

DUTY ROSTER FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2019

Usher for This Week: David Bansemer

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

John Fix

Scripture Reading:

Louis Long

Scripture:

Ephesians 6:18-20

Prayer:

Ron Dixon

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

What Can You Do?

Lesson 2 - You Can Pray

Closing Prayer:

Andrew Durham

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Thom Steger

Scripture Reading:

Chris Huffine

Scripture:

Hebrews 10:19-25

Prayer:

Jim Stubblefield

Lord's Supper:

Ron Hunt

Doug Thweatt

Wayne Baker

Al Cotten

Lesson:

Kevin Hayes

Song Service - Invitation

Announcements:

Ron Dixon

Closing Prayer:

Jim Barton

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Song Leader: David Bansemer

Invitation: Ron Hunt

Closing Prayer: Jim Stubblefield

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

February: Durham

March: Long

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

February:

March:

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

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 3, 2019

Volume 34 Number 5

To Him Be the Glory

Ephesians 3:21 says, "To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen." On this first day of the week, the Lord's church at Creekview assembles to bring glory to our God who well deserves it. As long as the Lord gives us opportunity, let us embrace this charge that the church at Creekview shall glorify God in this community. Today, let us embrace the opportunity to glorify God by worshiping Him in spirit and in truth.

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:

- The 11AM service will be mostly devoted to singing today.
- Please keep the following members in your prayers: Jim & Kay Cook, Billy & Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Dot Long, Lana Richardson, and Bessie Short. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry, and Dot Long's sister Melissa.
- Good things are happening on Wednesday nights at Creekview. Let's keep it going this Wednesday as we assemble again for Bible study.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 5

Sunday - Romans 9-10
Monday - Genesis 16-19
Tuesday - Joshua 21-24
Wednesday - Psalms 12-14
Thursday - Job 9-10
Friday - Isaiah 23-28
Saturday - Matthew 11-13

Gospel Meetings:

Skyview (White House) - Feb. 8, song service

Always the Good News

Death is the standard by which we measure how bad something is. We ask, "Were there fatalities in the car accident?" "Is the disease terminal?" "Did the robber kill anyone?" "How many people died in the war?" If an event resulted in a death, then it was bad, and if it resulted in multiple deaths, then it was worse.

Ever since Adam and Eve sinned in the garden of Eden, death has hung over man like a dark shadow. God told them that if they disobeyed His commandment, then they would surely die (Gen. 2:17). When they had sinned, God said that Adam would return to the ground, saying, "For you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Gen. 3:19). Through Adam, "sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men" (Rom. 5:12). Indeed, "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). With very few exceptions (Enoch, for example, Gen. 5:24; Heb. 11:5), the death rate has always been one hundred percent among Adam's posterity.

In the midst of this bleak picture of death, one ray of hope has always shone through. From the condemnation of the serpent (Gen. 3:14-15) to the promises given to Abraham (Gen. 12:3; 22:18) and many other promises, covenants, and prophecies, God has given hope that there would be a way to escape death. With the coming of Jesus Christ, the good news (gospel) of salvation from death was finally declared in the clearest terms. The Son of God Himself came into the world to live as a man so that He could die, suffer the penalty of sin for us, and revoke the power of death according to Hebrews 2:14-15:

¹⁴Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

By His resurrection, Jesus conquered death and blazed a trail for others to follow. Notice 1Corinthians 15:20-22, 55-57:

²⁰But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. ²¹For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive...⁵⁵"O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; ⁵⁷but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is indeed good news that everyone who has ever died will be freed from

that death, but there is even better news. Jesus will not bring souls back from death just to return them to their previous existence in a world given to sin, for the earth and everything in it will be destroyed (2Pet. 3:7, 10-12). Instead, He will render a judgment that gives eternal life to some and eternal condemnation to others. Consider Christ's words in John 5:28-29:

²⁸"Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, ²⁹and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment."

Those "who did the good deeds" are those who are faithful to God, obedient to Jesus, and forgiven of their sins by God's grace (Eph. 1:7; 2:8; Heb. 5:9). They will go to be with the Lord forever in the holy place of heaven where Jesus has entered (1Thess. 4:13-18; Heb. 9:24; 10:19-20).

The free gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus (Rom. 6:23b) is certainly good news for "those who did the good deeds," but how is this good news for "those who committed the evil deeds"? Their prospective fate is a second death that is far worse than the first, physical death without any hope of escape once it has been inflicted (Rev. 20:14; 21:8). Yet this is the very point, for the gospel of Christ is good news specifically for those who face this dreadful fate because it is their chance in the present to avoid it.

Notice Romans 1:16:

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Every accountable person stands condemned in his sins the first time he hears the gospel, but the good news of Jesus tells us there is a way to change our destiny. The only bad news from Jesus is for those who choose not to heed the good news.

So then, the gospel of Christ is the good news that shines brightly no matter how dark the world's bad news may be. For all of those who have already died, whether men, women, children, or even infants, they all will be raised up by Jesus, and physical death will not hold any of them forever. For those of us who still live in this world, we do not need to fear the coming of death because Jesus will raise us up again. More importantly, all of us have a chance for eternal life because Jesus paid the penalty for our sins and offers us forgiveness by faith in Him. In this way, we may avoid the second, eternal death and instead live with the Lord in heaven forever. In every way, the gospel of Christ is good news.

Stacey E. Durham