

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Bible Class | 42 |
| Attendance AM | 72 |
| Attendance PM | 32 |
| Wednesday PM | 36 |

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer for Health: Ruby Nickell; Dollie Jones (MVH room 3207 Elevator A); Ruby Cole (home); Phil & Kim Tydings; Richard & Florine Thomas; Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Ron Robbins; Nina Netherton; Kristina Burns; Otis Adair; Mary Rutland; April Howard

Traveling: Norris Cole, II; Richard Melson, Jr.; Shanelle Colcous;

Prayers: Citizens of various parts of Southern California

Repentance:

Baptism:

Sympathy:

Birthdays: January — 5 Lisa Owens; 15 Jennifer Arnett; 16 Valerie Melson; 31 Chad Arnett; Krystal Thomas

Anniversaries: January — Tim and Melody Angus

Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Jan @ 6:00 PM Lesson 1 in "Bible A's for Ladies"

| January 12 | BRETHREN TO SERVE AM | BRETHREN TO SERVE PM |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Opening Prayer | Patrick Thomas | Patrick Thomas |
| Song Leader | Patrick Cook | Lyle Cole |
| Lead Lord's Supper | Anthony Grigsby | Anthony Grigsby |
| Server 1 | Chris Poole | Patrick Thomas |
| Server 2 | Ryan McGahee | Jerry Thomas |
| Scripture Reader | James Grigsby | Patrick Cook |
| Sermon | Richard D. Melson | Richard D. Melson |
| Prayer for Responses | Norris Cole | Richard D. Melson |
| Closing Prayer | Tony Moore | Anthony Grigsby |
| Announcements | Richard D. Melson | Richard D. Melson |
| Greeter | | |
| 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
2211 Needmore Road
Dayton, Ohio 45414-9998

Place
Stamp
Here

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



THE EDIFIER

Volume 06

January 12, 2025

Issue 02

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
Phone: (937) 274-6801
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.

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

DEALING WITH THE MISTAKES OF 2024

Dan Jenkins

One of the unseen blessings of memorizing Scripture is that doing this opens the door to our souls. Solomon showed this when he said that a man is what he thinks in his heart (Prov. 23:7). What is perhaps even more remarkable is that what we memorized when we were children is so much a part of what we are today. We all know about what happened to Jack and Jill, Little Miss Muffet and the Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe. We owe a tremendous debt to those who helped us learn spiritual truths when we were so much younger.

I am not sure what teacher required that I memorize the opening stanza of a poem which I can so easily recall now six decades after I learned it. It was written by Lolita Hiroshi (I did not memorize her name, but found it via Google), but the moral truth found in it still impacts my life.

*I wish that there were some wonderful place
Called the Land of Beginning Again,
Where all our mistakes and all our heartaches
Could be dropped like a shabby old coat at the door,
And never be on again.*

The reality is that such a place does exist. That land of beginning again is found in Christ. His grace is so amazing that He allows us to bury all the mistakes of the past and then to begin again. Paul said, "If anyone in Christ he is a new creation" (2 Cor. 5:17). That old man is crucified and buried in baptism, and we are raised to walk in newness of life (Rom. 6:3-6). Mistakes of the past are gone and laid aside like an old garment, and we clothe ourselves in Christ-like apparel.

This truth is vividly described in Paul's description of those in Corinth. Before becoming Christians, they were fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers and extortioners. There was no way, living that way, they could inherit the kingdom of God. But, Paul described what happened when they became Christians. "But you were washed...sanctified...justified (1 Cor. 6:9-11). They entered the "Land of Beginning Again."

That same beginning is still available for those who have become Christians and made foolish mistakes. John says that the blood of Jesus cleanses us also (1 John 1:7). The Lord continues to see us a without spot, wrinkle and without a single blemish (Eph. 5:27). With humble hearts we can live each day in the "Land of Beginning Again."

So, as this new year begins, let's take time to have an honest look at changes we can make. With His help every wrong can be made right. Memorize His words about the "land" in which we live. Write them on your soul, today! *✍*

BEING THE NEW CREATION IN 2025 - 2 COR. 5:17

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

WRINKLE'S HEADSTONE



She never really cared that much for the piece of carved stone that her deceased husband had found in an old quarry, but Ruth Beeston thought it would serve well to mark the burial place of her dead cat, Wrinkle. She decided to put it up for auction, however, when a local art historian discovered that it was a thousand year old carving of the apostle Peter. Wrinkle's former headstone brought \$383,000 when it was offered at auction (World, December 25, 2004).

This sort of thing seems to happen often (at least to other people). Someone finds some old thing that everyone thinks is worthless, and then it is discovered to be a priceless antique. Just because something is old, it is not necessarily valuable. Some things are true antiques, and some are just "junk." But some things are really valuable.

Consider how the Bible, a truly ancient book is treated. It is old—the newest parts being over 1900 years old, and some parts even much older. Many think that because of its age, it can't really be worth much. And yet, to those with the proper discernment, it is the most valuable book ever written.

Paul told Timothy, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God [is literally 'God breathed'], and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Not only does it give us all that we need, but it is profitable and relevant. It is just as relevant today as when it was written hundreds of years ago.

Ruth Beeston required an art historian to tell her that she unknowingly had something of real value. Surely we understand today how valuable the Bible is, that it is profitable to us for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. Unfortunately, many just use that family Bible as a place to store dried flowers, recipes, and the family tree. Wrinkle's headstone was so much more than Ruth thought. What about the Bible? Have you realized the hidden treasures within?

— Bob Prichard

"I don't want to wear glasses"

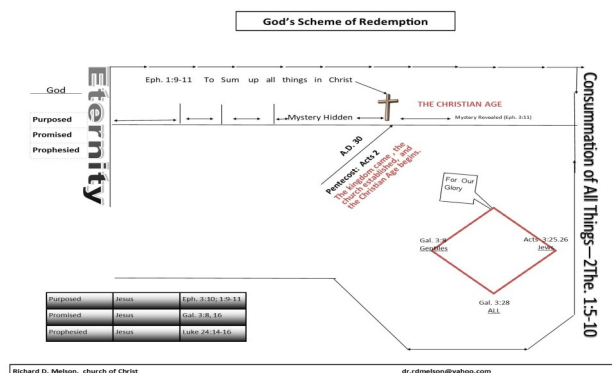


Human beings. We are interesting creatures. How often do those who first realize that they need glasses not want to get glasses because of "how they will look"? Or, folks who don't want to wear reading glasses, although they need them. Or, folks who don't want to get hearing aids, although they need them. Or, folks who don't want to use a walker, although it is needed.

We are surrounded by all sorts of aids that will make our life easier and better, and yet sometimes, we are resistant to admit that we need those aids.

Does that also translate over into our spiritual life? Guess what. As Christians, we are surrounded by aids. We have Jesus Christ, who acts as our High Priest, ready to aid us in our temptations (Heb. 2:17-18; 7:25). We have fellow Christians, who are ready to bear our spiritual burdens with us, to help us get to heaven (Gal. 6:1-10). How often are we resistant to admit that we need their help and to ask for help. Brethren, put on your glasses. See what the Lord has provided to aid you. Let's help each other to help each other!

David Sproule
Thought for the Day



Melson's Musings ...



Being the New Creation in 2025

Upon deeper reflection and prayer, it became clear to me that the proper theme for the congregation in 2025 is located in 2 Corinthians 5:17.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Cor. 5:17 NKJ)

Members of the congregation of all ages can be challenged by what the apostle Paul reminds us – that in Christ "it is the season of new beginnings"! Having obeyed the gospel (Rom. 1:16; 6:17-18), God works to create a new person (Eph. 2:10).

In 2025 may each Christian through the proper study, proper understanding and proper application of God's word increase in being the new creation of God.

- ◆ NEW CLOTHES TO LOOK RIGHT (1 Pet.5:5; Eph. 6:10-17)
- ◆ NEW HEAD TO THINK RIGHT (Phil. 4:8)
- ◆ NEW NECK TO TURN RIGHT (Acts 3:19)
- ◆ NEW FEET TO WALK RIGHT (Eph. 5:15)
- ◆ NEW HANDS TO HANDLE RIGHT (2 Tim. 2:15)
- ◆ NEW MOUTH TO TALK RIGHT (Col. 4:6)
- ◆ NEW EYES TO SEE RIGHT (Eph. 5:15; 1 John 1:7-9)
- ◆ NEW HEART TO LOVE RIGHT (Matt. 22:37-38; 1 John 4:17-22)
- ◆ NEW BACKBONE TO STAND FOR THE RIGHT (Eph. 6:13)

We will examine in this year the meaning of the new life in Christ with the goal of helping us grow in the

knowledge of Lord and being a greater servant in the kingdom. ✍

DEDICATED WOMEN AND THEIR FAMOUS SONGS

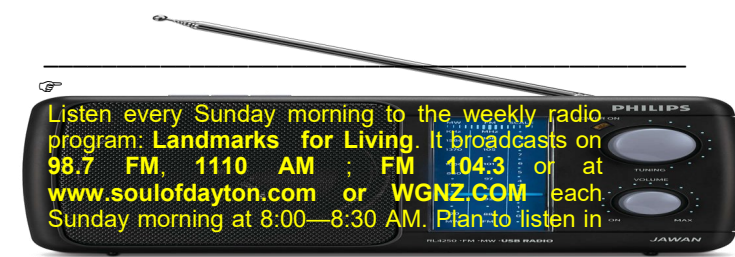
An interesting phase of hymnology is the circumstances under which the songs were written. Of particular interest in this article is the reason distinguished women hymnists wrote as they did.

Certainly the most prolific American hymnwriter was Fanny J. Crosby (1820-1915). Blinded at the age of six weeks, she, never the less, had an excellent education at the New York Institution for the Blind where she later taught Greek and Roman history. She is reputed to have written 8000 poems, many suitable for hymns. They were usually written out of some experience.

One such song that has touched the lives of many, many people is "Rescue the Perishing". On a summer night in 1869 Miss Crosby visited the slum areas of New York City. Feeling the misery of the people who lived there and realizing the lost condition of the multitudes, she wrote the words of this missionary hymn. The words encourage Christians even today to:

*Rescue the perishing; care for the dying;
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave.
Weep o'er the erring one; lift up the fallen;
Tell them of Jesus the Mighty to save.*

- Irma Batey



Listen every Sunday morning to the weekly radio program: **Landmarks for Living**. It broadcasts on **98.7 FM, 1110 AM, FM 104.3** or at **www.soulofdayton.com** or **WGNZ.COM** each Sunday morning at 8:00—8:30 AM. Plan to listen in

NEWS AND NOTES

- Visit these online resources: www.wvbs.org ; www.apologeticspress.org ; www.searchtv.org; <http://gbntv.org/>;
- View: In Search of the Lord's Way— Dish- 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