

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Jo Anderson (*shut in*), Joe Brown (*cancer*), Mildred Church (*shut in*), Audrey Davis (*heart complications*), Day family (*illness*), Linda James (*ongoing medical*), Emily Lanning (*recovering from pneumonia*), Paul Lloyd (*rehabilitation in Toledo, Ohio*), the Marschall family (*exhorting Kirk to faithfulness*), Kirk Marschall (*in need of spiritual encouragement*), Linda McKenzie (*tending to her mother's ailing health*), Leon Miller, Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Dottie Reynolds (*ongoing medical*), Tabitha Sadler, Arlene Turner.

Family and friends: Scott Bower (*friend of the Lawson's; health*), the Goodall family (*with the recent passing of Tipton Goodall*), Nell Goodall (*Charles Goodall's aunt, and Tipton's mother*), Ned Hicks (*Larry Hicks' father, ongoing medical*), Brian James (*cancer*), John Marschall (*Bob's father*), Lyndell McReedy (*Cindy Hicks' aunt*), Ardis Tucker (*Paula Sullivan's sister-in-law, in rehab*). Remember and encourage others who are struggling physically and spiritually.

Out of Town: Larry Hicks, Louise Mosely, DeeAnn Sprott.

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

Ladies Bible Class: Class will be April 8th at 7PM in Stef Marschall's home (*Please see bulletin board in foyer for more details*).

Men's Bible Study: The 4th Sunday of each month at 5 pm (*next week, Mar. 24th*).

Fourth Sunday: Trent Stevens is scheduled to preach during the PM assembly next week.

Winter Study 2019: The next class will be Tuesday, Mar. 26th (7PM).

Gospel Meeting: Our meeting with Terry Benton will begin in two weeks (*Mar. 31st-Apr. 3rd*).

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 3/20/19

Song Leader: Jeff Lanning
 Opening Prayer: Bucky Day
 Invitation: Mike Sadler
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Mike Sadler
 Recordings: Trent Stevens
 Usher: Larry Hicks

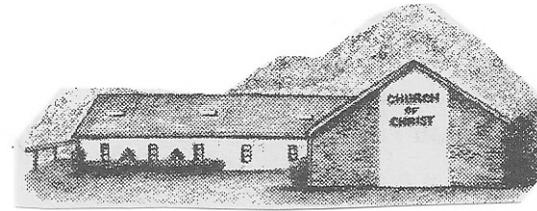
Sunday Evening: 3/24/19

Song Leader: Ryan Boyett
 Opening Prayer: Jordan Lawson
 Lord's Table: Larry Hicks
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: David Williams
 Recordings: Bob Marschall
 Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 3/24/19

Lord's Table: Larry Hicks (B)
 Sherman Johnson (C)
 Serving: Ed Lawson
 Mike Sadler
 Song Leader: Keith Marschall

Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Announcements: Leon Miller
 Closing Prayer: Charles Goodall
 Recordings: Bob Marschall
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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

Attitudes Towards the Weak

The Messiah's attitude toward the spiritually weak is pictured by Isaiah in the following words: "A bruised reed will he not break, and a dimly burning wick will he not quench" (Isaiah 42:3).

In our zeal for purity and strength in the church, we may be guilty of doing the very thing that our Lord does not want done. We create a mental image of what the ideal church ought to be, and then go about to establish one. Every member is going to attend every service. Every member will be "sound" in his convictions. Worldliness will not be tolerated. This church is not going to have the weaknesses that characterize other churches we know of. This is going to be a strong church, a model church.

A new convert is made, and immediately he is indoctrinated in what this church is, and the contribution he is expected to make to the maintaining of this ideal. Each newcomer is viewed as a potential threat. If he's not going to "line up," we don't want him. Weaker members are handled with a "shape up or ship out" attitude. People soon recognize that there is far more concern for the image of the church as an

organization than for them as struggling and weak children of God. While the Messiah is tenderly and delicately nursing the “bruised reeds” back to health, we may be there crushing them. While He cups His hand around these fluttering, dimly burning flames to protect what fire is left, we may be there quenching them.

We are not suggesting that unrepentant false teachers and immoral members ought to be tolerated. They must be warned, marked, and withdrawn from. Nor are we suggesting that the weak ought to be left alone in their weakness. They must be taught, encouraged, reproved, rebuked, and exhorted, but with all longsuffering, and with a view toward strengthening them. “Admonish the disorderly, encourage the fainthearted, support the weak, be longsuffering toward all” (1 Thess. 5:14). Ask not what they can do for the church but what the church can do for them.

As long as there is a little life in that “bruised reed,” there is hope. Don't crush it! As long as there is a little fire left, it might be fanned to burn more brightly. Don't extinguish it!

~ Bill Hall

A Poor and Contrite Heart

We may look at two Christians and judge one to be strong, and the other struggling. God's assessment may be just the opposite, because the “struggling Christian” may have a poor and contrite heart, whereas the “strong” one does not. The “struggling Christian” may not be doing as much good as the “strong” one, and presently he may even have a greater struggle with sin, but he knows his condition; he takes correction well; he's always willing to repent; he humbly seeks forgiveness; and he strives diligently to get better every day. And that's more than can be said for some “strong” Christians we know.

“But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word” (Isaiah 66:2).

“I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit...” (Isaiah 57:15).

“The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, and saves such as have a contrite spirit” (Psalms 34:18).

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:3).

~ Bryan Gibson

Now Is A Good Time

The be not anxious section of the sermon on the mount (Matt. 6:25-f) closes with these words: Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. It seems Jesus has given two cures for anxiety (1) make his kingdom and his righteousness your first goal; and (2) live one day at the time. In our emphasis upon the first, I believe we tend to overlook the importance of the second.

The anxious mind races ahead to troubles that may never happen, or sink morbidly in the mire of yesterday. It wallows in despair; is crippled and ineffective in life's most crucial moment of truth — the awesome, tingling, wonderful NOW.

NOW IS A GOOD TIME! That motto is attached to my study clock, but it is more than a warning against procrastination. It affirms one's trust in Almighty God — the kind of trust that makes a happy soul here and hereafter. Genuine Christians do not abdicate today for a heavenly existence; they live today — with assurance. To all who walk by faith NOW is opportunity: full of challenge, meaning and hope.

TODAY is a jewel, contrasting boldly with the yesterday that has been so effectively blotted out by the forgiveness that is in Christ (Heb. 10:17) and brilliantly illuminated with His promise of tomorrow. (Jn. 14:1-6). But it is ephemeral, delicately set in the effervescence of time. It must be used NOW, or it is lost forever.

When we ask, What is a Christian? we use the present tense. Not was, nor may be tomorrow — but NOW, what IS he? In a real sense, I am a follower of Christ to the extent that I use TODAY for Him. Forgetting the past, confident of the future, I press, (Phil. 3:13-15). Press is a NOW term, a TODAY word. The atmosphere, the climate in which a Christian lives is sparkling with NOW!! It is sweet urgency, too rich to be called frantic, too wonderful for leisure, it must be eaten while it is hot.

And where, in this kind of life, is there room for anxiety? This malady of emotions is rooted in a yesterday that we cannot believe forgiven, or in a tomorrow that we will not trust. It is not of God.

~ Robert F. Turner