

DUTY ROSTER FOR JULY 14, 2019

Usher for This Week: Jim Stubblefield

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

John Fix

Scripture Reading:

Louis Long

Scripture:

Romans 10:1-4

Prayer:

Bailey Steger

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

Zeal and Knowledge

Closing Prayer:

Ron Hunt

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Thom Steger

Scripture Reading:

Alex Bansemer

Scripture:

Ephesians 1:18-23

Prayer:

Al Cotten

Lord's Supper:

Jim Stubblefield

David Bansemer

Wayne Baker

Louis Long

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

The Authority of Christ

Announcements:

Jim Stubblefield

Closing Prayer:

Chris Huffines

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

Song Leader: Chevis Webb
Invitation: John Fix
Closing Prayer: Alex Bansemer

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

July: Ridings
August: Hayes

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

July:
August:

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

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

JULY 14, 2019

Volume 34 Number 28

What Will You Do Today?

As we enter into worship today, let us consider the words of David in Psalm 9:1-2:

I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart;

I will tell of all Thy wonders.

I will be glad and exult in Thee;

I will sing praise to Thy name, O Most High.

May these words capture the attitudes of our hearts today as we come before God to pray, sing His praises, and tell of His glorious wonders.

To Our Visitors:

We are delighted to see you in our midst today. Thank you for joining us on this blessed day to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to our Father in heaven. May God bless you and your family.

news and notes:

- Matthew Dick is now part of our membership at Creekview, so welcome him into our number.
- We are thankful for the safe and healthy birth of Thomas Hiram Bain last Sunday. May God bless Aaron, Samantha, and their new son.
- Please pray for Jim Barton, who is suffering from serious back pain.
- Please also pray for the following members: Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, and Kay Lanius. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 28

Sunday- Colossians 1-2
Monday - Leviticus 13-15
Tuesday - 2Kings 6-10
Wednesday - Psalms 81-83
Thursday - Proverbs 10
Friday - Ezekiel 25-30
Saturday - Luke 19-20

Gospel Meetings:

31-W North (Franklin, KY) - July 14-19
Hillview (Nashville) - July 15-19, VBS
Eastside (Bowling Green) - July 19, singing
Lakeview (Hendersonville) - July 21-26
Millersville - July 21
Jackson Heights (Columbia) - July 26, singing

Suffering for the Truth

“There is nothing new under the sun” (Eccl. 1:9), so whatever is happening today has happened before. However, some things are new to us, so we must look to something other than our own experiences to find guidance in those instances. God’s word provides that guidance.

An emerging trend that is new to us in America is the open animosity and hostility against those who will not endorse homosexuality, transgenderism, and the so-called LGBTQ agenda. Naturally, Christians are prime subjects for this animosity because we believe the Bible’s teachings on these matters rather than the current cultural narrative. God’s word in the Bible unequivocally classifies homosexuality as degrading, unnatural, indecent, and contrary to sound teaching and the gospel of God (Rom. 1:26-27; 1Tim. 1:9-11). Those who practice homosexuality and do not repent will not inherit the kingdom of God (1Cor. 6:9-11). Likewise, the Bible’s teaching concerning the sexes is unmistakable. There are only two sexes, male and female (Gen. 1:27; Matt. 19:4), and any other belief is contrary not only to God’s word but also to science and sound reasoning. Because Christians believe these teachings, we have become targets of hostility.

Advocates of the LGBTQ agenda have obtained considerable leverage in America and other Western countries to do harm to those who will not comply with their wishes. Increasingly, compliance with this agenda is being required for employment, commerce, and education. In other words, if you don’t endorse homosexual and transgender behavior, then you may not be able to hold a job, conduct business, or go to school. In this way, the agenda is gradually becoming less about the issues themselves and more about power and control. If we allow unbelievers to determine our beliefs about these issues, then we open ourselves to being coerced by the same tactics concerning any other issue.

When we frame this situation in this way, then we can see that it is much broader than the issues. This is not about Christians versus homosexuals, but it is about God’s word versus the word of man. Which will we believe? It is also about fear, for whom shall we fear more, God or man? Of course, Jesus gave this answer in Matthew 10:28:

“Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

We find important instruction for this situation in some of the final words the apostle Paul wrote. Context is always key in understanding the Scriptures, and so it is here. Paul was anticipating his own death for the sake of the gospel (2Tim. 4:6-8), yet he did not tell Timothy to flee so that

he could escape such a fate. Instead, he encouraged Timothy to step into his own shoes and likewise suffer for the truth. He also assured Timothy that God would rescue him, but most importantly, he charged Timothy to stand by the truth. This familiar passage is 2Timothy 3:10-4:5:

¹⁰Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, ¹¹persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! ¹²Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. ¹³But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, ¹⁵and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. ¹⁸I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ¹⁹preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ²⁰For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, ²¹and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths. ²²But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

This charge to Timothy is our mandate as well. Even though evil men proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived, we must not concede to their pressure. Instead, we are to “continue in the things [we] have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom [we] have learned them.” We are to abide by the inspired Scripture and preach the word “in season and out of season.” Even if people “will not endure sound doctrine,” we must preach the word just the same and “endure hardship” if necessary. Here is where we learn if our faith is genuine. Are we willing to endure hardships and suffer persecution for the word of God? Do we trust that the Lord will rescue us as he rescued Paul? Paul died for the gospel, but he said, “The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom” (2Tim. 4:18). The Lord will do the same for us, but we must have the courage to hold to the truth even if others make us suffer for it. Are we ready for this?

Stacey E. Durham