

# Announcements and Church News

## Our Sick

Zack Stewart feeling better; Priscilla Miller-pulled back muscle; Gary VanWinkle heart issues; Tammy Odom- recovering from a broken femur; Emily George and John Nickl are recovering from hip surgeries and doing good; 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; 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 recovering from broken femur; Regina Hunter's sister, Cynthia/health issues; 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; Linda Hadsock's niece, June McCray; Carol Untied's stepmother Emily; 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)

**SHUT INS:** Alison Harris, Delia Schlachter, Joyce Stanley, Guery & Nancy VanWinkle

## Activities

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS**— This Friday, March 2nd at 1:00pm in the small building.

**GOSPEL MEETING**— Mark your calendars for our Spring Gospel Meeting with Allen Webster from Sunday April 2nd through Thursday April 6th. We will have a fellowship dinner on Sunday after the morning service. Be sure to invite family, friends and neighbors.

**CONGRATS**—Carol Untied's son, Matthew Holleran and his fiancé Virginia are getting married March 3rd. If you would like to write a card with well wishes, marital advice or encouragement please give to Carol by March 1st.

**RESPONDED**—Last Sunday Randall Deily came forward needing the prayers of the church. Also remember Randall and his family in your prayers for the recent loss of an uncle.

**FOYER TABLE**— The March Calendar and the Schedule For Those To Serve can be found on the table in the foyer.

**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*— Max/Vicki Herman  
*Announcements*— Joe Bonelli

*Song Leaders*— James George/Jesse Lancaster

*Scripture Readers*— Jesse Lancaster/Van Stewart

*Opening Prayer*— David Jones/Mark Bernhardt

*Lord's Table*— Max Herman

*Closing Prayer*— John Benson/Rob Schlachter

## Birthdays This Week

Kelly Sarver—February 26th

Tammy Odom—March 1st

Lisa Crossley—March 2nd

Paula Davis—March 3rd

# CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 26, 2023  
centralcofchrist@gmail.com  
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**Gospel Broadcasting Network**  
http://gbntv.org **YouTube**  
https://spiritualsword.org/

**SEARCH** TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday **YouTube**  
watch & hear Phil Sanders

**THE INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL HOUR** **YouTube** (24/7) to hear Jeff Archey

**House to House Heart to Heart** [www.HouseToHouse.com](http://www.HouseToHouse.com)  
 **FSOP** [fsop.net](http://fsop.net)

**Childhaven, Inc.** Childhaven Children's Home in Cullman, AL  
[www.childhaven.com](http://www.childhaven.com)

**FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME**  
[fairhavenchildrenshome.com](http://fairhavenchildrenshome.com) [www.christiancourier.com](http://www.christiancourier.com)

Arnold Town Road Church of Christ—Darrell Broking  
Chalmette Church of Christ—Mark Lance  
South Anchorage Church of Christ—Michael Dale  
Czech Republic Missions —Tony/Heidi Orellana

**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—Intro to Daniel**

**Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM**  
Charles Broyles

**The Danger of Spiritual Shipwreck**  
1 Timothy 1:18-20

**Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM**  
Charles Broyles

**Encouraging Words For Tough Times**  
2 Timothy 1: 8-12

**Ladies Bible Study-Friday**  
**March 2nd 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**

**“AND BE NOT CONFORMED TO THIS WORLD” GUY N. WOODS**

This familiar affirmation of the great apostle (Rom. 12:2) was designed to guard the Lord's people from the corrupting influences of an evil environment and from the powerful appeals of mob psychology to which some any in every generation succumb. This prompted the divine edict of Moses, “Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil” (Exo. 23:2).

Man, by nature, is a social and gregarious being, tending to flock or gather with others of his kind. Thus, early in the history of the race, great cities sprang up, rivaling in size and wickedness many world's metropolises today. This disposition of man to desire the companionship and association of others have many advantages. It enables him to enjoy the accrued advantages of the many and to have legally and properly the fruits of the labors of others and those of his own. But there are grave dangers attending the privilege. Man, may, and often does, imbibe the evil characteristics of those about him as readily, and often more so, than the good ones.

All history, as well as the testimony of our hearts, bears witness to the fact that custom, fashion, and example often wield a more powerful influence on people than reason, reflection, and good judgment; to multitudes of people today, the habits and practices of those around them exercise an almost irresistible appeal. The world is said to lie in wickedness (1 John 5:19), and its vices are so common that they have long since lost for many their sinful appearance.

Vice is a monster of such frightful mien  
That to be hated needs but to be seen;  
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,  
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

It is for this reason that worldly practices frowned on by all people of moral principle a few years ago are now by many regarded as entirely acceptable. It is not that the passing years have produced some moral change in the nature of such things; the change is in the people and not in the acts they now tolerate or embrace. Paul's injunction, “And be not conformed to this world,” more literally, “Do not fashion yourselves according to the age,” was penned to forewarn the dangers of just such worldly conformity.

Popular indulgence in vice tends not only to destroy the inhibition that modesty and shame provide; it employs them in leading others to participate therein. Timid souls are often prompted to do that which violates their concepts of right and wrong for fear of being regarded as old-fashioned, outmoded, or out of step with the times. The cliché, "Everybody's doing it," has lulled countless thousands into a false sense of security from which they will never awake and has caused them to live a life that otherwise they never would.

It is dangerous to follow the multitude because the majority is almost always on the wrong side. It was so in the days when righteous Noah labored faithfully in the building of the ark, when Elijah sought to stem the tide to Baal, when Christ was rejected by His contemporaries, and when Paul fought almost alone in his battle for the cause he loved. Those who contend for pure faith and total conformity to the New Testament Way often must do so while in

conflict not only with the world but also with their own brethren who, for one excuse or another, deliberately compromise with the world and betray the cause of Christ into the hands of His enemies.

The shouting, milling throngs who welcomed the Lord into Jerusalem on His triumphant entry changed in four days to a seething, menacing mob who demanded His death and surged in cold fury at His feet as He died. Shrewd political leaders, aware of this weakness of humanity, often use it to achieve their perverted ends.

The Lord has always sought to protect His people from the evil influences of this world (1 Cor. 15:33; 2 Cor. 6:17; 7:1; Eph. 5:11; 1 John 2:15; Jam. 4:4). Abraham was called out to become the father of a special people to preserve the bloodline from heathen admixture so our Lord might be born. Nehemiah refused to suspend the work of Jehovah to engage in useless fruitless controversy with Sanballat and Tobiah. Jesus warned of the corruption of His contemporaries, and Paul taught total, complete separation from the world's evil ways as the only effective means of avoiding its moral contamination.

It must never be forgotten that the broad way is the way of the world. Those who go in thereat do so to their own destruction. Deceased

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**THE SECRET TO CHURCH GROWTH - B. J. CLARKE**

The secret to church growth is really no secret. It is plainly revealed within the pages of God's Word. You don't have to travel hundreds of miles to a soul-winning workshop to unlock the secret of church growth. You don't have to travel to the bookstore to purchase the latest volume written to reveal the mystery of church growth. Just travel over to the bookcase, pull down your copy of the sacred writings, open it to the New Testament and start reading.

Read of the life and ministry of Jesus. Read of how Jesus preached peace and went about doing good (John 16:33; Acts 10:38). Read of how He demonstrated His love for the lost (Mark 10:21; John 15:13). Read of how He spoke the truth in love without ever compromising (Mat. 15:3-14). Read of the Jerusalem church and their common love for Christ and one another (Acts 2:44-47; 4:32-37). Read of how the first century Christians went everywhere preaching the Word (Acts 8:4).

Read of the tremendous sacrifices endured by the Apostle Paul so that the cause of Christ might be advanced (2 Cor. 11:23-28). Note the duties and qualifications of elders and deacons (1 Tim. 3:1-13). Read the epistles to understand God's will for each member of the Lord's body. After you've read and read and read some more, read Revelation 1:3 to learn that just reading is not enough. We must read and then live out that which we have read.

What is the secret to church growth? When preachers speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15), and reprove, rebuke and exhort with all longsuffering (2 Tim. 4:2), the church will grow. When elders shepherd the flock properly under the direction of the Chief Shepherd (1 Pet. 5:1 - 3), the church will grow. When deacons serve well, the church will grow (1 Tim. 3:13; Acts 6:1-7). When each member seeks to live like Christ and to love like Christ, the church will grow. Simply put, the church will grow when every part of the body does its share (Eph. 4:16). This is God's plan and it will not fail!