

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

Bible Class	25
Attendance AM	81
Attendance PM	34
Wednesday PM	24

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Phil Tydings (MVH); Richard Melson; C.D. Arnett; Virginia & Ron Robbins; Ruby Cole; Otis & Glenna Adair; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stones Springs); Debbie Rowland; and Mary Rutland; Patrick Cook (tests); Jerry Thomas (tests)

Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr.; Norris Cole, II; Michael Blanks, Jr.; Mozilla Tate; Willis family;

Prayers: Richard Melson, Jr (work related)

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy: Families of Steven Crane; Raymond Sweet

Birthdays: April — 8 Beulah Farmer; 11 Mary Sanders; 12 Diane Cole (Lyle) and Jacob Hoover; 23 Norris Cole, Sr.; 25 Carolyn Johnson; 30 Gladys Chittick

Anniversaries: April — 1 Otis & Glenna Adair and C.D. & Judy Arnett

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class will be postponed until a later date. Continue to study lesson 5.

Potter Children's Home:

April 09	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Opening Prayer	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Song Leader	Patrick Cook	Michael Blanks, Jr.
Lead Lord's Supper	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
Server 1	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Server 2	Jerry Thomas	Jerry Thomas
Scripture Reader	James Grigsby	Frank Brock
Sermon	Richard Melson	Richard Melson
Prayer for Responses	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Closing Prayer	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Announcements	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
Greeter	John Bouse	John Bouse
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 04

April 09, 2023

Issue 15

EASTER

Tom Moore

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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.

Preacher
Richard D. Melson
937-321-3973
dr.rdmelson@yahoo.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
 - Midwestern School of Preaching
 - Central Carolina School of Preaching

Today is the annual holiday called by many "Easter Sunday." Millions celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on this date. Many consider "Easter" the most holy of all religious holidays. Strangely, for some, it marks the only time they attend a worship assembly. Did you realize that the first century church did not observe a yearly celebration of the Lord's resurrection? The word "Easter" is found only once in the King James Version of the Bible (Acts 12:4).

The word, pascha, is translated incorrectly and should be translated as "Passover," as it is translated elsewhere in the King James Version. It is certain that the New Testament contains no reference to a yearly observance of the resurrection of Christ. The word "Easter" actually comes from an Anglo-Saxon word, Eastre, and is the name for a Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility. This being the case, we should be prompted to ask some inquiring questions about this annual holiday. Should the Lord's church involve herself in such a holiday?

The exact time Easter began to be celebrated is not known, although there are references to it as early as the second century AD. Those who adopted it did not observe it uniformly, nor was it observed at the same time. Some observed it on the day believed to have been the resurrection day, regardless of the day of the week when it occurred. Others observed it always on the Sunday nearest to the day believed to have been the day of Jesus resurrection. In AD 325, the Council of Nicea fixed the day on a Sunday, but did not specify which Sunday. Finally, in the seventh century, Easter was decreed to be celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon succeeding the vernal equinox (March 21), and always after the Jewish Passover. If the full moon occurs on a Sunday, Easter is the Sunday after. By this arrangement, Easter may take place as early as March 22, or as late as April 25.

Paul gives warning regarding "Feast Days", he expressed his concern for the church in Galatia, 4:8-11. He does not say that their practice was wrong per se, only that he is concerned.

From the context, Paul's concern was with the "why" they were doing these things. If they were placing a religious connotation on the celebrating of these feasts Paul says, they would be in error. Paul was not opposed to observing various feasts for he kept Jewish customs when expedient (1 Cor. 9:19-20). Paul had Timothy circumcised (Acts 16:1-3). He took a vow (Acts 18:18). He sought to keep a Jewish feast in Jerusalem (Acts 18:19-21). Paul also participated in purification ceremonies, which included animal sacrifices (Acts 21:17-26; Num. 6:13-20).

However, Paul makes it very plain that the practicing of such feasts should be kept on an individual basis (Rom. 14:5-6), that it should not be bound on others (Gal. 2:3-5), and that **it is to have nothing to do with our justification in Christ (Gal. 5:4-6)**. Where Paul drew the line for right or wrong in keeping feasts was in making such matters church doctrine or practice, where people were compelled to do them.

