

Happy Birthday!

Rita Dodson 1-09
Alex Ragland 1-13
Edith Mitchell 1-13

Happy Anniversary!

Mike & Barbara Stafford 1.09.88
Ronald & Tonya Strong 1.09.93



Get the weekly bulletin delivered to your inbox. Open your phone's camera to scan the QR code.

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...

Only Sunday AM worship services at the building. Wednesday Night Bible study on Facebook Live.

January 16: Brian Hall will be giving a Guyana report during the evening service

March 13: Zack Holmes will be giving an India report during the evening service

March 31: Happy Haven Banquet at Leslie Town Center at 6:30pm

April 16: Easter egg hunt

June 5-9: VBS here

July 17-23: JSCYC

August 17-25: PTP

November 6-9: Gospel Meeting here with Cliff Goodwin

Elders:

John Mabery 265.3835
Carl Call 268.2040
Sjon Gentry 268.3273

Deacons:

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

Ministers:

John Mabery 265.3835

Ronald Strong 267.5480

Bible Correspondence:

Bill Coe 268.1777
Cell: 397.2159

Bible Study Curriculum:

Titus Anderson 704.5360

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

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)

Visit Us Online: www.centergrovecoc.com

Like Us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/centergrovecoc

Volume 21

January 9, 2021

Number 2

"Two Simple, Daily Things You Can Do to Change the World"

by Jack Wilkie of Focus Press

A few years ago the dystopian genre enjoyed a resurgence with hit books (and later movie/TV adaptations) like *The Hunger Games*, *The Handmaid's Tale*, and *Divergent*. Alongside predecessors in the genre like *1984*, *Brave New World*, *Fahrenheit 451*, and *Anthem*, the books depict a world in which everything has gone terribly wrong. In such settings, societal norms have collapsed and widespread suffering and oppression rule the day.

Two common features of the worlds these novels depict are the inability to speak the truth, and the slow drift into losing our humanity. Obvious facts have to be subverted, and soulless conformity is forced on everyone. Even children's stories like *The Emperor's New Clothes* and the Pixar movie *Wall-E* utilize these plot lines to show a bleak world.

Looking at recent history, it's starting to get uncomfortable how real such tropes are becoming. We live in a world where medical professionals will declare "men can get pregnant." Talk of the "Metaverse" and moving our lives almost entirely online continues to gain steam.

As Christians, it should make perfect sense to us that such fictional hopeless futures stand in direct contrast to life under God's rule. Christianity would not exist without a Savior and His disciples committing themselves so wholly to the truth that they would stand for it even when it meant torture and death (Acts 4:20). Christianity also emphasizes a life together in Christ built on "what every joint supplies" (Ephesians 4:16), relying on each other and living for our King in such a way that we realize the fullest purpose of our humanity. ...Continued inside

So, as we look at a world sliding in the opposite direction, it is only by doing what Christians have always done that we can do our part to push things back in the right direction.

These two simple steps you can take each day are things anyone can do, but it's vital that you and I commit to regularly doing them.

Tell the truth

There's a high motivation to quiet down and keep uncomfortable truths to ourselves. At times I've even advocated for such in hopes that it would stem the tide of our growing societal division. But to be silent in the face of untruths is to help build the future where truths can't be spoken at all.

To hold our tongues is to be complicit in the lies, and such lies are all around us. Tell the truth when you hear them, for that's the only way forward. A "fetus" is a human life. Men are men and women are women, and those are the only two genders. The vaccinated spread the virus, too. Marriage was intended for one man and one woman, for life. Free speech does not end where someone's feelings start. All religions are not equal, because Jesus walked out of the tomb. All who are outside of Christ are not saved. 2+2 is still 4.

Saying these things and genuinely believing them is often taken as offensive, but without a willingness to give necessary offense, lies rule the day. We don't have to show up to every battle placed in front of us – sometimes it's wise to sidestep it and live to fight another day. But there are opportunities to say "This is ridiculous," and "Of course that's not true." There are plenty of people around us who see the absurdity. Speaking up gives them the knowledge that they aren't alone in seeing that the Emperor has no clothes on, or that the record-setting female Jeopardy champion isn't actually female at all.

Sure, we shouldn't aim to be offensive. Just tell the truth in love and let happen what may.

Be human

We can work from home, "watch church" from home, spend our free time on social media or gaming, have food and groceries delivered in, have our relationships come through a screen... all things which aren't fully wrong in and of themselves, but when combined start to slowly drain us of our humanity day by day as we lose real human connection.

It's very hard to "love one another" through the phone or computer screen. Life was meant to be shared together. We are not islands unto ourselves. When commanded to "bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2), that necessarily implies putting the time and care in to know what burdens others are bearing, and being vulnerable enough to share our burdens as well. The more divided and atomized we become, the less human we become toward one another. Shake a hand, share a meal, talk with somebody face to face. Be human.

It really is as simple as that. If Christians will commit to tell the truth in love, even when it's unpopular, and to be human with one another, even when it's inconvenient or even looked down on, we can change the world with the love of Christ and His design for our humanity.

Area Hospitals & Rehabs:
Sumner Regional: Tom Billbrey
CRMC: Don Meredith

Sick at Home Asking for Prayers:
David Wilson, Andrea Burris, Doris Martin,
Donnie Mayberry, Barbara Mabery, Liz Howell

Our Condolences to the Families of:

Lynda Brown, Michael Rainey, Bernie Davidson,
Gale Allen Thompson, Kathy Stafford

Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:

Bethesda: Grace Sloan

Cedar Hill Senior Living: Jean Haney

Georgia Rehab: Buddy Flatt

Hillsboro Rehab: Lovia Cowgill

Mabry: Lovena (Cricket) Wilson, Fred Heady,
Ray Pippin, Jerry Wilson

Select Specially Rehab: David Ray

NHC: Paul Pippin, Connie Ballard, Louie
Newberry

CRMC Rehab: Carrol Hensley 12A

Those Battling Ongoing Health Issues-

Prayer List:

Adele Birdwell, Anna Bell Stafford, Barbara Walker, Bradley Murphy, David & Debbie Wilson, Debbie Allen, Donathan Durham brother of Crystal Scott Delores West, Earl Carr dad of Marcia, Gail Bryant, Hillary Broome, Jackie Mathis, Jeanie Thomas, Jo Helen Brown, Lela Durham, Lora Cravens, Margie Dyer, Margie Goodwin, Moydene Robinson, Pam Crespo sister of Jimmy Strong, Raymond Haney, Sandy Haney Pauline Richardson, Savanna Davidson daughter of Donnie Mayberry, Shawn Staggs son in law of Tim Mitchell, Shelby Bryant, Sherri Merwine, Sherry Arms, Thomas Brown, Velma Hix
BATTLING CANCER

Anna Lee Burchett, Barry Turner, Ben Young, Frances Luck, Haylee Mathis, Kinner Hawkins, Layla Ledbetter, Maibelle Dyer, Mike Hamlet, Rex Berry, Rosie Killian sis of Ruby, Roslyn Stout sister of Ruby, Ruby Anderson, Steve Higginbotham, Vickie Pigg, Villary Campbell, Kayla Pippin, Lori Davenport

Privileged to Serve January 16, 2022

Ushers	Dakota Burris
.....	Chris Fox
Announcements	Carl Call
Song Leader	Titus Anderson
Scripture Reading	Burton Young
Speaker	John Mabery
Opening Prayer	Jeremy Kirby
Closing Prayer	Jim Young
Oversee Lord's Supper..	Ben Gentry
Prepare Trays	
Scripture Reading.....	Dale Dennis
Serve	Mike Martin
.....	Jackson Conner
.....	Jacob Martin
.....	Ronnie Martin
.....	Mark Collins
.....	Andrew Burris
Alternate to Serve	Sjon Gentry
.....	Carl Call
Dismiss Classes	Jimmy Strong
Count Contribution	Kevin Moss
.....	Sjon Gentry
.....	Roy Flatt
.....	Donnie Mayberry
Response Card	Jimmy Strong
PowerPoint.....	Brian Trisdale
Live Stream.....	Chris Mabery
Adult Bible Class.....	John Mabery

Sunday Evening January 16, 2022

Speaker	
Scripture Reading	
Song Leader	
Opening Prayer	
Closing Prayer	
PowerPoint.....	

Wednesday Evening January 19, 2022

Song Leader	
Devotional	
Opening Prayer	
Closing Prayer	
Adult Bible Study.....	
Powerpoint.....	

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