

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Jo Anderson (*on-going medical*), Joe Brown (*cancer*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), Mary Elliot (*medical*), Linda James (*surgery scheduled for Nov. 20th, this Tuesday*), Paul Lloyd (*rehabilitation in Toledo, Ohio*), Ruth Miller (*sudden hearing loss*), Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Dottie Reynolds (*back, ongoing medical*), Emma Rice (*diagnosed with type-1 diabetes*), Suzette Stevens (*ongoing medical*).

Family and friends: Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), Lindy McReedy (*Cindy Hicks' aunt, cancer*), Cherri Reeves (*Charles & Vernita Goodall's daughter, cancer*), Wayne Ryland (*ongoing medical*), Ardis Tucker (*Paula Sullivan's sister-in-law*). Remember and encourage others who are struggling physically and spiritually.

Out of Town: Bob & Stef Marschall, David & Kyoko Williams.

Group Meeting: Group 1 will meet next week after the evening worship service.

Ladies Bible Class: Next class will be December 10th at 7PM in Audrey Davis' home (*Please see bulletin board in foyer for more details*). In preparation, please do lesson number 10 on page 41 in the book provided for the class (*Woman, Her Blessings and Responsibilities*, by Irene S. Foy).

Men's Training Class: The 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (*Nov. 25th, next week*).

Fourth Sunday Night: Mike Sadler will be preaching during the PM assembly next week (*Nov. 25th*), Lord willing!

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 11/21/18

Song Leader: Joe Brown
 Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Invitation: Clay Sadler
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams
 Recordings: Trent Stevens
 Usher: Larry Hicks

Sunday Evening: 11/25/18

Song Leader: Colby Sadler
 Opening Prayer: Larry Hicks
 Lord's Table: Mike Sadler
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Sherman Johnson
 Recordings: Keith Marschall
 Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 11/25/18

Lord's Table: Ronnie Henderson (B)
 Trent Stevens (C)
 Serving: Ed Lawson
 Jordan Lawson
 Song Leader: Joe Brown

Opening Prayer: Bucky Day
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Earl Branham
 Recordings: Clay Sadler
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

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ELDERS

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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

“Let's Get Together”

Maybe it is the fast pace of twenty-first century living; maybe it is too much TV, or it may be just plain indifference, but whatever the reason, it occurs to me that most Christians are not having enough personal contact with each other. Many rarely see their brethren except at Bible classes or worship. Surely we owe one another something more in this area—something more than our customary vestibule visiting and exchanging of parking-lot pleasantries; something more than a sort of in-passing relationship that is mainly church-building oriented. Must we become old, infirmed or unfaithful to warrant a visit from our brethren? Man is a social creature, ever subject to the influence of those about him. As evil companionships corrupt (1 Cor. 15:33), keeping good company can be profitable for all (1 Pet. 2:12; 3:1; Matt. 5:6), especially for Christians who will be what they ought to be to each other. And that simply means, “In love of the brethren be tenderly affectionate one to another; in honor preferring one another...” (Rom. 12:10).

Such love involves more than passive and partisan feelings toward other Christians. Christ alludes to deeper dimensions when he says, “even as I have loved you, that ye also love one another” (Jn. 13:34). His love for the disciples was made apparent it that it could be seen in what He did! So must ours. Such love is the mark of discipleship; its presence is observable and influential (Jn. 13:35). Therefore, the fullest expression of sincere and fervent love (1 Pet. 1:22) is impossible apart from some form of personal contact and association.

Consider, for instance, the admonition to “bear ye one another burdens” (Gal. 6:2). How does one bear who is not there? We may pray and sympathize from afar, but fulfilling the law of Christ in this area usually requires both heart and hand. Keeping in touch helps brethren to know when a helping hand is needed. But more than that, being together more means better communication between us; the kind in which we can confess our sins to one another (Jas. 5:16); the kind in which we can admonish, edify and exhort each other (Rom. 15:14; 14:19; Heb. 3:13). When the weak need to be encouraged (1 Thess. 5:14); when the

sorrowed need to be comforted (1 Thess. 4:18), we need to be there. And even when there is no particular need evident, our being there may mean more than we know. We see the need for the elders to keep in close touch with the flock of their oversight. Without it they could not watch in behalf of the souls for which they shall give account (Heb. 13:17). But we also must see our personal opportunities to serve the King by serving even the least among our brethren (Matt. 25:40) for we too must give account. Others cannot represent us in such service; we must be there.

Even if we cannot have the day-by-day association enjoyed by many of the early disciples, we can and ought to have more time for each other. So, let’s get together—for a home Bible study, for a meal, for a pot-luck, for coffee or for just an old-fashion visit. For the sake of every benefit and blessing that can be given or received by kin in Christ being together, let’s get together!

~ Dan Shipley

“New Converts And Church Growth”

Question: Why did the early church grow so rapidly? One of the principle reasons may be that it consisted of nothing but new converts (Acts 2:41, 47; 4:4; 5:14; 6:7)!!! Whereas *some* today would consider a new convert to be very “limited” in their ability to serve usefully within the church, that certainly was not the case in the first century (See the book of 1 Thessalonians)!

Think: In the earliest days of the Lord’s church, people were *excited* about the new life they had obtained in Christ, the magnificent spiritual blessings in Him, and all of the new things they were learning. Their excitement is revealed in the fact that they actually spent time together inside *and* outside of worship (Acts 2:42-46), and they also shared their newfound faith with others (Acts 8:4)!

If we would have the church to grow today, then we need the same type of excitement (Tit. 3:1)! Perhaps, I need to reassess my own convictions, and get back to being more thankful for why I became a Christian to begin with (Heb. 10:32-36; Col. 2:6-7). New converts are typically very zealous for sharing their

faith with others. They also treasure the time spent with those who are genuinely faithful. Regardless of what challenges we face, can we not “recall the former days,” and get excited (*perhaps renew our excitement*) about sharing THE FAITH with others? We can sure learn a lot — from new converts.

But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: ³³ partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; ³⁴ for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. ³⁵ Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. ³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: (Hebrews 10:32-36, NKJV)

As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, ⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. (Colossians 2:6-7, NKJV)

~ Ian Rice