

**Noteworthy**

**Prayer Requests:** Jo Anderson, Joe Brown (*cancer*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), Mary Elliot (*treatment for her ear*), Linda James (*on-going medical, recent and pending surgery*), Bennie Jones (*rheumatoid arthritis*), Paul Lloyd (*rehabilitation in Gibsonburg, Ohio*), Neil Miller (*back, vision*), Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Dottie Reynolds (*back, ongoing medical*), Suzette Stevens (*ongoing medical*), Arlene Turner (*ongoing medical, recent tests*).

*Family and friends:* Geraldean Day (*Bucky Day's mother*), Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), John Marschall (*Bob Marschall's father*), Lindy McReedy (*Cindy Hicks' aunt, cancer*), Wayne Ryland (*ongoing medical*) and Ardis Tucker (*Paula Sullivan's sister-in-law*). Remember and encourage others who are struggling physically and spiritually.

**Out of Town:** Larry & Cindy Hicks, Yvonne Jordan, David & Kyoko Williams.

**Kid's Review:** Immediately following the PM worship service *next week*.

**Group Meeting:** Group 2 will meet next week after the evening worship service.

**Men's Training Class:** 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (*Aug. 26th*).

**3rd Sunday of the Month:** Jordan Lawson will be preaching during the PM assembly next week, Lord willing.

**Annual Singing:** Our annual singing is on the last Friday of this month (*August 31st*) and will begin at 7:30 PM. Please make plans to attend.

**Assignments for Worship Service**

**Wednesday Night: 8/15/18**

Song Leader: Trent Stevens  
 Opening Prayer: Timothy Payne  
 Invitation: Ian Rice  
 Announcements: Mike Sadler  
 Closing Prayer: Eric Stevens  
 Recordings: Bucky Day  
 Usher: Larry Hicks

**Sunday Evening: 8/19/18**

Song Leader: Joe Brown  
 Opening Prayer: Earl Branham  
 Lord's Table: Larry Hicks  
 Announcements: Leon Miller  
 Closing Prayer: Charles Goodall  
 Recordings: Clay Sadler  
 Usher: Gus Johnson

**Sunday Morning: 8/19/18**

Lord's Table: Larry Hicks (B)  
 Sherman Johnson (C)  
 Serving: David Williams  
 Bucky Day  
 Song Leader: Bob Marschall

Opening Prayer: Ronnie Henderson  
 Announcements: Leon Miller  
 Closing Prayer: Jordan Lawson  
 Recordings: Kirk Marschall  
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills  
 Leader**

**LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**ELDERS**

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405  
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378  
 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

**SERVICES**

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

**DEACONS:**

Robert Marschall  
 Michael Sadler  
 Moses Stevens  
 David Williams

**EVANGELIST:**

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

***“Why I Oppose Instrumental Music”***

"Oh, I know about your church, you're the ones who don't worship with instruments!" It's a common response I receive when I tell others I am a member of the church of Christ. As much as I wish we as a group were most distinctive for other things, the absence of instruments in worship is usually the first thing outsiders notice about us. And yes, I admit, it does seem odd for a church to take such an unpopular and seemingly inconsequential position. However, I do not believe that the position one takes regarding this issue is inconsequential at all.

The fundamental question we should be asking when it comes to all our worship practices is, What does God want from our worship to Him? Worship is, after all, directed to Him, not us. That is why arguments made for or against worship practices based on one's personal preference or what will draw the most people or what best fits our time and culture are not compelling to me. They miss the point. They are not seeking to answer the fundamental question we should all be asking: What does our God desire from us (his worshippers) when we approach Him in worship?

To know what God wants from us, we must go to the instructions given to Christians by Jesus and His inspired apostles in the New Testament. These instructions govern not only the personal conduct of individual Christians but also the corporate worship practices of local churches.

If we look at what the New Testament says we can see that God has told us exactly what He wants us to bring to Him in worship. Simply, He has told us He wants us to sing:

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise (James 5:3).

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him (Colossians 3:16-17).

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart... (Ephesians 5:18-19)

Clearly, God is pleased when His worshippers use their voices to proclaim praises to Him and to teach one another. There are no

instructions in the New Testament about instruments in worship. There are no examples in the New Testament of Christians praising God with instruments. In fact, the presence of instruments of any kind in Christian churches was almost non-existent for the first millennia of the church's existence. Why would the church reject instruments so universally and so rigidly if their presence was a matter of indifference?

It is true that under the old covenant temple worship, the Israelites worshipped God with instruments. This is why we see, for instance, certain psalms that speak of worshipping God with "sounding cymbals" (Psalm 150:5). Yet the psalms also speak of worshipping God with "burnt sacrifices" (Psalm 20:3) and no one is arguing for the renewal of burnt sacrifices in Christian worship. When the New Testament writers spoke of the new covenant in Jesus Christ they made clear that the practices of the old covenant have been abolished (Romans 7:1-6; Galatians 3:23-25; 5:1-6; Hebrews 8:13). That is why one cannot justify Christian worship on the basis of the temple worship of the old covenant.

Our concern as worshippers of God should be to offer Him what He wants instead of what is convenient or preferable to us. God's swift punishment of Nadab and Abihu for the crime of offering "unauthorized fire before the LORD, which he had not commanded them" (Leviticus 10:1-3) should serve as a warning to us. God is not

pleased when we act presumptuously and "go beyond what is written" (1 Corinthians 4:6). Let us be content to let God guide our actions in the church and let us offer Him the praise He deserves! "Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name" (Hebrews 13:5).

~ by Jeremy Crump

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### ***"Standing Up for Our Brethren"***

Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal family. But Jehosheba, the daughter of King Joram, sister of Ahaziah, took Joash the son of Ahaziah and stole him away... Thus they hid him from Athaliah, so that he was not put to death. (2 Kings 11:1-2)

It was killing time in Israel. Jehu had just finished a rampage killing Jezebel, Joram (king of Israel), Ahaziah (king of Judah), and all that was left of the house of Ahab (including all the prophets of Baal). The queen mother in Judah, Athaliah, saw the kingdom potentially slipping from her fingers with the death of her son, and so she proceeded to kill off all the heirs.

But then a woman of great faith stepped in and saved the Davidic line from extinction. Jehosheba stole away Joash, the last remaining heir of David, saving him from the daughter of

Jezebel. She did this knowing that if Athaliah caught her she would be put to death.

When someone is the victim of vicious and malicious attacks, what do you do? Do you stand up and try to defend the innocent or do you become cautiously passive and silent? Do you fear getting caught in the cross fire?

We cannot allow the blood thirsty, power hungry attackers to do all this without a fight. We cannot sit idly by while good reputations are being destroyed. We must be willing to make a stand.

There's another way to look at this story. Joash was the last physical heir of David. The promises of God rested on his life. Therefore, when Jehosheba saved Joash, there is a sense in which she saved Jesus.

In the same way, when we identify with those who are in prison (literally or figuratively), when we come to the aid of those who are victims of gossip and slanderous accusations, we are aiding Jesus as well (Matt 25:39-40).

Lord, give us the courage to stand up for our brethren who are being unjustly condemned by the world.

~ by David Maxson