The Aims of Preaching

First, we need preaching that informs. People need to know of God and his love for them. They need to know about Christ-His eternal existence with God, His Deity, His birth, life, death, burial, and resurrection. These matters lie at the heart of the gospel (I Corinthians 15:1-4).

People need to be informed about the church—its place in the eternal purpose of God for man's redemption and the fact that it is the obvious manifestation of the redemptive work of Christ. They need to know about the beginning of the church, its growth as revealed in the book of Acts, and its distinctive identity. People need to be informed of what to do to be saved, including the place of baptism for the remission of sins. Several years ago, Dr. E. Claude Gardner, president emeritus of Freed-Hardeman University, wrote an article in which he said that if we want to baptize people preachers are going to have to preach on baptism. (Could it be that one of the reasons the church is not growing today as it should is because we have become too sophisticated to preach—or to want to hear—sermons on the necessity of baptism)?

People also need to be taught about worship—who is worshiped, why God is worshiped, and how He is acceptably worshiped. Members of the church need to be informed about how to live pleasingly to the Lord. All of this (and more) is summarized by Jesus when he commissioned the apostles to "go ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Second, we need preaching that convicts. Christ affirmed that the Holy Spirit would "convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment" (John 16:8, NASV). He does this through the gospel "which is the power of God unto salvation" (Romans 1:16). Paul sought to convict Felix with reference to "righteousness, self-control, and the judgment to come" (Acts 24:25 NASV). Today we need preaching that will convict people of sin and the consequences of a life of rebellion and disobedience to God. The answer to all the rebellion and immorality that we see in the world lies in a reverential respect for Almighty God and His moral standards.

Third, we need preaching that converts. Jesus said "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ve shall not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:3). Peter exhorted his hearers, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19). To be converted is to be changed from what we are to what God wants us to be. People need to be converted from a life of selfishness and self-centeredness to a life of humility and service, from a life of ungodliness to a life of godlikeness, and from a life of disobedience to God to one of obedience to Him.

Fourth, we need preaching that confirms. Leaving the city of Derbe. {Paul and Barnabas retraced the steps taken on their first mission tour "confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith" (Acts 14:22). When Paul exhorted Timothy in his work as a preacher to "reprove" (II Timothy 4:2), he used the word in its absolute sense: "to prove again." Christians need to be taught "to observe all things whatsoever I {Christ} have commanded you" (Mathew 28:20). Obedience to the "first principles" is only the beginning of the Christian life. From the baptismal waters one rises to walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). The "new life"—with its joys, privileges, challenges, and expectations—needs to be explained in preaching that exhorts and encourages disciples to faithfully follow Christ.

*The above is taken from the book "The Kind of Preaching Needed Today" by Hugh Fulford, published 2006. Brother Fulford lists six "aims of preaching", the following two will be listed in next weeks bulletin.

On Our Prayer List...

Jim Davis-stroke Rita Stephens-CA Joanne Hand Al Peek

Richard Lory-CA

C C Booker-(Anthony & Ira Booker's granddaughter) in Vanderbilt

Wiley Marshall-(CHF) & Fave Marshall-(Traci Adams) parents

Savannah Patrick-(Marsha Patrick's granddaughter)recovering fr spinal surgery.

Beth Schreiber Fritts (Wesley Parrish's cousin) breast CA

Marsha Simpson-M Burns aunt-broken back

Larry Hayes-Elder @ WCOC-Ca has returned

June Stewart—stage 2 fibrosis of the liver

April Howton-(Sammy Long's daht-)Breast CA

Robert Durham- recovering fr spinal surg

Annette Smith (Carl's wife) stroke

George Hamblin-(friend of Roy Deloach)

Tessa Estes(Jacob & Lindsey (Baker) Estes-now home,

Virginia Tate-(D. Gentry's mom)

Colleen Browning-recovering fr surgery Becky Keele—CA treatments Kenna Rickenbrode-CA Courtney Scott (cousin of N. Buttrey) Gracelyn Darety-CF Beth Campbell-(Thomas Cook's sis) CA. Carter Robb (1 vr old CA-treatments)

June Dreaden-(S. Rachford's mom) Carolyn Eddings-taking cancer treatments Maggie Wright (friend of N. Buttrey)CA-chemo Kim Marlow-CA (F.Featherstone-dght/Regina's sis) Mary Ann Gray-CA-(friend of N. Buttrey)

ASSISTED LIVING & NURSING HOME

AHC Decatur County-726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons, TN 38363-Wyle Marshall (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad Dickson Health & Rehab-901 North Charlotte, Dickson, TN 37055 - Clayton England -Marvin's brother

Humphreys County-104 Forte Hill Rd/Waverly, TN.37185 -Billy Adams-Rm 712 / Ann Spicer

Lifecare Center of Centerville-112 Dickson Rd, Centerville, TN 37033/Jim (Rm309) & Earline (Rm315) Davis

NHC-812 N. Charlotte St. Dickson, TN 7055 - Mary Adair- (Rm 117) Thelma Carpenter-Amy & Bo's mom Ronnie England-(Rm 113) & Doris Stokes-(Rm 127)

MILITARY

Dustin Proctor-(Navy-

Dalton & Hope Palk (Navy-Louisiana) 500 Woodland Dr, Apt 597 New Orleans, LA 70131

HERBERT CAPPS-(now home) 1400 Bradley Rd HOME EARL FORSTER-131 Bold Springs Rd.

IOYCE LONG-P.O.Box 386 JIM BUCKNER-9367 Hwy 70 East

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



Let's have some fun food & fellowship!!!

Our "Church Softball Game & Cookout" will be on Saturday, October 7th from 4:30-8:30PM @ Byrum Phy Park & Pavilion

A sign-up sheet is in the fover for players & spectators of all ages. Also a sign-up sheet for food!!!!



Our "Fall Family Retreat" will be held on Oct 20th-22th

@Nathan Bedford. It is for All Ages!!! Sign-up sheet in the fover.Cost will be \$15. per perOur hearts are full of rejoicing over the baptism of Cassie Fleming & Karolann Ridings on Sunday!!! Let us each take time to encourage,

love, pray & help these new babes in Christ to grow in the truth of God's love & His will for his children.

Faith, Obedience, Unity, Character, Salvation

.....

Our only youth activity for this past weekend was our RUSH trip at Freed Hardeman University. We took a group of 10 youth and 4 adults on the trip. Once we arrived at Freed on Friday night, we went to campus to register and get everything we needed for the weekend. Afterwards, we headed to eat before heading to our first session of singing and a great lesson from TJ Kirk. After the lesson, Dale Jenkins did some hypnosis on some brave volunteers. We had a great laugh before heading back to our cabin. Saturday was full of great lessons, great singing, great classes, and great fun. It was a busy day spent on campus, but well worth it. Our Sunday started early! We were up at 4:00 a.m. baptizing Cassie Fleming, what a wonderful blessing! We headed back to bed for a couple of hours before getting up, eating breakfast, and heading to worship. On our way home, I was informed by Karolann Ridings, that she wanted to be baptized once we got back to the church building. I cannot think of a better way to end the weekend than with 2 baptisms on Sunday. I am so proud of Cassie and Karolann. They are both great young ladies. Let's be sure to keep them both in our prayers!

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

| Sunday October 1,st 2023 | | |
|--|--|--|
| Welcome | Mike Burns | |
| Lead Singing | Mark Forste | |
| 1st Prayer | Keith Grigsby | |
| Sermon | Jimmy Phy | |
| Lord's Table | Jim Suddeath | |
| W. R. Long Terry Parchman Jack Grigsby | Wayne Coates Ethan Tummins Joe Smith | |
| Closing Prayer | Billy Buttrey | |
| Collect Cards | Slate Berryman | |

Greeters...... Not at this time

Nursery...... *Not at this time*

Collect Cups......Youth Group *Security*.....Team #5

& Wavne Berryman

Sunday 6PM, October 1st 2023

Mark Forster

| Leaa Singing | Mark Forster |
|----------------|----------------|
| Prayer | Wade Tummins |
| Sermon | |
| Lord's Table | Marvin England |
| | John Hurt |
| Closing Prayer | Carter Howard |
| | |

Wednesday 6:30 PM, October 4th 2023

| Lead Singing | Jimmy Long |
|--------------|--------------|
| Prayer | Mark Forster |
| Adult Class | |

If you are unable to serve...please contact Wade *Tummins, in advance.* (cell 931-209-6291) If changes need to be made in scheduling please contact Jimmy Phy.

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Return Service Requested



*If you are unable to attend any service please tune in to our *Facebook* page or our YouTube page to watch the

services. This is NOT a replacement for the command to assemble together as Christ's Body, but a tool for those who may be homebound/shut-in or sick.

The MESSENGER is online! Don't forget you can subscribe to receive the bulletin online (earlier than snail mail). Visit the church website to subscribe!



OUR RECORDS for 9/24/2023

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|--|--|
| Sunday Morning Bible School — — — — 99 | |
| Sunday Morning Worship 166 | |
| Sunday Evening Worship 110 | |
| Wed. Mid-week Bible Study (9/20) 121 | |
| Sunday Contribution $$ | |

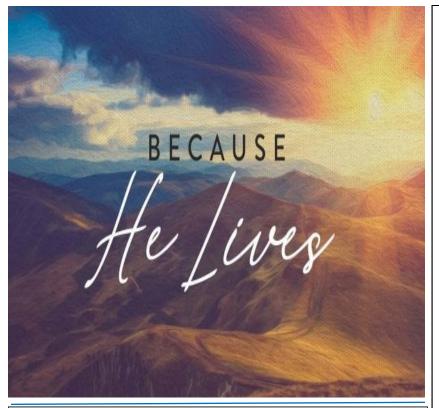


The MESSENGER

A weekly publication of the McEwen church of Christ

Week of September 24th 2023

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST



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Listen to: "The Truth In Love" Sunday on AM1060/93.5FM@ 8:15am

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study.....9:00am Worship......10:00am Evening.....6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Study......6:30pm

Elders:

Calvin Buckner James Buckner Billy Buttrey Bruce Mayfield W.R. Long Mike Robertson

Deacons:

Derek Berryman Mike Burns Wayne Coates Mark Forster Iohn Hurt Robert Proctor Elton Smith Dwight Stuart Dennis Tester Wade Tummins

Barry Phy James Ridings Toe Smith Drew Swearns Ethan Tummins Ronnie Tyler

Ministers ---- Every Member Pulpit -----Youth ----- Keith Grigsby **Secretaries** Terri Tummins/Teresa Fleming