

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.
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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
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Editor

Dick Blackford	870-919-2266
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**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 .2 August 20, 2023

CHANGING A BABY'S DIAPER

When I was a young man, an elder in the church said to me that *"Changing a baby's diaper will make a man out of you."* I'm sure I looked puzzled. I didn't "get it." He was talking about God's view of a man, not the world's. Some equate manhood with the tough guy who can ride a mechanical bull, dip snuff, cuss, and "hold his own liquor." I believe what the elder meant was, it shows maturity.

YOU ARE LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY. You are being dependable. If you do it with a good attitude, you are also forming a bond with the child and you are doing something for someone who is unable to do for themselves. The child develops trust and confidence in you. So don't be surprised that when you are lying on the floor that the child crawls all over you, giving you kisses and affection. That relationship means the time is ripe to be reading Bible stories and teaching Bible principles because those formative years are some of the best for teaching and learning. Children learn things much earlier than previous thought. We call it "early childhood development." So we begin taking them to Bible class at six months instead of six years.

YOU ARE LEARNING STEADFASTNESS AND PATIENCE. Changing diapers is not a "one & done" situation. It will be needed repeatedly, again and again and....as long as needed until the child matures and grows out of that stage. God wants us to be steadfast in doing good (1 Cor 15:58). Be patient, but not as though it is "tribulation." *"Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit"* (Eccles 7:8).

YOU ARE LEARNING HUMILITY. You are putting someone else first and →

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thinking of their need instead of yours. It shows that doing what may seem a menial task is not beneath you. We need to reach the point where we realize "it's not all about ME." *"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up"* (Js 4:10). And so will the child, in due time. *"...He that shall humble himself shall be exalted"* (Mt 23:12).

This has become a little more convenient with disposable diapers over cloth ones that had to be laundered, hung on the clothesline, gathered and folded. While these are valuable lessons, there is a sense of refreshing, joy, and celebration at the graduation and surpassing of this milestone in the child's life. The child will be a "changed" person. And so will you.

We close this piece with three observations. **(1)** I heard of a sign on the wall of a church nursery: "1 Cor 15:51 - *Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.*" **(2)** Disclaimer: No, I don't want to change your baby's diaper unless you, your spouse or your nanny are unable. Then I will do it. **(3)** If you are a preacher you might be able to develop this into a three-point sermon outline, but I highly recommend that you don't. -db 😊

No church is complete until the evangelized become the evangelists.

One who sincerely loves the Lord Jesus cannot fail to love lost souls.

The strong should bear - not bare - the infirmities of the weak.

Because we worship a God that cannot be seen, do we hide as if we cannot be seen by the God we worship?

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. **Gracelyn Lands** is undergoing tests and treatment for kidney function... **Kathryn Dunman's** brother-in-law is under continued care ... a very serious auto accident. He is being treated for severe burns and other injuries. **Susie Johnson** (Lynissa's mom) is undergoing treatment for high blood pressure. They are moving to Jonesboro ... Following stress tests, **Matt Cossey** will remain under observation... **Pat Spencer** continues her chemo treatments. **Corey Ladyman** is undergoing tests... **Karen Livesay** is having her 3-month infusion for migraines. Remember Lavonda Townsley's special-needs grandson... **Gail Brooks** is moved to a nursing home in Walnut Ridge... Jane Spencer fell and broke her pelvis and is in St. Bernard's... Pray for **Lavonda Townsley's** special needs grandson in hope he can find the right meds.. Remember our shut-ins: Confined at home: **Madonna Vines, Betty Shrable, Bob and Jean Evans,,...Rhea Vines** (at Roger's house)... **Gail Brooks** room 423 Lawrence Hall, in Walnut Ridge, **Rita Kieffer** at St. Bernard Village... **Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth's Place... Pray for these!

YOUTH TRAINING AND LEADERSHIP! Our young leaders will meet here at the building next Wednesday night (8-23) at 6 pm to receive any help they need in preparing for their presentation.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Sept 9 - SINGING at StoneRidge - 4 pm

Oct 1-6 - StoneRidge - Chuck Bartlett

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.

