


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
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 .36 April 23, 2023

Unthinking Christians

I recently saw an email appeal for prayers from a sister about her hospitalized brother. She wrote, he “...is a Christian but after having been really hurt by some unthinking Christians, has not been back to church in about 40 years.”

All I can do is shake my head. How often have we heard something similar? Uncaring, unthinking, or unloving Christians drive away the very souls Christ has died to save. All his efforts, all his work, all his blood, undone. Imagine an artist creating beautiful works of art but being followed by a scoundrel who destroys the art before the paint even dries. Jesus is the Artist and He’s still working on us. The paint hasn’t yet dried. Are we protecting his works in progress or destroying them? We can spend hours talking about God’s grace and then make one hash, hurtful comment and all the good can be undone. Am I surprised? No. Am I disheartened? Yes.

I’m not surprised because we are all flawed. We all need help - including those who stand in judgment of others and intentionally or unintentionally drive them away. But I am disheartened because driving away those whom Christ has saved only leads to death. Life is found in Christ, only in Christ.

C.S. Lewis once wrote that when we accept Christ, the road ahead immediately branches: One way leads to love, humility, and compassion for others who, like us, are beset with sin. The other way leads to spiritual pride, self-righteousness, and persecuting zeal. Which road are you on? Do you →

from front page

Draw others to or drive them away from Christ?

Jesus told a parable about those who were self-righteous and treated others with contempt. He said, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: "God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get." But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' O tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Lk 18:9-14).

Of course, the source of the problem is twofold. There are some "Pharisees" in local congregations. They feel themselves superior to their brothers and sisters. They make the mistake of comparing themselves to others rather than to Christ. They look to others rather than to Christ. They look down their noses at the flaws of their brethren, ignoring their own. Want a healthy dose of humility? Compare yourself to Christ. Ouch! This should humble even the most self-righteous among us.

The other source of the problem is putting our faith in men rather than in Jesus. Get ready. Your brethren will disappoint you. Your brethren will hurt you. They will say and do things that are completely unlike the Son whom they claim to follow. But Jesus won't. He will never disappoint. He will never betray. He will always do what's in your best interest. Put your faith in Him and not in men. Don't leave Him and His bride, the church, because of the harshness of the broken people He is still working to save. - **Matt Hennecke**



News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. ...**Jack Ladyman** had an MRI and has a massive rotator cuff tear in tendons and tear in his biceps tendon. He has an appointment on April 27 to decide his treatment...**Pat Spencer** (Jerry's mom) is continuing to receive chemo treatments for cancer... **Max Ward** (former member here) is in ICU at St Bernard's Hospital, room 3327... **Lynissa Davis** is still facing health challenges and her mother recently fell last week and fractured her arm...**Creed Moody** continues to be treated for hearing difficulties...Remember **Virginia Bishop** is still having health Challenges.. **Courtney Harbin** continues to suffer from broken collarbone...**Charles Wayne French** (Nola Christenberry's brother) continues to battle cancer. **Sandra Stubblefield** will soon have surgery on her hand... 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... Remember all of these in prayer.

GOSPEL MEETINGS (Mark your calendar!)

April 21-243 - Bartlett TN (Charles Bryan Rd) - Andy Cantrell

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

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

June 4-9 - Trumann (Melton Ave.) - Singing 2 p.m.

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

HELLO BABY! We rejoice with **Austin** and **Kelli Shiflett** on the birth of they're first child! **Lucy Caroline** was born last Thursday and weighed 8 lbs, 4 oz. All are doing well.

I just read a report from my brother in Christ, Hendrik Joubert, South Africa. He told of a couple to whom he explained the way of God more accurately and who decided to be baptized for the right reasons. The man got up early in the morning to go buy supplies, came home, and built a baptistry for himself and his wife, so they could submit to the Lord's will!

When you know what needs doing, you do WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET IT DONE.

Thank God and praise Jesus for salvation from sins! -Bryan Dockens

