WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 AM

Song Leader: Alex Bansemer

Scripture Reading: Andrew Durham John 15:18-25

> Prayer: Kevin Hayes

Lesson: Stacey Durham

Title: Still Upsetting the World

> Closing Prayer: Ron Hunt

Wednesday, September 25 Song Leader: Aaron Bain Invitation: Ron Dixon Prayer: Bailey Steger

Lord's Supper Preparation September: Wright October: Thweatt

Change Sign Message: September: October:

11:00 AM

Song Leader: Jim Barton

Scripture Reading: Gary Sells Romans 1:18-23

> Prayer: Jim Stubblefield

Lord's Supper: Thom Steger TBD Chevis Webb Bailey Steger

Lesson: Stacey Durham

Title: Is the Theory of Evolution a Religion?

> Announcements: John Fix

Closing Prayer: Kevin Hayes

Usher for This Week: Louis Long

creekview BULLET/N

On this Lord's Day...

...we assemble 'round the table of the Lord. Happy hearts are made to tremble, when we hear His blessed word. Thanks to God for such a Savior, now enthroned in heaven above. Thanks for this exalted favor, blest memorial of His love.

To Our Visitors:

Welcome into our assembly and thank you for coming. We hope that you are strengthened by assembling with us and that God is glorified. Please come again whenever you have the opportunity. 22

SEPTEMBER

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SERVICE TIMES SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS: BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM

California's Resolution Against the Gospel

This month, the California Legislature passed a resolution (ACR-99) concerning the civil rights of homosexual, transgender, and other associated people (termed as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer people, or LGBTQ people). Because this is a resolution and not a law, it is not binding, and there are no penalties for violating it. Nevertheless, it expresses the viewpoint of those who make California's laws.

Among other things, the resolution calls upon Californians to abstain from "conversion therapy." Conversion therapy is defined in the resolution as "practices or therapies that attempt to create a change in a person's sexual orientation or gender identity." The resolution states, "California law recognizes that performing conversion therapy on young persons is ineffective, unethical, and harmful," and, "Conversion therapy has been rejected as ineffective, unethical, and harmful by leading medical, mental health, and child welfare organizations in the United States." Therefore, "the Legislature calls upon religious leaders to counsel on LGBTQ matters from a place of love, compassion, and knowledge of the psychological and other harms of conversion therapy."

Religious leaders who are followers of Christ will not be able to comply with this resolution. This is because the gospel of Christ calls upon homosexuals and all other sinners to repent for forgiveness and salvation. In other words, the gospel instructs all sinners to change their minds and their practices regarding sin (see Acts 2:38; 3:19, 26; 17:30-31; 26:19-20; 2Tim. 2:24-26; 1Pet. 4:1-3). Because the gospel of the New Testament clearly designates homosexuality and its associated behaviors as sins (Rom. 1:26-27; 1Cor. 6:9-11; 1Tim. 1:10-11), repentance from such behaviors is instructed by the gospel. The Lord Jesus requires His followers to teach His gospel message (Mark 16:15-16), so Christians must counsel homosexuals to change their behavior.

Resolution ACR-99 calls on religious leaders to counsel on these matters from a place of love and compassion, but the only way to do so is by defiance of this resolution. California lawmakers do not state the truth about homosexual behavior and other associated sins, but instead they only foster beliefs and false narratives that encourage these sinners to continue in their self-destructive behaviors. They blame "groups in society, including therapists and religious groups," for causing "disproportionately high rates of suicide, attempted suicide, depression, rejection, and isolation" among such sinners. In truth, it is sin itself that plunges sinners into this misery of guilt and shame. Paul narrated such misery in Romans 7, saying,

¹⁵For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate...²¹I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. ²²For I joyfully concur with the law of God in the inner man, ²³but I see a different law in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

True love and compassion compel Christians to rescue sinners from such misery. It is not loving or compassionate to tell sinners that their behavior is good, that they should not change, and that their misery is someone else's fault. It is loving and compassionate to tell them who will set them free from their misery and how He will do so. The answer is Jesus, and the way is obedience to His gospel.

Christians, regardless of whether we live in California, we are faced with an imminent decision. Shall we comply with lawmakers, so-called experts, and authorities who contradict the word of God, or shall we comply with the will of Christ? Men of the world are telling us to stop teaching sinners to repent, yet "God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent" (Acts 17:30). Is it right to heed men rather than God (Acts 4:19)? "Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve" (Josh. 24:15).

Stacey E. Durham

ELDERS: Ron Dixon John Fix Stacey Durham

DEACONS: David Bansemer Kevin Hayes Thom Steger Doug Thweatt

news & notes

- Thank you for the prayers made for Jody Baize, who is the Fix's son-in-law, and Ron Daly, who preaches in Indiana. Both have had positive results, and your continued prayers are appreciated.
- Ron Hunt will be preaching both sermons next week (fifth Sunday).
- Please remembers these members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Donella Jones, and Kay Lanius. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry.

reading plan

Sunday- Philemon Monday - Numbers 21-24 Tuesday - 2Chronicles 1-5 Wednesday – Ps. 111-113 Thursday - Proverbs 25 Friday - Amos 5-9 Saturday - John 19-21

meetings

Northfield Blvd. – Sept. 27-28 Hillview – Sept. 27-29 Ray's Branch – Sept. 29-Oct. 4

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