

DUTY ROSTER FOR DECEMBER 23, 2018

Usher for This Week: Ron Dixon

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

David Bansemer

Scripture Reading:

Alex Bansemer

Scripture:

Psalm 148:1-6

Prayer:

Louis Long

Lesson:

Gary Hunt

Closing Prayer:

TBD

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Alex Bansemer

Scripture Reading:

Gary Sells

Scripture:

Psalm 148:7-14

Prayer:

Wayne Baker

Lord's Supper:

Ron Hunt

Chris Huffines

Jim Barton

Louis Long

Lesson:

Gary Hunt

Announcements:

Doug Thweatt

Closing Prayer:

Andrew Durham

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

Song Leader: Stacey Durham
Invitation: Andrew Durham
Closing Prayer: Chevis Webb

Creekview church of Christ
930 Long Hollow Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066
615-452-8212

Service Times:

Sundays 9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Bible Study
11:00 AM Worship
Wednesdays 7:00 PM Bible Study

creekviewchurchofchrist.com

LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION

December: Fix
January: Dixon

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

December:
January:

Elders: Ron Dixon, John Fix, Stacey Durham Deacons: David Bansemer, Kevin Hayes, Thom Steger, Doug Thweatt
Preacher and Editor: Stacey Durham

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

DECEMBER 23, 2018

Volume 33 Number 51

Make the Most of It

Time is precious, for it is the substance of life. Paul wrote, "Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men, but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil" (Eph. 5:15-16). There is no better use of our time today than to spend it in service to God. Let's make the most of it as we worship our God and edify one another.

To Our Visitors:

We hope that you find our services to be Scriptural in all things and edifying to your soul. We count it as a great honor and privilege to gather before the Lord for worship, and we hope that this sense of reverence is evident in all that we do. Thank you for coming to be with us today, and may God bless you as you walk with Him.

news and notes:

- Gary Hunt will be preaching both sermons for us today. We have supported Gary's work of preaching in New York for several years.
- The new quarter for children's classes begin on Sunday, January 6.
- Signup sheets for the Lord's Supper preparation and changing the sign in 2019 are posted on the bulletin board. Please sign up for these duties if you can.
- Please remember the following members in your prayers: Jim & Kay Cook, Billy & Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, and Bessie Short. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry, Dot Long's sister Melissa, and baby Esther Hunt.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 51

Sunday - 3John
Monday - Deuteronomy 29-31
Tuesday - Esther 1-5
Wednesday - Psalms 144-148
Thursday - Song of Sol. 5-6
Friday - Revelation 12-17
Saturday - Acts 25-26

Gospel Meetings:

Broadmoor (Nashville) - Jan. 4, song service

Can We Depend on You?

Has anyone ever said to you, “You can count on me,” but he was nowhere to be found when you needed him? Did you ever promise to help someone, but when the need arose, you found something else to do? Why do we make such empty promises? Why do we make commitments that we really do not want to keep? Maybe we say things just to create the impression that we are loyal, devoted, and helpful while hoping that no one will ever call on us to actually do anything. Maybe we deceive ourselves into thinking that we really are loyal, devoted, and helpful by finding conflicts to excuse our failure to keep our commitments. We try to justify ourselves by saying, “I was going to help, but I had to (fill in excuse).”

There really is no excuse. When we make commitments and then fail to keep them, it is tantamount to lying. The effect of our failure is the same whether we intentionally wretch on our promises or not. If someone depends upon us, and we fail to fulfill our commitment, then someone else must bear our burden or else something will be left undone. The fault and failure is ours regardless of our good intentions or our excuses.

Unfortunately, broken promises are a way of life for many people. The Scripture says, “Many a man proclaims his own loyalty, but who can find a trustworthy man?” (Prov. 20:6). This propensity for bogus commitments is evident in nearly every facet of life - families, marriages, churches, businesses, friendships, politics, etc. It is not difficult to find a person who will pledge his support, but it is a rare person indeed who is truly dependable.

This culture of hollow words does tremendous damage wherever it reaches. It leads to uncertainty, instability, and distrust. The Scripture says, “Like a bad tooth and an unsteady foot is confidence in a faithless man in time of trouble” (Prov. 25:19). One who fails to keep his commitments simply cannot be trusted. It is especially disappointing in the church and among Christians who should be bound to one another in honesty, loyalty, and devotion by the love of God. Churches suffer because some of those committed to do the work fail to deliver when it is their time.

The virtue of dependability should be present in all of us regardless of how minor we may perceive our roles to be. Remember that we are

stewards of God’s blessings, and each of us will have to give an account of how we use them, even the least of them. Do not deceive yourself into thinking that if your responsibility was more important, then you would be more dependable. The Lord said, “He who is faithful in a very little thing is faithful also in much; and he who is unrighteous in a very little thing is unrighteous also in much” (Luke 16:10). A dependable person is dependable regardless of the size of his task.

If you are not dependable, then it is time to correct this flaw. Keep the commitments that you make, and stop making commitments that you will not keep. It would be much better to be honest by stating your unwillingness or inability to help with something rather than to commit to it and then not do it (consider Matthew 21:28-31). Regarding the work of the church, we all should be involved, but if you do not intend to be involved, then do not say you will. If you are not going to help teach the gospel, then do not commit to do so. If you do not want to help with needful brethren (providing food, transportation, etc.), then do not volunteer. If you do not want to preach, lead singing, lead prayers, or lead in any other act during the services, then do not commit to any of these. Moreover, if you do commit to any of these things and there is a legitimate cause that prevents you from keeping your commitment, then have the courtesy to communicate your conflict to others so some other arrangements can be made. By doing these things, it at least allows the church to know who will work and who will not.

Stacey E. Durham