

Happy Birthday!

Tootie Anderson 5-05
Wyatt Ragland 5-06
Crystal Maberry 5-07
Anna Belle Stafford 5-07

Happy Anniversary!

Ben & Hannah Gentry 5.04.18
Steven & Sandy J. Collier 5.07.02

Sunshine Baskets

Pantry Items Needed:

Enroll now in the free Bible Correspondence Course lessons. You will find it refreshing to delve into God’s Word & you will find out some things that surprise you. Give Bill Coe your name & address to get started.

We have devices for those who are hard of hearing to help you during our worship services. If you are in need of one, please see Jeremy Broome.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS...

May 2: Deadline to let Titus or Brettianee know if you or your child graduated in 2020 or 2021.

May 2: Deadline to sign up for the Fall Retreat

May 2: India Presentation with Zack Holmes.

May 2-5: Gospel Meeting at Crossville church of Christ at 6pm with Chris King speaking.

May 7: Training the saved to teach the lost at Willow Ave. church of Christ at 6:30 & 7:30pm; May 8 at 9, 10, 11am, and 1pm.

May 8: Ladies Day at McCoinsville church of Christ with Shanna Anderson speaking.

May 15: Teacher work day

May 15: Baby shower for Austin & Bethany Robinson at Central church of Christ in Sparta 1-3pm. They are registered at Walmart & Target.

May 16-20: Gospel Meeting at Zion church of Christ with BJ Clark speaking.

May 23: Out of School Bash fellowship and we will be honoring our graduates.

June 6-10: VBS

July 18-23: JSCYC

October 3-6: Gospel Meeting here with Jeff Archey speaking.

November 5-6: Fall Retreat: Deadline to sign up is **May 2**

New Babies:

Addison Grace Horn: Great Granddaughter of Royce & Linda Jenkins Born April 25, 2021
Kyler Samuel Ragland: Great Grandson of M.B. Ragland Born April 26, 2021

Elders:

John Mabery 268.0651
Carl Call 268.2040
Sjon Gentry 268.3273

Deacons:

Rellon Burris 319.5197
Jerry Young 268.2215
Ronald Strong 267.5480
Chris Mabery 310.3612

Ministers:

John Mabery 268.0651
Cell: 265.3835
Ronald Strong 267.5480

Bible Study Curriculum:

Titus Anderson 704.5360

Bible Correspondence:

Bill Coe 268.1777
Cell: 397.2159

To Be Saved, JESUS Said We MUST...

Believe Him (Jn.8:24; Heb.11:6)

Repent of our sins (Lk.13:3, 5)

Confess Christ (Rom.10:9-10)

Be immersed in water for remission of sins
(Mk.16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom.6:3-4)

Center Grove church of Christ

3857 Grundy Quarles Hwy.
Gainesboro, TN. 38562
931.858.7460 or 931.268.0651

Schedule of Services

Sunday: Bible Classes @ 9:00 a.m.
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Worship @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Classes @ 7:00 p.m.

Radio: “The Lord’s Word” on WLIV 920 AM
10:10 a.m. Monday - Saturday
(We broadcast Thursday, Friday, and Saturday)

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Volume 20

May 2, 2021

Number 18

“Are You Christian, or Christian-ish?”

By: Jack Wilkie of Focus Press

Are you Christian, or Christian-ish? What’s the difference? The Christian-ish is a phenomenon I’ve grown far too familiar with in my 8 years ministering in Texas. The Christian-ish are those who will tell you they claim Jesus, but don’t show any fruit of their claim.

Christian-ish people assemble with the church... sometimes. Sundays are hard to give up though, you know? There’s so much to do, and the work week is so packed. So the Christian-ish make it when they “can.” Long gone is the concept that God gets first place on the calendar and everything else falls in line behind the time we make for Him. There’s no time for the event of “assembly,” much less the more Biblical habit of “assembling” (Hebrews 10:25).

Christian-ish people show little to no visible life change. They have the same priorities as their non-Christian neighbors. Same way of talking. Same hobbies and interests. Same dress. Same goals for themselves and their kids. Same entertainment. Being transformed by the renewing of their mind is not a consideration. No, they are still conformed to this world.continued inside

Christian-ish people are not afraid to say they like Jesus. Oddly, though, despite their unwillingness to buckle down and really follow Jesus, the Christian-ish still like to appear Christian. They post images of Bible verses or religious quotes to their social media. They like politicians, athletes, and celebrities who say positive things about God. I ran across perhaps the most extreme example of this recently – a Facebook profile of a neighbor who posted about their love for marijuana, getting drunk, and more, only to throw in the odd Bible verse and church livestream post. The cognitive dissonance is baffling. If asked, I'm certain they would have considered themselves "Christian."

A climate that has been positive toward Christianity, or "cultural Christianity" as it's often called, created this cheap grace phenomenon. People could consider themselves Christians without any Christlikeness, church members without any church commitment. It's the illusion of being a branch that has no duty to bear fruit. A child of God without any duty to one's Father. In fact, there was motivation to do so because nominally claiming Christianity bestowed outward benefit and (a false sense of) inward peace. All the perceived benefits, none of the sacrifice.

Growing up in a region that was neutral toward Christianity, we didn't really have people like this. They are a product of a local culture that is positive toward Christianity, a type of local culture almost exclusive to the Bible Belt. But as my neutral hometown has now slipped into negativity toward Christianity, many of these Bible Belt areas have begun to move from positive to neutral. Christianity doesn't have the cultural cachet it once did, and will likely have even less of it in the future. (See Aaron Renn's useful Positive/Neutral/Negative breakdown.)

In other words, Christian-ish people aren't going to exist within a generation. When there exists a social cost for being a Christian, the only people who will be Christians are those who are truly all-in for Christ. What that means is, time is running out to choose. The longer a person remains on the fence, the closer they inch to their inevitable abandonment of the faith. Today's Christian-ish are tomorrow's ex-Christians. The lukewarm Jesus will vomit from His mouth.

Make your choice today. Put Jesus first. Repent of lukewarmness. Commit to your local church. Be with them every Sunday and as often as you can in between. Throw out any practices or attitudes that are contrary to God's Word. Bottom line, don't be Christian-ish.

Area Hospitals & Rehabs:

CRMC: Crystal Scott 549
Ricky Strong 436

Requested Prayers of the Church:

Randy Duke

Our Condolences to the Families of:

Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:

Bethesada: Grace Sloan
Cedar Hill Senior Living: Jean Haney
Mabry: Lovena (Cricket) Wilson, Fred Heady, Ray Pippin
NHC: Paul Pippin, Connie Ballard, Sherry Arms
Hillsboro Rehab: Lovia Cowgill
Georgia Rehab: Buddy Flatt

**Those Battling Ongoing Health Issues-
Prayer List:**

Adele Birdwell, Anna Bell Stafford, Austin Eagle, Bertha Holloway, Barbara Walker, Crystal Scott, Charbo Trisdale, Doris Mayberry, Earl Crabtree, Earl Carr dad of Marcia, Jackie Mathis Rita Dodson, Glen Thomas, Hillary Broome, Jeanie Thomas, Jo Helen Brown, Johnny Stafford, Lela Durham, Lewis Fox, Lori Cravens, Margie Dyer, Margie Goodwin, Pam Crespo, Mary Pearl Judd, Olivia Deason, Velma Hix, Paulette Rainey, Moydene Robinson, Raymond Haney, Ann Flatt, Roberta Hunter, Sandy Haney, Steve Hensley, Sherrie Merwine, Shirley Smith, Zander Dixon, Ruby Finnel friend of Romelyn Wilean Heady her son Terry- Thomas & Geneva Brown, Ms Tootie Anderson, Jerry Jenkins Royce nephew, Haylee Mathis
BATTILING CANCER
 Anna Lee Burchett, Ben Young, Bill Pries, Frances Luck, Kinner Hawkins, Lori Davenport, Maibelle Dyer, Mike Hamlet, Ruby Anderson, Rex Berry, Ricky Strong, Roslyn Stout sister of Ruby, Steve Higginbotham, Villary Campbell, Winnie Craighead

Privileged to Serve May 9, 2021

Ushers	Chris Fox
.....	Roy Young
Announcements	Sjon Gentry
Song Leader	Titus Anderson
Scripture Reading	Bill Coe
Speaker	John Mabery
Opening Prayer	Burton Young
Closing Prayer	Mike Birdwell
Oversee Lord's Supper..	Jeremy Kirby
Prepare Trays	
Scripture Reading.....	Brian Trisdale
Serve	Kevin Moss
.....	Bryce Conner
.....	Jim Young
.....	Dakota Burris
.....	Mark Collins
.....	Roy Flatt
Alternate to Serve	Roy Smallwood
.....	Jackson Conner
Dismiss Classes	Donnie Mayberry
Count Contribution	Chris Martin
.....	Rellon Burris
.....	Ronnie Martin
.....	Chick Ransom
Response Card	Jimmy Strong
PowerPoint.....	Mike Martin
Live Stream.....	Blake Maberry
Adult Bible Class.....	John Mabery

Sunday Evening May 9, 2021

Speaker	Ronald Strong
Scripture Reading	Tim Mitchell
Song Leader	Jonathan Conner
Opening Prayer	Jerry Young
Closing Prayer	Chris Martin
PowerPoint.....	Titus Anderson

Wednesday Evening May 12, 2021

Song Leader	Jerry Young
Devotional	Brian Trisdale
Opening Prayer	Roy Young
Closing Prayer	Sjon Gentry
Adult Bible Study.....	Ronald Strong
Powerpoint.....	Ben Gentry

Let Rellon Burris know if you can't serve.
 Cell: (931) 319-5197
 Email: burris6@twlakes.net