

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Jo Anderson (*on-going medical*), Joe Brown (*cancer*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), Mary Elliot (*awaiting results of recent testing*), Charles Goodall (*pneumonia*), Linda James (*surgery scheduled for Nov. 20th*), Paul Lloyd (*rehabilitation in Toledo, Ohio*), Ruth Miller (*sudden bearing loss*), Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Dottie Reynolds (*back, ongoing medical*), Suzette Stevens (*ongoing medical*).

Family and friends: Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), Fritz Marschall (*Bob's mother, had surgery to remove skin cancer last week*), John Marschall (*Bob's father, medical*), Lindy McReedy (*Cindy Hicks' aunt, 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: Audrey Davis, Larry Hicks, and Paula Sullivan.

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

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

Gospel Meetings: Russ Bowman will be preaching at the University Church of Christ Nov. 4-7. Ian Rice will be preaching at the Seffner Church of Christ Nov. 4-9. See bulletin board in the foyer for details.

Ladies Bible Class: Next class will be November 12 (*next week*) at 7PM (*Please see bulletin board in foyer for more details*). In preparation, please do lesson number 9 on page 37 in the book provided for the class (*Woman, Her Blessings and Responsibilities, by Irene S. Foy*).

Kids' Review Class: Next Sunday evening, immediately following the evening assembly.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 11/7/18

Song Leader: Keith Marschall
 Opening Prayer: David Williams
 Invitation: Trent Stevens
 Announcements: Larry Wisdom
 Closing Prayer: Colby Sadler
 Recordings: Bob Marschall
 Usher: Larry Wisdom

Sunday Evening: 11/11/18

Song Leader: Joe Brown
 Opening Prayer: Jerry Williams
 Lord's Table: Jordan Lawson
 Announcements: Larry Wisdom
 Closing Prayer: Eric Stevens
 Recordings: Clay Sadler
 Usher: Leon Miller

Sunday Morning: 11/11/18

Lord's Table: Jordan Lawson (B)
 Ed Lawson (C)
 Serving: Keith Marschall
 David Williams
 Song Leader: Colby Sadler

Opening Prayer: Ronnie Henderson
 Announcements: Larry Wisdom
 Closing Prayer: Earl Branham
 Recordings: Trent Stevens
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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

“Attendance and Involvement”

In every congregation of the Lord's people there are strong members, and there are weaker members. Often, the signs of weakness can be evident through different observations. Probably one of the most distinct signs of spiritual weakness in the Christian is when they don't attend services regularly. You can't help but notice that some Christians are at *every* service. They attend Sunday morning Bible class. They're here for Sunday morning and evening worship. They are regular in attendance for the mid-week studies. Also they are devoted to other studies also - like women's class, men's class, youth studies, etc.. Likewise, you *can't help but notice* that some Christians only attend one service a week... at best. I really do believe that sporadic attendances to the assemblies are a sign of weakness for the individual. Let's not stop with attendance though... Some folks may attend regularly, but are merely "pew-warmers," expecting that everyone else needs to step up and do their part - without examining themselves to see if they can be doing more.

Let's look at why attendance AND involvement in the Lord's work is so important...

We should want to be here because our assembling is intended to foster spiritual growth. Partaking of the Lord's Supper, praying, singing songs of praise, even the collection are acts of worship that we've been instructed to do. But by doing these things, we grow closer to God by seeking His will in all of these areas. Studying the sermon/ participating in Bible class helps us to grow into mature Christians. (Heb. 5:12-14) Even the songs we sing... Not only do they praise God, but they actually teach as well (Col. 3:16). If we aren't here on a regular basis... then are we aren't getting fed spiritually as we should?

We should be here, and we should be working to enable the church to function as it should. We as a people need each part to do its share if we want to be successful in doing the Lord's work. (Eph. 4:15-16) This church needs workers who are willing to be involved. We are fortunate to have song leaders, men who can pray and teach publicly... *but we need more!* Every member here is needed to help with the work of the church! (1Cor. 12:14-22) Everyone here is needed, and the church is an equal opportunity workplace!!

We should want to be here every service because it has an effect on those around us. We are to be setting a good example for one another. (Titus 2:1-8) How can we set the example for our brethren if we aren't here? We are the salt of the earth... the light of the world. (Matt. 5:13-16) Some might think that coming once a week is good enough... But what kind of example does that set for babes in Christ? What kind of example does that set for your neighbor? Let us be resolved to influence our families and neighbors for good, providing them with an example in which they can see our conviction and enthusiasm for the Lord. When more of our members

are actively involved with the work of the church, everyone gains encouragement. We must encourage others, if we want to be encouraged.

We've been commanded to be here, and to be involved with the Lord's work! "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." (Heb. 10:24-25) We've been commanded to seek 1st the kingdom of God. (Matt 6:33) We all have responsibilities, but let us honestly assess our priorities. Some folks will stay at home on Sundays because they don't feel well... but there is a difference between being sick, and not feeling well! Some stay in on Sunday because they don't feel well... only to go work, school, or the mall on Monday!! Jesus commands us to put Him first! (Matt. 10:34-39)

That said, some think that just being here is good enough. No Christian should ever want to just do *good enough* for the Lord! I am of the firm conviction that many churches have folks who are very capable of teaching... but simply choose not to do so! The men who are able to teach are instructed to enable others, "*You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*" (2 Tim. 2:1-2) The older women are likewise to teach the younger ones. (Titus 2:3-5)

These thoughts are not expressed with the intent of tearing anyone down. *We all* need to examine ourselves and challenge each other to press forward, fulfilling the commands of God. If you've got issues with your consistency in being here... then that is a problem! The bigger problem is, however, if we recognize that... but

do nothing to change. None of these admonitions are necessarily things you're not already aware of- *you know* we need to be here and be active... But some folks have had their "*conscience seared with a hot iron.*" (1 Timothy 4:2)

Let's examine ourselves, and leave here as a better and more determined people to do the Lord's work.... Desiring to not just to be encouraged, but do our part in building up others. "*Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.*" (Romans 14:19) For those faithful in attendance, remember that we must continue being actively involved with the work of the church... & there is no retirement age when it comes to teaching God's Word.

~ Ian Rice

"Characteristics of Lukewarm Christians"

Lukewarm Christians attend worship fairly regularly because they think that is what they have to do, but it is not what they want to do. The heart of this is revealed when we wonder if we have to come to church on Sunday night or Wednesday night. Lukewarm people feel that they have to come to worship. Christians want to attend worship services whenever possible.

Lukewarm Christians tend to choose what is popular over what is right when they are in conflict. They desire to fit in both in the church and outside the church. They care more about what people think about their actions than what God thinks of their hearts.

Lukewarm Christians do not really want to be saved from their sins. They want only to be saved from the penalty of their sins. They do not hate sin and are not sorry for committing it. They are only sorry because God is going to punish them.

Lukewarm Christians do not believe that the new life in Christ is better than the old sinful life.

Lukewarm Christians rarely share their faith with their neighbors, coworkers, and friends. They do not want to be rejected, nor do they want to make people uncomfortable by talking about private issues like religion.

Lukewarm Christians gauge their "goodness" by comparing themselves to the world. They are satisfied as long as they aren't as "bad" as the world. They are not concerned that they are not fully devoted to Jesus like others.

Lukewarm Christians say they love Jesus and that Jesus is a part of their lives. But only a part. They give him a section of their time, their money, and their thoughts, but he isn't allowed to control their lives.

Lukewarm Christians love God, but they do not love him with all their heart, soul, and strength. They assure themselves by thinking that this sort of total devotion is not really possible for the average person. It is only possible for preachers and radicals.

Lukewarm Christians think about life on earth much more often than eternity in heaven. Daily life is mostly focused on today's to-do list, this week's schedule, and next month's vacation. Rarely, if ever, do they intently consider the life to come or what God would have them do.

Lukewarm Christians probably drink and swear less than average, but besides that, they really aren't very different from your typical unbeliever. They equate their partially sanitized lives with holiness, but they couldn't be more wrong.

Lukewarm Christians walk by sight, not by faith. They do not trust their lives to God, but trust in themselves.

~ Author Unknown