

## DUTY ROSTER FOR OCTOBER 14, 2018

**Usher for This Week: David Bansemer**

**9:00 AM**

**Song Leader:**

Johnny Murray

**Scripture Reading:**

Alex Bansemer

**Scripture:**

Romans 14:16-23

**Prayer:**

Andrew Durham

**Lesson:**

Stacey Durham

*Your Own Conviction*

**Closing Prayer:**

David Bansemer

**11:00 AM**

**Song Leader:**

Thom Steger

**Scripture Reading:**

Al Cotten

**Scripture:**

Matthew 28:18-20

**Prayer:**

Doug Thweatt

**Lord's Supper:**

Alex Bansemer

Ron Dixon

Andrew Durham

Wayne Baker

**Lesson:**

Stacey Durham

*The Great Commission*

**Announcements:**

John Fix

**Closing Prayer:**

Thom Steger

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

**Song Leader:** Andrew Durham

**Invitation:** Chris Huffines

**Closing Prayer:** John Fix

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**

**October:** Thweatt  
**November:** Hayes

**SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING**

**October:** Durham  
**November:** Webb

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

# CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

OCTOBER 14, 2018

Volume 33 Number 41

## Focus on the Lord

**There are many things to think about today and every day. However, the time that we assemble together is for the worship of the Lord. Therefore, let us focus our minds upon the things of the Lord and indulge in a spiritual feast while we are assembled today. Everything else can wait, but the Lord deserves our attention first and most.**

### 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:

- Prayers are requested for Peggy Bailey's daughter, Sherry, who has blood cancer.
- Reminder: The building doors are locked to the outside during services, but all three can be opened from the inside. You may use any of the doors to exit the building at any time.
- Please remember the following members in your prayers: Jim & Kay Cook, Billy & Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Jim Stubblefield, and Bessie Short. Also remember Donella Jones' sister.
- 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 41

Sunday- Hebrews 8-10  
Monday - Numbers 33-36  
Tuesday - 2Chronicles 16-20  
Wednesday - Psalms 119  
Thursday - Proverbs 29-30  
Friday - Micah  
Saturday - Acts 5-6

### Gospel Meetings:

Jackson Heights (Columbia) - Oct. 14-16  
Eastside (Bowling Green) - Oct. 19, song service  
Northfield Blvd. (Murfreesboro) - Oct. 26-27, young adult studies  
Eastside (Bowling Green) - Nov. 3, ladies' day

## The Joy of Repentance

The first message of the kingdom of God has always been one of repentance. Repentance is a change of mind that leads to a change of behavior specifically in refraining from sin. When John the baptist began to preach, he said, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 3:2). Likewise, Jesus also began his ministry by preaching, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 4:17). After Jesus ascended to heaven and the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, they also preached repentance (Acts 2:38; 3:19). Still today, repentance must be part of the message whenever the gospel of Christ is preached (Acts 26:20).

When sinners obey the gospel's message of repentance, it brings great joy to God. This is because He is "not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance" (2Pet. 3:9). God desires for sinners to live rather than die, and repentance is a necessary step for them to escape death. This has always been true, just as He emphatically declared in these passages from Ezekiel:

- Ezekiel 18:23 - "Do I have any pleasure in the death of the wicked," declares the Lord GOD, "rather than that he should turn from his ways and live?"
- Ezekiel 18:32 - "For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies," declares the Lord GOD. "Therefore, repent and live."
- Ezekiel 33:11 - "Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord GOD, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?'"

In Luke 15, Jesus gave three parables that show God's joy over sinners who repent. In the parable of the lost sheep, the shepherd leaves his flock of ninety-nine to find the one lost sheep. When he finds it, he calls together his friends and neighbors to rejoice with him. Jesus said, "I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance" (v. 7). In the parable of the lost coin, a woman with ten coins sweeps her house in search of the one she has lost. When she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors to rejoice with her. Jesus applied the lesson, saying, "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (v. 10). In the parable of the prodigal son, the

father called for a great celebration when his rebellious son returned to him. He said, "This son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found" (v. 24). Each of these parables illustrates the great joy of God for each soul who returns to Him in the "repentance that leads to life" (Acts 11:18).

If there is such great joy in heaven over one soul who repents, then there should be joy among Christians as well. We are citizens of heaven (Phil. 3:20), and our minds should be set on the things above (Col. 3:2), so we should share in heaven's jubilation. No Christian should be like the brother of the prodigal son, who was bitter and resentful when his father celebrated his brother's restoration. Regardless of how unworthy a sinner or a fallen brother may be, if he comes to the Lord in faithful repentance, we should rejoice with our Father in heaven.

Furthermore, it should be our ambition to bring joy to heaven by causing sinners to repent. To do this, we will have to preach the gospel to them and tell them to cease from sin. This is not easy, for sinners will often resist and resent this message. No one enjoys hearing that they are wrong and condemned, but those who are convinced that Jesus is the Savior will grieve for their sins and seek to change. This sorrow is painful, but it will soon be overshadowed by the joy that results from repentance and salvation. Like Paul, we will be able to say to sinners who repent, "I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance" (2Cor. 7:9).

Because God gives us so much joy in so many ways, it seems only fitting that we would wish to give Him joy in return. If you have never obeyed the gospel of Christ, then believe in Jesus, confess your faith in Him, repent of your sins, and be baptized in His name for forgiveness (Acts 2:38; 8:37; Rom. 10:8-10), and you will bring great joy to your heavenly Father. If you are a Christian and there is sin in your life, then repent of that sin (Acts 8:22) and cause a celebration in heaven. If you have influence on a sinner that has never submitted to Jesus or a brother or sister in Christ who has fallen away from the Lord, then do what you can to bring that person to the repentance that leads to life (Jas. 5:19-20). If someone who has offended you comes to the Lord in repentance, then do not be bitter or resentful but rather be forgiving and join in the joy of heaven. By doing such things, we can bring joy to our great God and joy to ourselves as well.

*Stacey E. Durham*