

NEWS AND NOTES

- ◇ Please remember in prayer– The Ryland and Lawhon families, Madge Hicks, Patti James’ son (Brian), Kathy Gray, Debbie Montgomery , Alma Townsley (Angela Wisdom’s aunt) , Jane Ross (Nick & Robin’s Grandmother), Nadine Fields (Moses' sister), Hugh and Paulette Sills, Ted Penland, Joshua Dykes (Butch Morgan’s cousin), and Bob Calkins (A friend of the Millers).
- ◇ Audrey Davis, Yvonne Jordan, Nick & Emilee Ross, and Lynda & Sherman Johnson are out of town.
- ◇ Group 1 meets tonight.
- ◇ Please remember also our shut-ins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Last Friday of each month - Teen Bible Study
- 2nd Sunday each month - Afternoon Song Practice (*Next Week*)
- 2nd Monday night each month - Ladies’ Bible Class. (*On hold throughout summer*)
- 4th Sunday of each month -Men’s Bible Class

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Assignments

Wednesday Night: 8/7/13

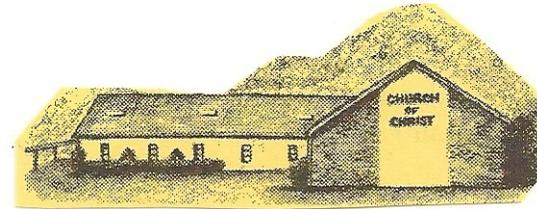
Song Leader: Tyler Rice
 Opening Prayer: David Williams
 Invitation: Jordan Lawson
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Eddie Lawson
 Parking Lot: Paul Lloyd

Sunday Evening: 8/11/13

Song Leader: Keith Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Eric Stevens
 Lord’s Table: Clay Sadler
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Daniel Stagers
 Parking Lot: Bucky Day

Sunday Morning: 8/11/13

Lord’s Table: Clay Sadler (B)
 Jerry Williams (C)
 Serving: Ed Lawson
 Jordan Lawson
 Song Leader: Bob Marschall
 Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: James VanDoorn
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Norm Blackburn
 (9:50) Jim Abram



**Lakeland Hills
LEADER**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ELDERS

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378

SERVICES

Sunday
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
 Michael Sadler
 Eric Stevens
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“A Wholesome Respect for Temptation”

In **1 Corinthians 10:13**, the apostle Paul, having warned his readers of the real danger of falling away from Christ, gives a word of encouragement: "But God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted above what your are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it." We need to know two things about temptation - that it is a serious and dangerous business not to be toyed with, and yet it is not impossible to resist and defeat it if we act wisely. Temptation is not sin. The sinless Son of God was tempted (**Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:21-22**). But temptation is a serious occasion for sin and playing with it is an invitation to disaster.

In **Proverbs 7**, Solomon describes a foolish young man who is seduced by a woman of easy virtue. One could almost feel sorry for this naive youth who is completely overwhelmed by the knowing charm of a wily seductress, save for one fact. Solomon says that he was "a young man devoid of understanding, passing along the street near her corner; and he took the path to her house." He was

not on her street accidentally, and he did not go near her house by chance. This young man was titillating himself with temptation, putting himself squarely in its way and daring it to take him. He was much like the young boy who, having been warned by his father not to swim in a certain stream, came home one day trying to conceal his wet swimsuit. "Why did you disobey me?" His father asked him. "I didn't mean to, but I was suddenly tempted," the boy said. "But why did you have your swimsuit with you?" the father continued. "Oh," the boy answered, "I took it along just in case I was tempted."

The Lord has promised a way of escape from every temptation, every trial - a way to endure it. But there will be no escape for those who approach sin's invitation with interest rather than with fear. Satan, Peter says, goes about "like a roaring lion" seeking someone to devour (**1 Peter 5:8**). It makes no sense to put your head in the lion's mouth. Young people do this by hanging around the drug crowd or militant adolescent rebels. Hus-

bands and wives do it by developing a too easy and carefree relationship with friends of the opposite sex. Preachers do it by carelessly counseling women alone and in private. Christians vulnerable to covetousness do it by collecting too many "things" and gathering associates and friends whose whole world revolves around money. It's a dangerous thing to hold long conversations with the Devil like Eve did. One is apt to find himself in the position of Lewis Carroll's owl:

*"I passed by his garden and
marked with one eye
How the Owl and the Panther were
sharing a pie;
The Panther took pie-crust, and
gravy and meat,
While the Owl had the dish as its
share of the treat.
When the pie was all finished, the
Owl, as a boon,
Was kindly permitted to pocket the
spoon;
While the Panther received knife
and fork with a growl
And concluded the banquet by eat-
ing the Owl."*

Better we take young Joseph's example and run from the presence of temptation as fast as our legs can carry us. "Flee sexual immorality," warns Paul in **1 Corinthians 6:18**. "Flee from idolatry," he urges in **1 Corinthians 10:14**. "Flee youthful lusts," he says in **2 Timothy 2:22**. So, when sin comes asking for a conference, it is time to run, not to hang around and think about it. Running from temptation is running for your life.

But the flight from temptation must be more than a running from sin. It must be a running to God. When Satan conspires to seduce us, we need, like frightened children, to seek our Father's side. There is no idea, which inhabits the Psalms so much as God's certain care of His people. "God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore will we not fear..." (**46:1-2**) "How precious is thy lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge under the shadow of thy wing" (**36:7**). "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the

Almighty. I will say of Jehovah, He is my refuge and my fortress; My God in whom I trust" (**91:1-2**). God is sure refuge from temptation because He "cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempteth no man" (**James 1:13**). God is a certain haven from Satan's alluring lies because in Christ all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden (**Colossians 2:3**). It is in the certainty of His Father's word that our Savior took refuge when meeting in the wilderness the fierce onslaught of the Devil. We should be so wise.

- By Paul Earnhart