

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday:

Bible Classes	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Worship Service	6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.
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Office (870) 933-9134

Elders

Kemuel Camp	(870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield	(870) 934-8874

Deacons

Phillip Cassidy	(870) 623-2588
Jeff Ladyman	(479) 236-5365
Steve Lands	(870) 974-1976
Travis Moody	(870) 650-1649

Preacher

John Mundy 870-623-5339

Editor

Dick Blackford 870-919-2266

**THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY,
MAKES CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS
ONLY. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS
COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE
NOT JOINED A DENOMINATION.**

StoneRidge Church of Christ

where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone

1 Peter 2:7



Vol. 15, No .32

March 26, 2023

Mardi gras, Ash Wednesday, Lent & Easter

MARDI GRAS (“Fat Tuesday”) - *Mardi* is French for Tuesday and *gras* means fat. It’s the day before Ash Wednesday, which begins *Lent*. It has been celebrated in a number of Roman Catholic lands since the Middle Ages (DICTIONARY OF RELIGIOUS TERMS, p.302). “It is a day of merrymaking and carnival, as in New Orleans” (WEBSTER’S NEW WORLD DICTIONARY, p.866).

ASH WEDNESDAY is “the first day of Lent when the ashes of palms are blessed and then marked on the foreheads of the faithful in the form of a cross...It is acall to penance so that one may enjoy eternal life” (THE CATHOLIC CONCISE ENCYCLOPEDIA, p.49).

LENT is the period of 6½ weeks from Ash Wednesday to the day of Easter Sunday. During Lent, for 40 days, excluding Sundays, there is imposed fasting for all Catholics...It is observed as a time of penitence...” (Ibid., p.221).

EASTER is “the celebration in the liturgy of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The name Easter derives from the Saxon goddess Eastre, the ancient deity of the dawn...” (Ibid. p.138). In the KJV “Easter” is a mistranslation for Passover (Herod wasn’t acknowledging the resurrection of Christ). Earliest references to this celebration is from the mid second century.

from front page

Mardi gras is often a time of debauchery, drunkenness and other forms of indulgence (thus, "Fat Tuesday"). It is one last big fling before one begins the of Lent when he must practice self-control and self-denial. Imagine our Lord sanctioning such a thing! Actually, there is no Bible authority for any of the practices mentioned, regardless of any good intentions (councils of men). Not one of these is mentioned in the Bible, thus all quotes are from non-inspired sources. They fall into the category of "traditions of men" which Jesus severely and plainly condemned.

There as nothing immoral about washing hands, pots, cups, and vessels. But the Pharisees had introduced these as religious practices and Jesus condemned them. Those who introduced Lent, Easter, etc. had as much authority from God as the Pharisees did - none. Jesus said, "*But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men...Full well do you reject the commandment of God that ye may keep your own tradition*" (Mk 7:1-9). Many protestant churches of followed these manmade traditions.

Jesus has told us how he want his death and resurrection remembered and "none-of-the-above" are included. It is a matter of the wisdom of men versus the wisdom of God. Please read Mt 26:17, 26-29; Mk 14:22-25; Lk 22:19,20; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Acts 20:7). -db

The hardest guy in the world to love is the one who needs your love the most.

We are defined not just by the opportunities that we make, but by what we make of the opportunities.

God only wants for us what we would want for ourselves if we were smart enough to want it.

Has it ever occurred to you that nothing ever occurs to God?

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. ...**Pat Spencer** (Jerry's mom) is receiving new chemo which is causing her nausea. We had a new visitor last Sunday. **Canaan Elain Cassidy** came for the first time after recovering from being born. She brought her parents with her.

Lynissa Davis continues to face health challenges. Remember **Virginia Bishop** who is still having problems with her feet and legs....**Courtney Harbin** has been dealing with a lot of should pain...**Kathy Suell** has been sick this past week (**Phaelon** is in trucking school in Springfield MO)....**Creed Moody** has been dealing with an ear infection that has caused him to fail a hearing test... **John Erickson's** mother has a compressed nerve that has been giving here a lot of trouble. **Konor Erickson's** grandmother on mom's side has also been having some health difficulties...**Charles Wayne French** (Nola Christenberry's brother) continues to battle cancer. **Sandra Stubblefield** will have surgery on her hand soon...**Sherry Boylls** is improving after a bout with Covid...r.. Remember our shut-ins: **Madonna Vines** is confined at home.. **Bob** and **Jean Evans** are also confined at home...**Gail Brooks** and **Rita Kieffer** are both at St. Bernard Village...**Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** is at St. Elizabeth's Place... Continue to remember all of these in your prayers.

GOSPEL MEETINGS (Mark your calendar!)

April 9-14 - STONERIDGE - Wilson Adams

April 16-20 - Jonesboro (Northside) - Jacob Holman

April 23-28 - Kennett MO (Westside)) - Mike Prestininzi

April 28-30 - Mt. Home (Hwy 5) - Bruce Reeves

June 4-9 - Village Creek (Paragould) - Daniel Sanders

PODCAST! Hear a lesson from God's word each morning from John Mundy on Facebook & YouTube, 8 am.

GROUP MEETING. Group 1 will meet on April 15 (5:30) at Travis and Janae's.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS. 1st - Jenny Crisler; 8th - Carol Kern;13th - Carter Camp; 14th - Matt Cunningham, Haley Kortan; 19th - Jerry Spencer; 20th - Paula Cossey; 21st - Suzanne Rand; 28th - Mason Stevens

There are three kinds of people in this world: those who are afraid, those who don't know enough to be afraid, and those who know their Bible.

