

# Announcements and Church News

## Our Sick

Tammy Odom— recovering from a broken femur; Vicki Herman— out with a cold; Emily George— recovering from hip surgery; John Nickl recovering from hip surgery; Ashley Wygal— for her pregnancy; Teresa Broyles cancer trmt; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Nancy VanWinkle, health issues.

**PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;** Carol Untied's mom, Georgianna Matusovich recovering from a fall also dad, Tony for recent health issue; Jan Lavern's nephew, Kerry/knee surgery; Les Vasterling's grandson, Michael/kidney issues; The Bonelli's daughter, Vitina for UC flare; Jinni Cochran's mother Nickie Campbell in Madonna Ptak Rehab; The Broyles stepmom Mary Jane Wright in rehab/broken femur; Regina Hunter's sister, Cynthia/health issues and friends Jennifer and Greg both for surgeries; Samantha Jones brother Eddie/heart surgery; 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; 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:** Austin Reyes (Marine) Matthew Holleran (Army)

## Activities

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS**— This Friday, February 17th at 1:00pm in the small building.

**SPRING LADIES RETREAT**— At Weeki Wachee Christian Camp from February 17th to the 19th. Flyers are in the foyer.

**WORK DAY**— We will have a inside and outside work day this Saturday, February 18th from 8:30 to 12:00. A sign up sheet is in the foyer.

**FELLOWSHIP DINNER**— Is next Sunday, February 19th after the morning worship service. If you are visiting, please join us as our honored guests.

**RESPONDED**—Last Sunday Randall Deily, Regina Hunter and Zack Stewart came forward needing the prayers of the church. We are thankful for their courage and love for the Lord to make things right before God.

**NEW ADDRESS**—Lori Williams who recently moved to Texas has a new address for those who would like to keep in touch: 303 Hummingbird Trail, Atlanta, TX 75551-1920.

**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

*Greeters— Van & Dianne Stewart*

*Announcements—James George*

*Song Leaders—Joe Bonelli/James George*

*Scripture Readers—Rob Schlachter/Zack Stewart*

*Opening Prayer—Mark Bernhardt/Jesse Lancaster*

*Lord's Table—Max Herman*

*Closing Prayer—Dennis Cuckler/David Jones*

## Birthdays This Week

*Molly Burgess—February 13th*

*Johnny Maravilla—February 17th*

# CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 12, 2023  
centralcofchrist@gmail.com  
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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



YouTube (24/7) to hear

Jeff Archey



soaringforsouls.com



Childhaven Children's Home in Cullman, AL

www.childhaven.com



cocindia.net



fairhavenchildrenshome.com

www.christiancourier.com

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 46-48**

**Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM**

Charles Broyles

**What Is Truth?**

John 18:36-38

**Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM**

Charles Broyles

**Faith Is The Victory**

Judges 7:2-3

**Ladies Bible Study-Friday**

**February 17th at 1:00PM**

**Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM**

Charles Broyles

**The Problem of Sin**

All of our services are available

on Facebook Live and



YouTube

YouTube Live!



From the Preacher's Pen

## **BAPTISM—FROM HEAVEN OR FROM MEN?**

Dan Jenkins

The appearance of John the Baptist introduced a religious act that was unknown before his time. It was the immersion of an individual in water in order to bring about the remission of sins. Jesus asked the Pharisees the question, “The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?” (Matt. 21:25). Their answer shows just how new it was. Some have sought to say that it was part of Jewish rites which involved water, but such could not be true for they could have answered Jesus that it was from Judaism and had been done for years.

The truth is that John was sent by God (John 1:6), and his baptism was part of the plan to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. It was not a ritual, a religious act. It was tied directly to faith. Those Pharisees said that if they say from heaven, Jesus would ask them, “Why did you not believe him?” (Matt. 21:25). Baptism is directly connected to hearing God. Submission to baptism is motivated by faith, believing God’s message.

John’s baptism was also joined to repentance. It was a “baptism of repentance” (Luke 3:3). What does this mean? It acknowledges the source from which baptism comes. I am a man of Alabama, that is where I come from. Submission to John’s baptism came from hearts that had repented.

John’s baptism was not only linked to faith and repentance, but God made it part of receiving the remission of sins (Mark 1:4). The fact that John taught individuals to be baptized to have their sins removed is precisely the reason John first refused to baptize sinless Jesus. Multitudes heard John preach the truth that Jesus was coming to bring judgment against sinful Israel. He was coming with an axe, a winnowing fan and a baptism (immersion) in unquenchable fire (Matt. 3:10-12). They knew they were sinful, and that God was just in bringing judgment.

On the other hand, the Pharisees were part of some who “justify themselves” (Luke 16:15) and rejected that the judgment of God was just. Read these words carefully. “All the people heard him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him” (Luke 7:29-30).

Never forget that the baptism brought by Jesus was a message from heaven, tied directly to faith, repentance and the remission of sins. To reject it is to reject the will of God. Soberly consider these questions. The baptism brought by Jesus—where was it from? From heaven or from men? The Lord still has the axe, the winnowing fan and immersion in fire. If you have not submitted, you are rejecting God’s will!

## **WHERE ARE YOU IN THE TEMPTATION PROCESS?**

David Sproule

Picture this in your mind. There is a fish who is safely tucked away and minding his own business in the rocks and thick grass of the riverbed. He is doing just fine. Then, something catches his eye. There is something dancing around near the surface of the water. It looks rather intriguing. What could it be? Dare he come out of his spot to check it out? No! He doesn’t want to take a chance. Not now.

So, the fish stays put. But every once in a while, the sparkle of the sun against this dancing object draws his eyes again to the surface. Before he realizes it, he is glancing up at that enticing object more than he is paying attention to life around him, and without realizing it, he begins to inch out of his place of safety and into the open water. His curiosity and cravings get the better of him and he drifts closer and closer to this alluring phenomenon.

He finally sees it clearly and he wants it. It almost seems to have him in a trance with some kind of tractor beam effect. He begins to circle this tantalizing wonder, swimming around it several times to get a better look, consider his options and make up his mind, “Is it worth it?” Finally, he cannot hold himself back any longer and he takes a bite. Next thing he knows, he’s pulled out of his home and into a frying pan.

The illustration above depicts what happens to us in the temptation process. Read James 1:14-15. “But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”

We may think we are tucked away safely, but then something enticing catches our eye. At first, we might ignore it, but the longer it presents itself, the more intrigued we become. Before we know it, we have inched away from where we should be and find ourself in the open water of vulnerability. While we still have time to get back to safety, sometimes the temptation is so strong that we give in to it, rather than flee from it. We take the bite. Sometimes the realization of what we have done hits us immediately; sometimes it hits us later. Regardless, we’re in Satan’s frying pan.

Friend, where are you in the temptation process? Has something sinful caught your eye? Divert and close your eyes! “I will set nothing wicked before my eyes” (Psa. 101:3). Have you been lured from your place of safety? “Turn” back immediately (Jas. 5:20). Are you about read to give in? “Flee,” “resist” “cry out to God” (1 Pet. 2:11; Jas. 4:7; 2 Chron. 7:14). Did you already bite? “Repent and pray to God” that you may “be forgiven” (Acts 8:22). Temptation is strong, but with God’s strength (Eph. 6:10), you are stronger (1 John 4:4).