

### 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.

Office (870) 933-9134

#### Elders

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

#### Deacons

Phillip Cassidy (870) 623-2588  
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. 16, No .20 November 19, 2023

## A Good Thing Gone Bad

**Decisions are made by men each day** which are based largely on priorities. Setting one's priorities does not generally involve choosing between a "good" thing and a "bad" thing rather it usually involves a choice between two good things. Even among things which are right and lawful, some things are more important than others. A good thing can become bad when it takes priority over another good thing of greater importance.

When Martha chose to prepare a meal for Jesus, she did not choose to commit an ungodly or immoral act. At that particular time, however, sitting at Jesus' feet and hearing his words should have had higher priority, and Mary chose the "better" thing.

On one occasion, the text clearly states that Jesus had compassion on the multitude because they had nothing to eat (Mt 15:32). He cared for their physical wellbeing. In another place, emphasis is shifted. Again, His compassion for the multitude is emphasized, but this time He was sorry for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd (Mk 65:34). He obviously cared for their spiritual wellbeing.

In regard to these two concerns, Jesus revealed the higher priority. *"Work not for the food which perisheth, but for the food which abideth unto eternal life"* (John 6:27). The spiritual bread should have greater priority in the lives of the people →

from front page

than the material loaves. But many of the people had their priorities mixed up, and they refused to stay with Him (John 6:26,66).

It is good for a man to work and provide for his own, but putting job before family is bad. It is good for a woman to be a keeper at home, but putting housework ahead of spiritual endeavors is bad. It is good for churches to give consideration to numerical growth, but putting numerical growth ahead of spiritual increase is bad. It is true that many "things" Christians desire to do are not "bad." It is also certain, however, that some things are "better" than others. That is what "prioritizing" is all about. – *David Thomley*

## News/Notes/Quotes.

**THE SICK.** **Beverly Allen** continues her treated for Leukemia...**Debbie Spencer** will see her surgeon on Dec 12 to determine when she will have back surgery... **Susan Pickens** is showing improvement but is still restricted on activity . .... **Gracelyn Lands** will have surgery on 12/6...**Virginia Bishop's** knee surgery has been moved to 12/14... .. **Ruby Vanhooser** (Virginia's mom) is now under hospice care... .. **Corey Ladyman** had foot surgery and has a large wound ...**Sherry Horton** had another back injection and is to have an MRI...**Holly Kortan's** surgery is scheduled for 12/15 pending... **Chloe Humblet** is away for some extended treatment .... **Shut-ins:** **Rhea Vines** (at Roger's house)...**Gail Brooks** room 423 Lawrence Hall, Walnut Ridge... **Rita Kieffer**, St. Bernard Village ...**Shirley Coots**, Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth's Place... **Bob and Jean Evans** at home...**Betty Shrable** at home. Pray for these!

**DIRECTORY INFO.** **Jason Hembrey** was recently identified with the StoneRidge congregation Here is his contact info: 1001 CR 793K Brookland A 72417; Phone: 870-752-1022; Email: [angelahembrey72417@gmail.com](mailto:angelahembrey72417@gmail.com); Birthday: 9/4

## Thanksgiving

America has come a long way since that first Thanksgiving of 1621. We have been told that the drop for that year consisted of: 20 acres of corn, 6 acres of barley, and a few patches of peas. Now, some 400+ years later, huge machines costing up to a million dollars are seen gathering in the abundant harvest across the land of America. Today's harvesting will be in the billions of dollars in value. A far cry from her meager beginning.

Though America has been bountifully blessed of God in the past, we now find ourselves in an age of ingratitude. She has returned the bountiful blessings with an age of permissive immorality that is bringing her to her knees.

It is still true that "Blessed is the nation whose God is Jehovah..." (Ps 33:12). It is also true that "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God" (Ps 9:17). The rise and fall of nations is the story of history. Will we learn anything from history? -db

***The secret of happiness is serving the Lord.***



The year that is drawing to its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. These bounties are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice of the whole American people" -*Abraham Lincoln, 1863*



