

Announcements and Church News

Our Sick

Tammy Odom— fell and broke her femur; Paula Davis— home from the hospital and doing better; Regina Hunter out with the flu; Emily George— recovering from hip surgery; Samantha Jones pulled a muscle; John Nickl recovering from hip surgery at Largo Medical Rehab Rm 332; Ashley Wygal— for her pregnancy; Teresa Broyles cancer trmt; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Nancy VanWinkle, health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS; Jinni Cochran's mother Nickie Campbell in Madonna Ptak Rehab; The Broyles stepmom Mary Jane Wright in rehab recovering from a broken femur from a fall; Dolly Martin's sister Patsy/health issues; Regina Hunter's sister, Cynthia for health issues; Samantha Jones daughter Ariel, brother Eddie and son Joshua; Carol Mitchell— tumor on liver; The Stewart's—bro-in-law Russell Holt; Clifton Reynold's son Bryce; The Kozola's son Tim; David Sain's— wife Phyllis; Van Stewart's—aunt, Linda Parsons for health issues; Dianne Stewart's— brother, Bobby Goodfield; The Stingles—niece's baby; Paula Davis'—niece/ lupus; Darrell Broking/for health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Tim Martin of Pinellas Park church of Christ; Dyianna Thompson's brother-in-law, Rodney; John Benson's friend, Wendell; Ranny Reeves neighbor, Linda Wall; Randall Deily's— uncle; Linda Hadsock's niece, June McCray; Carol Untied's stepmother Emily; Debbie Methvin's—friend Michele Fuguero; Deb Adams friends son, Jason; Van Stewart's sister Tracey and cousin Paula; Ronnie Sommerville's dad, Ron; Mattie Simmons friend William; Sandy Caldwell's bro-in-law Larry; Kay Jessup's friends, Lou and Rose Fiores also co-worker Marie Woleck.

INMATES: Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

OUR SERVICE MEN: Sam Wagner and cousin Mark Wagner (Navy) Austin Reyes (Marine)

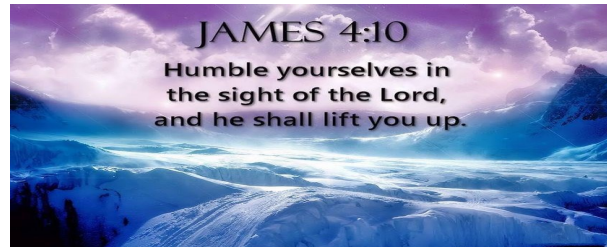
Activities

NEXT LADIES BIBLE CLASS— Is on Friday, February 3rd at 1:00pm in the small building.

SPRING LADIES RETREAT— At Weeki Wachee Christian Camp from February 17th to the 19th. The theme is “BEE” The Change. For more information please pick up a flyer in the foyer. Registration forms are attached.

RESPONDED- Dawn McFarland came forward last Sunday and Randall Deily came forward on Wednesday evening. Remember Dawn and Randall in your prayers as they strive to be a Christian example to others and sharing God's Word.

SYMPATHY— Our deepest sympathy to the family of Vicki Lube. Vicki has been living in an assisted living facility and passed away last week. Remember her family in your prayers.



REMINDER—Weekly sermons are available on CD, our website and livestream on Facebook and YouTube Sundays at 10:30 & 5:00pm and Wednesdays at 7:00pm.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Announcements—James George
 Song Leaders—Matt Pryor/Jesse Lancaster
 Opening Prayer—David Jones/James George
 Lord's Table—Mark Bernhardt
 Closing Prayer—John Benson/Zack Stewart

Birthdays This Week

Lee Kozola—January 22nd
 Tom George—January 24th

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 22, 2023
 centralofchrist@gmail.com
 www.centralofchrist.com

Office: (727) 446-4808
 1454 Belleair Rd. Clearwater, FL 33756-2357

Gospel Broadcasting Network
 http://gbntv.org YouTube
 https://spiritualsword.org/

SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday YouTube watch & hear Phil Sanders

THE INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL HOUR Broadcasting the Gospel Since 1936 YouTube (24/7) to hear Jeff Archey

House to House Heart to Heart www.HouseToHouse.com

FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING FSOP EST. 1969 fsop.net

Soaring for Souls soaringforsouls.com

Childhaven, Inc. Childhaven Children's Home in Cullman, AL www.childhaven.com

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME fairhavenchildrenshome.com www.christiancourier.com

india missions cocindia.net

Arnold Town Road Church of Christ—Darrell Broking
 Chalmette Church of Christ—Mark Lance
 South Anchorage Church of Christ—Michael Dale

Elders:

Joe Bonelli Charles Broyles
 James George

Deacons:

Max Herman
 Van Stewart

Preacher: Charles Broyles

Office: 727-446-4808 Cell #: 423-240-9075

Sunday Bible Study—9:30AM
 Charles Broyles

Major Prophets—Ezekiel 40-41

Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM
 Charles Broyles

Why Should Christ Come Again?
 John 17:1-5

Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM
 Charles Broyles

Goodness & Severity of God
 Romans 11:22

Ladies Bible Study-Friday
 February 3rd at 1:00PM

Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM
 Charles Broyles

The Sovereignty of God

All of our services are available on Facebook Live and



YouTube

YouTube Live!



From the Preacher's Pen

NOT GRUDGINGLY OR OF NECESSITY: A PRECEDENT FOR ALL WORSHIP

Robert C. Lupo

“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7 NKJV). God wants us to worship Him in giving. However, it becomes quite clear that God does not want any part of our offering – if it is given with the feelings of reluctance or because we “have to.” Giving ought to be of one’s “own will and free choice, from his very heart, not as directed and forced by others, but according to his own counsel and determination” (Gill). We ought to be willing and happy to give to the Lord; don’t you agree?

Giving is just one part of the Christian’s worship to God. We are either commanded or we have apostolically approved examples in the New Testament Scriptures to offer worship to our God in addition to giving by hearing teaching from God’s Word, singing with our hearts, praying and partaking of the Lord’s Supper (Act 2:42; 20:7). Which of these other acts of worship can be offered acceptably before God if we do not willingly and lovingly want to give it?

First Corinthians 14:26-40 teaches that worship is to be done decently and in order. Please read this passage and note the commands and precedents set forth in the text. Christian men are needed to help other Christians to worship God. Women are not permitted to teach or to lead the congregation in prayer (1 Corinthians 14:34-35; 1 Timothy 2:8-12). If all of the men prayed a different prayer aloud and at once, no one would be able to understand, and chaos would ensue. In corporate prayer, one male Christian leads all the other Christians in prayer, to which all say, “Amen,” meaning “so be it” (1 Corinthians 14:16). For all things to be done decently and in order, we need to have men who will lead prayer.

A male Christian must lead the congregation in the singing. If all sang a different song at the same time or interrupted others who were singing, no one would be edified. We need song leaders to start everybody singing the same song, on the right pitch, with the right tempo, etc. Men are also needed to start and to assist in passing the communion and contribution plates [if that method of circulation is selected, for instance, instead of the congregation passing single file before the communion ware and contribution receptacles, or simply passing them from person to person throughout the assembly, LER]. They help to ensure that everybody is able to participate. Could we, or should we, expect only one man to do all these things?

Planning to Worship God

If we are to plan how much we will give each week in our worship to God (2 Corinthians 9:7), certainly we ought also to plan how we will participate in the other acts worship. If this is so, the men of the church ought not to have to be told to participate in the worship service. In planning to worship God, each one knows he might be asked – he might be on the list. His desire to serve should cause him to look for himself.

Privileged to Serve

Christian men have been given the honor and the privilege of leading and of serving other Christians in their worship to God. “Privileged to Serve” is the heading that appears in our church bulletin above the list of those asked to serve. The heading is there as a reminder – to suggest that Christian men should feel honored, and, indeed, privileged to have a part in serving during the worship of God. Any man on the list is simply being asked to serve. A male Christian does not have to serve if he does not want to serve. It would be better for one not to

serve at all than to serve reluctantly. There may be some reasons that some cannot serve during a particular Sunday or Wednesday assembly (e.g., laryngitis, not feeling well, injured, absent, etc.). Barring these, why wouldn’t any God-loving Christian want to serve?

No Sighing in Heaven

One of my favorite hymns is “No Tears Up There” by Joe E. Parks. The first few words of the second verse say, “There’ll be no days of grief or sighing.” The whole song is about the fact that in Heaven, there will be no tears, no sorrows and no sighing from the weariness of death. There will not be any negative form of sighing in Heaven.

Do you suppose that if God asked anyone to take a leadership role in a worship service in Heaven that anyone would complain about being asked? Do you suppose anyone there would sigh and look as if someone has just stolen all his joy? When asked to serve in the worship service, some men sigh and hang their heads – taking several seconds to answer. It is so discouraging! I cannot even imagine what others must think of the spectacle. If a man does not want to take a leadership role in the worship when asked, he needs only to say, “No.” Do not discourage others from serving with all of the “drama”!

Everything we read about Heaven in God’s Word says there will be rejoicing there. The saints will gladly serve God both day and night in His temple (Revelation 7:15). Now, note this; no one will sigh or complain about serving Him there! No one will offer any complaints. There will be no complaining brethren in Heaven. There just won’t be any! They will have long since been parted to the left with the goats.

Wanted: True Worshippers!

Jesus said that God the Father is seeking true (alethinous, truthful, genuine) worshippers to worship Him. If our spirit (attitude) is not right, our worship will not be right either (John 4:23-24). Since God expects men to take leadership roles, all Christian men – if able – should want to serve in some way. Want is desire. Can a man worship God acceptably without taking on certain leadership roles? Perhaps so. He could pass the plates instead of speaking, singing, preaching, praying but still serve. No one can serve acceptably if he does not want to do it.

Works Cited

John Gill’s Exposition of the Old and New Testaments. Electronic Database. Seattle: BibleSoft, 2011.

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YOU TELL WHAT YOU ARE

You tell on yourself by friends you seek, by the very manner in which you speak;

by the way you employ your leisure time, by the use you make of dollar a dime.

You tell what you are by the things you wear, by the spirit in which your burdens you bear; by the kind of things at which you laugh, by the records you play on the phonograph.

You tell what you are by the way you walk, by the things of which you delight to talk, by the manner in which you bear defeat, by so simple a thing as how you eat., by the book you choose from the wall-filled shelf.

In these ways and more, you tell on yourself,

So there’s really not a particle of sense in an effort to keep up false pretense.

Author Unknown