

DUTY ROSTER FOR MARCH 3, 2019

Usher for This Week: Ron Dixon

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Chevis Webb

Scripture Reading:

Louis Long

Scripture:

John 13:12-15

Prayer:

Alex Bansemer

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

What Can You Do?

Lesson 3 - You Can Serve

Others

Closing Prayer:

Doug Thweatt

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

David Bansemer

Scripture Reading:

John Fix

Scripture:

Psalms 33:6-9

Prayer:

Jim Stubblefield

Lord's Supper:

Andrew Durham

Al Cotten

Ron Hunt

Bill Duryea

Lesson:

Thom Steger

Song Service - Invitation

Announcements:

Doug Thweatt

Closing Prayer:

Louis Long

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Song Leader: Alex Bansemer

Invitation: Ron Dixon

Closing Prayer: Doug Thweatt

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

March: Long
April: Steger

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

March: Wright
April: Steger

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

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

MARCH 3, 2019

Volume 34 Number 9

Be Thankful

In Colossians 3:15-17, notice how thankfulness is not the primary thought, but it is shown to characterize all that we do. As we teach and admonish one another with songs and worship God, let us be mindful of all that our God does for us and be truly thankful to Him. Today, let us be especially thankful that He has allowed us to assemble in the name of the Lord to be in His holy presence.

To Our Visitors:

Welcome to our assemblies. We are thankful that you have come our way and that you value the spiritual things of God. We want you to know that our goals at Creekview are to be collectively the Lord's church as He would have it and individually Christians as God desires. We hope that these are your goals as well and that we can help one another to achieve them. May the Lord help us all!

news and notes:

- Billy Deering passed away on February 23. Please pray for Wilma and the family in this time of their grief.
- Today, the 11AM hour will be mostly devoted to song service with the theme of the Creator and creation.
- Please remember these members in your prayers: Jim & Kay Cook, Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Ron Hunt, Donella Jones, Kay Lanus, Dot Long, Pat Ridings, and Bessie Short. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry, Dot Long's sister Melissa, and the Duryeas' son David.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 9

Sunday - 1Corinthians 1-2
Monday - Genesis 32-35
Tuesday - Judges 17-21
Wednesday - Psalms 24-26
Thursday - Job 17-18
Friday - Isaiah 45-50
Saturday - Matthew 23-25

Gospel Meetings:

None to announce

Pretending

In the state of Connecticut, two transgender runners recently finished first and second in a high school girls' track and field championship. These two boys identified themselves as girls and were therefore allowed to compete against girls. Of course, this created a problem. Males are typically stronger, faster, and more athletic than females, so the boys had a great advantage over their competition. In fact, there was no competition between the boys and the girls. It was already known that the boys would win before the races were run.

This is what happens when pretense meets reality. These boys pretended to be girls, and everyone else either chose to pretend with them or else was pressured to do so. However, the reality of the competition revealed the truth, which was that they were still boys. For those who desperately wish for the pretense to be true, this presents a great dilemma. They want to live in a pretend world where boys can be girls, but in the real world truth always governs, and boys will always be boys.

How did we get to a point in our society where someone is encouraged to live under such an obviously false pretense? This may seem like a new phenomenon, but the transgender issue is only the latest and perhaps most extreme example of man's tendency to be willfully self-deceived. Sometimes a person desires so strongly for a lie to be the truth that he pretends it is so. Sometimes he can find willing accomplices in his pretense, including his family, his community, or even his church. This is exactly what has happened recently in the case of transgenderism, but it has been happening in other cases for a long time.

There are much broader and widely accepted pretenses that have been among us for many years. For example, the matter of salvation has been mischaracterized for centuries even though the Scriptures speak plainly on the issue. The Bible teaches that all sinners need salvation from the coming wrath of God. Otherwise, they face the terrifying certainty of an eternal destruction in the misery of hell (Matt. 25:46; 2Thess. 1:6-10). Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the Savior whom God sent to provide salvation and eternal life (Rom. 5:9-11; 1Thess. 1:10). There is salvation in no one else other than Jesus (Acts 4:12), and only through Him can we come to the Father (John 14:6). Moreover, He is the author of salvation only to those who obey

Him (Heb. 5:9). His commandments include belief in Him (John 8:24), repentance from sins (Matt. 4:17), confession of Him (Matt. 10:32-33), and baptism in His name (Matt. 28:18-20).

All of this is written, confirmed, and easily understood, yet there are many who pretend that part or all of it is false. Some pretend that there is no God even though the evidence of God is all around us (Rom. 1:18-20). Some believe there is a God but pretend that salvation may come through various avenues. Some claim they are saved by Jesus but pretend that He doesn't require many of the commandments He gave. Some pretend that Jesus said things He didn't say and set up churches He did not set up. Those who engage in any of these pretenses wish for them to be true and live as if they are true. Many millions of people are pretending that these deceptions are so, but they are deceived.

For a time, a pretender might be able to hide behind his pretense and those who comply with it, but eventually the light of truth will shine through and expose the lie. When that happens, there can be no more denial and deception. For those who pretend that boys can be girls, the reality of a footrace shows the truth. For those who pretend that they have no need of salvation, that they can choose from a variety of paths to salvation, or that they can be saved by Jesus on their own terms, the reality of the Judgment will reveal the truth. In John 12:48, Jesus said,

“He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is what will judge him at the last day.”

Yet there is no need to wait until the last day to stop pretending, for truth and reality are here now. For those who go on pretending until the Judgment, it will be too late for the truth to save them. However, those who conform to the truth of God's word today can be saved for eternity. Therefore, let us give up pretending, accept reality, and live by the truth while we still have the opportunity for salvation.

Stacey E. Durham