


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 . 28 January 14, 2024

Assembly emotion...

Gathering with God’s people is a highlight of any week. It’s tempting to think each time is going to be filled with excitement and exuberance. After all, no one announces, “Come to our First Day assembly because it’s going to be... okay.” Okay?? Instead, we get emotional about assembly worship -or should.

For one thing, assemblies reflect the mood of those present -wide range. A newlywed couple returns to the joy of friends, a sister mourns the finalizing of a divorce she didn't want, a brother got great news that he beat cancer, and another the bad news that he didn't. There are couples celebrating new births and those who recently miscarried; anniversary celebrations and those who are alone; family reunions and empty pews.

That’s what a First Day feels like. The church, after all, is people. "Greet one another" pre and post assembly can be roller-coaster-like -one moment rejoicing and the next moment mourning.

Worship itself is an exercise in emotional swings -from Supper sadness to resurrection gladness, from receiving to giving, from songs of hallelujah-praise to tear-filled music of Amazing Grace reminders, from pensive prayer to preaching encouragement; from sinful confession to new birth rejoicing -wide range. Assemblies remind us that we are not alone in our joys and tears. Our Savior cares and surrounds us with others who do, too. *-Wilson Adams*

Two Views

God created us and gets to make the rules. He made two genders: male and female and expects us to act like men if we are men and women if we are women. God does not approve of us changing the natural genders and gender roles as it rebels against His wisdom and His plan. God is love but love does not rejoice in lawlessness and give it approval. Love calls for lawless people to start loving the wisdom and authority of God and His law, or if they choose to reject the wisdom and authority of God to accept the consequences of separation from His blessings. That is the view as set forth in the Bible, the mind of God as it is revealed. People who get their moral outlook from God's authority believe that all men will be judged in a final judgment by God's revealed standard.

The other view is the humanistic view that we evolved by a series of accidents that resulted in men being the highest of all the evolved creatures. We make up the rules as we see fit. The fittest become powerful and can force others to comply, and we can pretend to be whatever gender we want, and we can do with our bodies whatever we want. Morality is entirely made up by personal desires alone. Nothing is actually right or wrong, and the only thing wrong is someone claiming there is a higher standard outside and above our own desires. This view hates the idea of God telling them what to do, and this view is hostile to those who claim to get their morals from God.

This is a summary as to why there is such a divide in moral outlooks in our world. Only one view is true. We have to decide this day whom we will serve. Will it be God our Creator and Final Judge? Or, will we seek to please only ourselves? Are we prepared to give a reason for the hope within us? 1 Peter 3:15 - But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; 16 having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. 17 For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. NKJV Who do you serve and why? **Terry W Benton**

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. ...**Heath Ladyman** is now at home from the hospital and doing better...
...**Autumn Lamkin** has been dealing with migraine headaches. No fun there. The **Ledgerwoods** have all been very sick...**Melissa Pierce** has also been seriously ill for several days...**Virginia Bishop** is still recovering from knee surgery and blood clots... **Debbie Spencer's** next appointment for back pain is set for Feb. 6...
...**Frances Jones** is still recovering from a back injury but she hopes to be out soon...**Karen Livesay** has an upper GI scheduled for January 29...**Sherry Horton** is still receiving treatment for some serious back issues...**Beverly Allen** is being treated for Lukemia... Remember to pray for **Chloe Humblet** who 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!

PODCAST! Hear a lesson from God's word each morning from **John Mundy** on **Facebook & YouTube, 8 am., or you can catch it throughout the day.**

Group Meeting. Group 1 will meet at the Stubblefield's on January 27 at 5:30 p.m.
