

October 04, 2026		EDIFIER		Page 4
RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE		October 04	BRETHREN TO SERVE AM	BRETHREN TO SERVE PM
Bible Class	40	Opening Prayer	Lyle Cole	Lyle Cole
Attendance AM	60	Song Leader	Michale Blanks, Jr.	Patrick Cook
Attendance PM	24	Lead Lord's Supper	Patrick Thomas	Patrick Thomas
Wednesday PM	23	Server 1	Anthony Grigsby	Anthony Grigsby
PRAYER REQUESTS		Server 2	Chris Poole	Chris Poole
Prayer for Health: Kevin Gilbert (home); Otis Adair (Stone Springs); Carlene Harley; Krubo Joplo; Richard & Florine Thomas; Pat Norris (home); Betty Blakely (Stone Springs); Janis Bland; Rhonda Fox; Jamie Vance; Jace Vance and teammates (Dayton, TN) Traveling: Richard Melson, Jr.; Eslick family; R.D. Melson Prayers: Repentance: Baptism: Sympathy: Member Birthdays: October — 2— Virginia Robbins; 6— Kevin Gilbert; 9— Victoria Dudley; 14— Patrick Cook; 16— Judy Arnett; 17—Dollie Jones; Mozella Tate; Nancy Weimer Anniversaries: October — 1—Thomas and Mary Vance Ladies Reading Group: Zoom Class Oct. 15 @ 6:00 PM Chapter 13 in “The Begging Place”		Scripture Reader	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
		Sermon	Pat Powers	Pat Powers
		Prayer for Responses	Norris Cole	Norris Cole
		Closing Prayer	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
		Announcements	Tony Moore	Tony Moore
		Greeter	Frank Brock	Frank Brock
		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 07

October 04, 2026

Issue 40

www.needmoreroadcoc.com
Phone: (937) 274-6801
Fax: (937) 999-4949

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
R.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

WORKING TOGETHER TO SURVIVE THE HUNT

Neal Pollard

1 Peter 5:8 calls the devil a roaring lion prowling around seeking someone to devour. It is obvious that Peter's readers would have seen or at least heard about these kings of the jungle for the analogy to make sense and be practical. Lions lurk, longing for lunch.

In the savannas of East Africa, their meal of choice is usually either the wildebeest or zebra. Despite this, these two animals continue to graze and migrate together. In fact, because they are chief prey of the lion (and other big cats), they need to stick together. Various observers and experts give different explanations for why. Zebras have great farsightedness and the wildebeests have excellent peripheral vision, but each are poor at seeing what the other sees well. Others explain that wildebeests have mouths better suited for short grass while zebras are made for the long grass that grow intermittently together on the plains. Still others point to the zebras superior memories, recalling the safety routes of the previous year, and the wildebeests uncanny ability to find water even when such is scarce. Probably, it is the combination of these facts that cause the symbiotic relationship between these two large mammals. They do not all survive, but the vast majority do. The reason is because they utilize their own abilities but also because they rely on the abilities of others.

In a letter where Peter is addressing a people who were at times spiritual prey, he does more than use the simba simile. He urges Christians to stick together and look out for one another. He calls for sincere, fervent, from the heart love for one another (1:22; 4:8). He urges complaint-free hospitality toward one another (4:9). He commands serving one another (4:10). He teaches there to be mutual humility displayed toward one another (5:5). He ends the letter exhorting an affectionate, loving greeting of one another (5:14). As much as anything, this is a recognition of mutual dependence.

If we understand that we are not at home in this world (2:11) and are living and longing for the inheritance in heaven (1:4), we should come to understand our mutual need of each other. That does not just mean looking for others' help, but also giving it. This is by God's design. Notice, for example, the proactive protection we provide each other by being harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead... (3:8-9a). Right before the lion passage, Peter talks about different groups looking out for and helping each other (5:1-6).

Any of us, through suffering, temptation, doubt, or some other factor, could drift away from the safety and security of the fold. Let us be more than mindful of each other. Let us depend on each other to survive the hunt and make it to eternal safety. I will face the lion many times in this life, and I depend on you to help me survive. 

STRONGER THAN EVER IN 2026 - EPH. 6:10

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

What If You Came to Worship This Sunday?

Thank God for her example and her encouragement

You should really be at worship this Sunday. In fact, there is no better Sunday for you to make sure you are present, and that is true no matter which Sunday we are talking about. That’s because the time to start making worship a priority is always right now. Here are some reasons why. If you come to worship this Sunday, it will strengthen the church. Hebrews 10:24–25 says, “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another...” The church needs the encouragement of its brethren. How might you encourage your brethren if you came this Sunday?

If you come this Sunday, it will deepen your devotion to the Lord. In Acts 2:42, the Bible says that the early church “...continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.” Creating the practice of spending time in worship and instruction in the scriptures is key to reaching greater spiritual growth. How might worship bring you closer to God this Sunday?

If you come this Sunday, you will find brethren who want to lift you up. Paul tells us in Galatians 6:2, “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” Your brothers and sisters in Christ have a God-given duty to hold each other up when we are feeling low. But, we don’t fulfill this command out of necessity, we want to help each other because we love each other. How might the church lift your burdens this Sunday?

If you come this Sunday, you will find the purest love in the world. Paul expresses another command to Christians in Romans 12:10. He says, “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord...” Again, this isn’t a difficult command for Christians. When you are not at worship, you are missed. Your brethren can’t wait to give you a hug and catch up with you because you are our friend. Who might you see at worship that will brighten your day if you come this Sunday?

If you come this Sunday, you will be spiritually strengthened. Proverbs 27:17 says, “As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.” There is no better reminder of how to stay faithful than to see it lived out in your brethren. At worship, you will be surrounded by your friends who are all striving to be faithful, just like you. How might your spiritual walk be sharpened if you came to worship this Sunday?

Don’t miss what God has in store for you this Sunday!
— Robert Lupo



Due to multiple chronic health issues, it takes her hours (literally) to get ready to go to church. It’s a long and arduous process. (Most folks couldn’t even imagine, and a lot of folks wouldn’t even do it.) Then, before she can leave, she has to get her elderly mother situated in her room with everything she needs. When mom is settled, this determined Christian lady pushes her walker outside, folds and lifts it into her back seat, and drives 30 minutes to the church building. It takes her a while to unload and then walk up to the church building, and she couldn’t do it without her oxygen machine that she has been lugging the whole time. As she steadily makes her way inside the building, there is one thing that she shares with everybody—her smile! She is so happy to be there! She wants to be where God’s people are! And she’ll do that every time the doors are open, if she can muster the strength.

What about you? It is evident what is “first” with her (Matt. 6:33). Again, what about you?

David Sproule
A Thought from the Word

