


TIME OF SERVICES	
<b>Sunday:</b>	
Bible Classes	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday:</b>	
Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.
Office	(870) 933-9134
<b>Elders</b>	
Kemuel Camp	(870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield	(870) 934-8874
<b>Deacons</b>	
Phillip Cassidy	(870) 623-2588
Jeff Ladyman	(479) 236-5365
Steve Lands	(870) 974-1976
Travis Moody	(870) 650-1649
<b>Preacher</b>	
John Mundy	870-623-5339
<b>Editor</b>	
Dick Blackford	870-919-2266
<b>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.</b>	



StoneRidge

Church of Christ

where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone

1 Peter 2:7

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TONING IT Down

A "country meeting" had gone exceedingly well, and elders from another community asked the preacher to work with them the following year. He came at the appointed time, and found his reputation had spread, and the building was packed. The elders met him at the car, told him they had never had such a gathering of Methodists, Baptists, and no-church folk, so he must be very careful lest he offend someone with his forthright teaching.

Being young and brash, and having no more tact than to tell the truth, he reminded them of the undiluted lessons that had been given at the neighboring church in the previous year. He said that since he had not been in that section of the state before, the previous year's work must have drawn this year's crowd; and certainly was the reason he had been asked to come. He concluded, "If you expect to hold and convert these people with something other than the kind of preaching that brought them together, I'm afraid you have the wrong man. I'll get back into my car and go home."

With much confusion — "Oh no, you must have misunderstood us" etc., the preacher was persuaded to stay, and the meeting began. The preaching was strong, and seemed to get a little stronger; but the people continued to come, and several were converted.

I do not now believe, nor did I then, that "skinning the sects" is good preaching. Some folk will turn away from straight, plain truth, no matter how fairly we seek to present it. But we are dead wrong in thinking we can convert people to Christ with anything other than the Bible message. It will convict the world respecting

*from front page*


sin, righteousness, and judgment; and many won't like that. But we are looking for the "few" who will like it, and will genuinely turn to God.

"Toning it down" will produce only "toned down" members of a "toned down" church. You may keep the money, the rich and famous, and silk-stocking row; but you will lose the backbone and fiber that is necessary for a church to prevail and please the Lord. And if "members" are not interested in pleasing the Lord and saving souls, why bother with any preaching at all? - *Robert Turner (adapted)*

### ***Old Rugged Cross***

The apostle Paul said that his glory was in the cross. But I doubt that he would recognize the type of cross used as a religious symbol today. Today's crosses are of sleek shining gold. They are beautiful to the eye and easy on the conscience because they do not really recall the agony and horror of Calvary. On the contrary, they smooth over the agony of that hour just as their makers have polished them to a smooth brilliance pleasant to the eye - just as modern religionists smooth over man's sins to make Christianity pleasant to the eye and easy to swallow.

If modern shining crosses are the symbol of anything, they are a symbol of modern man trying to smooth over the commandments of God to make them suit his own fancy.

The cross of Calvary was not attractive. It was ugly and hideous, the cursed tree, the stumbling block to worldly eyes, the climatic exposure of the sinfulness of man. So when we think back to the cross, let us remember it for what it really was -- two coarsely hewn beams with crude spikes and the blood that was shed for our sins. Then we will realize the ugly horror of our sins. Then we will see that following Christ is not the decorating of ourselves with pretty shining gold crosses. Then we will understand what it means to say that our glory is in the cross. Then we will understand the song about the old *rugged* cross. 

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### ***News/Notes/Quotes.***

**THE SICK.** Rhea Vines is showing improvement but is recuperating at her son's home (Roger)...**Joyce Riley** is now out of isolation from shingles and can have visitors...**Francis Jones** is still recovering from shoulder surgery and has been out a few times but is still under her doctor's care...**Pat Spencer** is continuing with chemo treatment. She celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday yesterday...**Betty Shrable** desire our continued prayers...**Karen Livsay** continues to struggle with migraines and other health issues...**Lynissa Davis** is dealing with some ongoing health issues. She started a new job recently...We were glad to see **Virginia Bishop** able to be at services last week...**Beth Cunningham** is now back at work and recovering from Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever...**Angel Stubblefield** is recovering from a horse riding accident. She has a broken jaw...

**YOUTH TRAINING AND LEADERSHIP!** The next meeting will be July 13 at the Weavers at 6 pm to work on learning to pray. What a great opportunity!

### **GOSPEL MEETINGS (Mark your calendar!)**

**JULY 17-21 STONERIDGE - VBS!!**

August 3-4 - 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies Bible Study - Hwy 5 Mountain Home

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

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And perhaps then we will be moved to get down on our knees and thank God for His great sacrifice. - *Phil Roberts*

***A hangover is the wrath of grapes.***

***A pessimist's blood type is always B negative.***

***When you are facing the sunshine, the shadows are always behind you.***

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



