


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 . 33 February 18, 2024

I Ordain in All the Churches 1 Cor.7:17

There was no such thing as each church making up the rules for themselves. From the very beginning they “continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine” (Acts 2:42), and when the apostles taught something, it was meant for “all the churches” to teach the same thing and practice the same body of teaching. If it was ordered in Galatia, “even so must you (at Corinth) do” (1 Cor.16:1-2). There were no denominations with their own creeds, distinguishing names, and organizations. They were all churches belonging to Christ (Rom.16:16) and they were commanded to “speak the same thing” (1 Cor.1:10) and “let there be no divisions among you”. They were not allowed to preach a different doctrine (2 John 9-10) or a different gospel (Gal.1:6-10) lest they be rejected by God.

The teaching could be planted in a new town, but the result would be the same thing. The Bible only would make Christians only every time. The Bible only would never make a Roman Catholic. You have to mix in new orders and doctrines of men in order to get a Roman Catholic Church. This evolution away from the original teaching began with small departures from the faith (1 Tim.4:1-4) and over time would snowball into larger and larger differences from the original churches of Christ. If a person wanted to discard all added human inventions, they would relinquish their hold on having popes, cardinals, prayers to Mary, icons, and numerous human doctrines, and resort to following the Bible alone. They could go back to the original standard of just being a “Christian”, a follower of Christ.

Later denominations of the Reformation movement were also different in names, doctrines, and practices. They were trying to reform the Roman Catholic Church →

from front page

Church instead of going back to just being Christians as in the first century. The Bible alone never made the variety of protestant churches. A little bit of Bible mixed with a new doctrine of men will produce some kind of hybrid denomination, but we are not pleasing God when we defend and support the various hybrid (part Bible and part human originated doctrines) denominations. If it is possible to plant the pure, unmixed, word of God, and go back to what the apostles “ordained in all the early churches”, and it is possible, then it tells us to be determined to be nothing more or less than what those apostolic churches were in teaching and practice. That is what we must be determined to do. “As I teach everywhere in every church” (1 Cor.4:17) must be the goal and determination. Christians only! Nothing more, nothing less, nothing different than we read of in the Bible.

Three Facts to Remember:

- 1) What was taught by the apostles in any one church was taught in all the churches. (Departures evolved later).
- 2) What was “acceptable to the Lord” (Rom.12:1-3) in one church was acceptable to the Lord in every church.
- 3) It was acceptable to the Lord for the disciples to come together on the first day of the week to break bread (Acts 20:7). It was acceptable for all the churches to meet on the first day of the week to break bread and to give for the common cause (1 Cor.16:1-2). Therefore, it is acceptable for all the churches today to meet for breaking bread (Lord’s Supper) every first day of the week and to give to the needs of the local church and other needs that arise that are in harmony with apostolic example and principle. The first day of the week for all the churches was not an arbitrarily selected day to meet but was designated to all the churches because that was the precedent set by the apostles in all the churches. If we copied that first century, God approved, precedent, we know that this is acceptable to the Lord. Let us all limit ourselves to what was ordained in all the early churches.

-Terry Wane Benton

Don’t let anyone be the cause why you leave church. They are not the reason you go to church in the first place.

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. **David Ledgerwood** is scheduled to have open heart surgery tomorrow at NEA. Let’s pray fervently for success and complete recovery from this serious procedure...**Lavonne Cox** fell recently and has a lot of pain in her hip and knee. Though her doctor said nothing is broken she is still in severe pain and feels that she won’t be able to assemble for a while....**Austin Shiflet** has requested prayers for his **Aunt Ruth** in Springfield MO. She was diagnosed with a brain tumor... **The Pickens’** are gradually recovering from Covid. We deeply regret that they have had to deal with this again...**Almon Williams** has also had Covid and is trying to fight it off... **Pat Spencer’s** cancer has spread and they are changing her chemo...**Betty Shrable** has been in the hospital in Paragould and will be going to a nursing home when she is dismissed.. She will be 97 next week...**Amy Cooper’s** cousin, **Shelly Vanderslice** still needs our prayers while she is undergoing chemo ... **Lynissa Davis** is dealing with a staph infection and some changes in her meds...**Debbie Spencer** will be taking pain management for her back issues.....Autumn Lamkin and Karen Livesay are both dealing with migraines and they need some relief. Please pray for them...Remember **Mary Hamilton**, a member at New Haven, who is very sick... **Karen Livesay** still has no relief from migraines... **Virginia Bishop** had an appointment on the 14th and was able to use her walker instead of wheelchair...Prayers are requested **Jonnas Harding**, a friend of **Lavada Crisler** ... Remember to pray for **Chloe Humblet** who is away from home for some extended treatment **Shut-ins:** **Rhea Vines** (at Roger’s house)...**Gail Brooks** 423 Lawrence Hall, Walnut Ridge... **Rita Kieffer**, St. Bernard Village, ...**Shirley Coots**, Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth’s Place... **Jean Evans** at home...**Betty Shrable** 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.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

April 7-12 – StoneRidge! – Tack Chumley

SYMPATHY. We sorrow with **Donna Camp** and **Beth Cunningham** over the loss of their dad, **Bob Evans**, last Thursday. We also grieve because Bob was one of our number in the local congregation here at StoneRidge. The funeral was conducted yesterday by Kemuel Camp.... Also, the mother of Lavonda Townsley’s daughter-in-law (Dena) passed away and Lavonda is away attending the funeral.
