with everything else except the Word? It was said of one man, "If he reads a text, you better rejoice, because this is all the Bible you will hear in his sermon!" When an eldership allows weeks and months to pass by with very little Word being taught, they are starving the flock and have stepped out of their place.

The place that God has given elders is an important one because their work involves eternal things. The Hebrew writer places a great responsibility on their shoulders in these words: "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account" (Heb. 13:17). Did you get the full impact of this statement? Elders are overseeing souls in view of eternity! Remember, elders, every sheep in your congregation that becomes weak, entangled in the world, and dies from spiritual malnutrition dies eternally lost from your flock. However, those that you properly feed and keep will spend eternity with God!

What a place and honor God has given those that serve as elders and bishops of God's flock. Stand in your place and you will receive blessings from God—both now and forever!

Exciting Changes at Needmore Road

What a great fall we have had. God blessed us with two new converts (Stephanie and Jacob Hoover); our weekly average attendance has been on the rise. Last week God blessed us to install our first eldership as the Needmore Road congregation.

I pray the eldership will be blessed with the wisdom needed to lead God's people and that the congregation will humbly follow their leadership.

This transition is just as necessary as the child becoming an adult.

Pray for the wives of our shepherds, who must share their husbands with everyone, knowing that the time these men spend away from them is in serving the Lord and is necessary (Gal. 6:9-10).

Brethren, as 2021 closes and we approach 2022, may God continue to bless us richly as we labor together for the growth of the body in love.

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

The Elders have decided to send financial support to two congregations in Kentucky who are coordinating relief efforts: Mayfield area—Lebanon congregation and in Bowling Green to Lehman Ave. If you want to add to this amount let us know today. We are happy to report that Potter Children's Home was **not** impacted at all by the tornadoes. We will continue to assess the needs to determine how to best respond in the future.

There will be a New Year's Eve fellowship at the building to bring in 2022. It will be December 31st beginning at 9:00 PM. We will have finger food, board games, of course singing and prayer as we close out 2021 and bring in 2022 together. We hope you are able to come.

— The Elders

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); <https://fun1071.fm>; soulofdayton.com (8:00 AM)
- 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