

Happy Birthday!
Michelle Burris 7/29

Hearing Assistance Devices are Available:
We have assistive listening devices available for those in need for use during our worship services. Please see Jeremy Broome for assistance.

Quiet Bags are Available:
We now have quiet bags available for young children to use during our services. These are located at the front entrance. Disinfectant wipes are also provided. Please return bags after services.



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

Bible Correspondence Course:
Delve into God's Word by enrolling in our correspondence course! Several course subjects are available including *God's Plan of Salvation*, *The Church*, and a 30-lesson *Studies in the Bible*. Contact Bill Coe to enroll today.

Announcements & Upcoming Events:

Tonight- Fellowship Meal: Back to School Bash 2022. Please bring desserts and sides.



July 23: VBS at Silver Point church of Christ. Saturday from 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM.

July 24-27: Gospel Meeting at Swallows Chapel church of Christ. Services at 7:00 PM nightly with Luke Wilken speaking.

August 13: Ladies Day with Emily Hatfield

August 17-25: Polishing The Pulpit

November 6-9: Gospel Meeting here with Cliff Goodwin

November 18-20: Center Grove Family Retreat in Smithville, TN. Please sign up in the nursery if you plan on going.

Elders:
John Mabery 265.3835
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 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)

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Volume 21

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"No Joking Matter"

by Eric Lyons of Apologetics Press

I love being a Christian. I love thinking about, talking about, and singing about Christ and His church. I love to laugh and have fun with God's people. I enjoy cutting up with my colleagues. I love to interact with non-Christians. I enjoy clean jokes (and find myself occasionally telling ones that are not as humorous as I once thought). Christians can kindly tease about our favorite football team's most recent loss or our most embarrassing moments. Indeed, there is "a time to laugh" (Ecclesiastes 3:4). After all, "A merry heart does good, like medicine" (Proverbs 17:22).

As enjoyable as it is to joke around and have fun, and as appropriate as it may be to break the ice with an amusing story, Christians must be careful that we don't make light and joke around about serious, spiritual, eternally important things, especially when such remarks are unnecessarily offensive. Such inappropriate words at inappropriate times can have very unfortunate consequences.

....continued inside

I was 17 years old, playing summer-league baseball in Oklahoma, when I had the opportunity to visit and worship with a church one Sunday morning a few hours from home. I had the privilege that day to be accompanied by two friends who were not members of the Lord’s church. They had graciously come with me because I needed a ride to worship, and they volunteered to drive me and stay with me until the close of the worship service. Only a few minutes after walking into the building, however, the mood was severely darkened when a member of that church greeted us with a joke about some individuals he knew from our hometown who were of a different religion—with the emphasis being on their religion. It just so happened, the two individuals with me that morning were of that same religious persuasion.

Needless to say, my friends were highly offended by such a greeting from someone who called himself a Christian. And, sadly, they did not get over the insensitive “welcome” very quickly. In fact, it seems they have never gotten over it. Nearly **20 years** later I ran into one of these men while visiting family back in Oklahoma. One of the first things he said to me was: “So-and-so was just talking the other day about that time you invited us to come to church with you and that guy greeted us by jokingly condemning our religion.”

By no means am I suggesting that Christians should not unashamedly teach the truth, or that we should not defend the faith whenever given the opportunity. Nor am I suggesting that I have always said things the right ways at the right times. (I’ve certainly failed miserably on this account more times than I like to remember.) What I do know is that God has instructed us to teach “the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15). He has commanded us to defend the faith “with meekness and fear” (1 Peter 3:15). Paul taught the saints in Colosse: “Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one” (4:6). Similarly, the wise man taught: “The words of a wise man’s mouth are gracious, but the lips of a fool shall swallow him up” (Ecclesiastes 10:12).

We should never be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ (Romans 1:16); we should never pass up an opportunity to teach the Word of God—but may God help us to do so with “all longsuffering” (2 Timothy 4:2, NKJV), and “with great patience” (NASB). Remember, “A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger” (Proverbs 15:1).

<https://apologeticspress.org/no-joking-matter-1640/>

At Home & Asking for Prayers:

Jerry Wilson, Vickie Pigg, Nellie Crabtree, John Mabery, Bernice Ramsey, Holly, Jacob and baby Marshall Martin

Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:

Bethesda Rehab: Grace Sloan

Cedar Hill Senior Living: Jean Haney

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

Hartsville Rehab: Sherry Arms

NHC: Paul Pippin, Connie Ballard

Michigan: Linda Lee Spivey

Vanderbilt: Denise Griffin

Those Battling Ongoing Health Issues- Prayer List:

Adele Birdwell, Barbara Scott, Barbara Walker, Caden Hodnett, Carrol (Stick) Hensley, Debbie Allen, Hillary Broome, Isabel Bray, Jeanie Thomas, Hayden Birdwell, Jo Helen Brown, Lela Durham, Lena Smith, Lora Cravens, Margie Dyer, Margie Goodwin, Moydene Robinson, Nick Taylor, Pauline Mocerri, Peggy Anderson, **Raymond Haney**, Roger Dailey, Reva Pittillo, **Sandy Haney**, Savanna Davidson, **Sherri Merwine**, **Velma Hix**, Perry Hamilton

Battling Cancer:

Anna Lee Burchett, Barry Turner, **Ben Young**, Carl Call Sr., Debbie Meadows, Frances Luck, **Jerry Wilson**, Kinner Hawkins, Layla Ledbetter, Lori Davenport, **Maibelle Dyer**, Mike Hamlet, Nathan West, Peggy Carr, Rex Berry, Rosie Killian, Roslyn, Ruby Anderson, Steve Higginbotham, Vickie Pigg, Villary Campbell

Privileged to Serve July 31, 2022

Ushers	Greg Scott
.....	Chick Ransom
Announcements	Ben Gentry
Song Leader	Titus Anderson
Scripture Reading	Tom Gothard
Speaker	John Mabery
Opening Prayer	Tim Mitchell
Closing Prayer	Caden Fox
Oversee Lord’s Supper..	Mike Martin
Prepare Trays	
Scripture Reading.....	Chris Martin
Serve	Mike Birdwell
.....	Brian Trisdale
.....	Trent Jones
.....	Harry Young
.....	Ronnie Martin
.....	Chris Fox
Alternate to Serve	Sjon Gentry
.....	Jackson Conner
Dismiss Classes	Roy Young
Count Contribution	Tim Mitchell
.....	Donnie Mayberry
.....	Jimmy Strong
.....	Jacob Martin
Response Card	Roy Young
PowerPoint.....	Kevin Moss
Live Stream.....	Brian Trisdale
Adult Bible Class.....	John Mabery

Sunday Evening July 31, 2022

Speaker	Chris Martin
Scripture Reading	Parker Harless
Song Leader	Roger Anderson
Opening Prayer	Carl Call
Closing Prayer	Sjon Gentry
PowerPoint.....	Jonathan Conner

Wednesday Evening Aug. 3, 2022

Song Leader	Trent Jones
Devotional	Ronald Strong
Opening Prayer	Jimmy Strong
Closing Prayer	Jerry Young
Adult Bible Study.....	Ronald Strong
Powerpoint.....	Blake Maberry

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