

DUTY ROSTER FOR JUNE 16, 2019

Usher for This Week: John Fix

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Thom Steger

Scripture Reading:

Chevis Webb

Scripture:

Proverbs 18:24

Prayer:

Doug Thweatt

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

Stick Together

Closing Prayer:

Louis Long

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

David Bansemer

Scripture Reading:

Andrew Durham

Scripture:

Deuteronomy 5:32-33

Prayer:

TBD

Lord's Supper:

Chris Huffines

Kevin Hayes

Bailey Steger

Al Cotten

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

Not to the Right or the Left

Announcements:

Doug Thweatt

Closing Prayer:

Wayne Baker

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

Song Leader: Alex Bansemer

Invitation: Ron Hunt

Closing Prayer: David 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

June: Duryea
July: Ridings

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

June: Durham
July:

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

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

JUNE 16, 2019

Volume 34 Number 24

A Grown-up Church

Too many churches today appeal to children - not children in the flesh, but children in spirit. They offer entertainment and man-made doctrines, and thereby they draw masses of spiritual children. Their practices and doctrines are ever-changing to keep up with the ever-changing demands of an immature society. The Lord's church must not conform to these ways, for we are not to be spiritual children (Eph. 4:14; Heb. 5:11-14). May we be a mature church that feeds on the meat of God's word.

To Our Visitors:

Welcome to Creekview. We are thankful that you have come to worship with us today, and we hope that you find everything we say and do to be according to God's word. Please allow us to get to know you, and come back again whenever you have opportunity.

news and notes:

- Gary Sells is having several health problems and will not be able to attend services for a while. Please pray for his recovery and comfort.
- Please be mindful in your prayers of all of our members who are travelling this summer.
- Please pray for the following members who have ongoing health problems: Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Dot Long, and Bessie Short. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 24

Sunday - Ephesians 1-3
Monday - Leviticus 1-3
Tuesday - 1Kings 10-13
Wednesday - Psalms 69-71
Thursday - Proverbs 4
Friday - Ezekiel 1-6
Saturday - Luke 11-12

Gospel Meetings:

Eastside (Bowling Green) - June 21, song service
West End (Bowling Green) - June 30-July 3, VBS

Let There Be Light

When God initially created the earth, it was formless and void, and darkness covered its surface. Before proceeding with any other creative activity, God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light (Gen. 1:3). According to God's design, the presence of light was necessary in the material universe He was forming. Light promotes the functions of life, and God made the earth to be a vessel for life. Therefore, He filled the earth with light so that life could thrive in His creation.

The component of light in the material world is not only necessary for physical life, but it is also an effective figure to teach us about spiritual life. Scripture frequently uses the figures of light and darkness to convey meanings of righteousness and sin as well as spiritual life and death. In every case, the light is beneficial for mankind, and the darkness is harmful. The light always indicates the presence of God and His ways of life, and the darkness means the absence of God and the ways that lead to death.

The figures of light and darkness are taken even farther in the Scriptures to describe how God has brought salvation into the world. Because of the sin that began with Adam, darkness covers the world, for "the whole world lies in the power of the evil one" (1John 5:19). The effects of sin brought death to all living things, and "death reigned" (Rom. 5:17). However, God has sent light into the world, effectively saying as in the beginning, "Let there be light." Consider John 1:9:

There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.

This "true Light" is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who came in the flesh and died as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. He said Himself, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life" (John 8:12).

Now the message of light, the gospel of Christ, sounds out across the world to bring souls out of darkness into the light. Jesus Himself says that this message reaches out to sinners "to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me" (Acts 26:18). Indeed, the gospel calls sinners to step out of the darkness and into the light by giving up their sinful ways and obeying the will of the Lord. Consider Ephesians 5:7-14:

⁷Therefore do not be partakers with them; ⁸for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of

Light ⁹(for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), ¹⁰trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; ¹²for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. ¹³But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light. ¹⁴For this reason it says, "Awake, sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Those who heed the gospel message are rescued from darkness and delivered into the light according to Colossians 1:13-14:

¹³For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Even so, Satan still strives to hold people in his domain of darkness. This is explained in 2Corinthians 4:3-4, which says,

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Although Satan makes efforts to capture people, blind them to the gospel, and hold them in his domain, he cannot do so without their consent. Those who are blinded by Satan choose to be so, and unless they change, they will be judged for choosing his domain of darkness over Christ's kingdom of light. Notice Christ's words in John 3:19-20:

¹⁹"This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. ²⁰For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed."

Therefore, let there be light. God has sent the light of His Son into the world to save sinners, but they must choose to come out of the darkness of sin. If they wish to remain in darkness, God will allow them to do so, but they will be condemned when the light of truth exposes their error in the final Judgment. It is much better to come into the light while there is still an opportunity for salvation rather than remaining in darkness until it is too late. Jesus says it best in John 3:21:

"But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God."

Stacey E. Durham