

Announcements and Church News

Our Sick

Les Vasterling— recovering from hip replacement surgery; Dennis Cuckler— out sick; Debbie Adams— health issues; Tim Miller—doing better; Marta Core—recovering from surgery; Shirley Lydic—doing some better; Jan Lavern—recovering at home; Ronnie Sommerville, Jr— cancer trmt; Delia Schlachter back issues; Teresa Broyles cancer treatment; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Guery & Nancy VanWinkle, health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

Penny Bevaqua's—dad John/covid; Kay Jessup's brother in the hospital; The Herman's—friend Debbie Cherryholmes/ for car accident; Jan Lavern's—son Jason/surgery; Linda Hadsock's—son Steve/health issues; The Adam's—granddaughter Trinity; Jackie Clark's mother Dorothy and grandmother Gayle/health issues; Patrick Pinto's— sister Angelina and nephew Joshua; Lexi Cahill's—grandfather for lung cancer; prayers for mom Kelly; Carol Untied's—stepmom Emily/shoulder issue; Paula Davis— friend Tracey; The Broyles stepmom Mary Jane Wright; 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; 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; Dy- ianna 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; Mattie Simmons brother Joe Hooks and friend William; Sandy Caldwell's bro-in-law Larry; Kay Jessup's friends, Pete Pepjess and Marie Woleck.

INMATES: Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

OUR SERVICE MEN: Austin Reyes (Marine) Matthew Holleran (Army)

SHUT INS: Delia Schlachter, Joyce Stanley and Guery & Nancy VanWinkle

Activities

NEXT LADIES BIBLE CLASS— Friday, September 15th at 1:00pm in the small building.

MEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS— Thursday, September 7th in the small building from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. See Van Stewart for any questions.

UPCOMING LADIES DAYS— Orange Street church of Christ in Auburndale on Saturday, September 23rd and South Florida Avenue church of Christ in Lakeland on Saturday, October 7th. Flyers for both can be found in the foyer.

GOSPEL MEETING—Mark your calendars for our Fall Gospel Meeting with Wade Webster from Sunday October 1st through Thursday October 5th. We will have a fellowship dinner on Sunday after the morning service. Be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors. Flyers are in the foyer.

FALL FAMILY CAMP— At Weeki Wachee Christian Camp from November 10th to the 12th. For registration and more information flyers can be found in the foyer

REMINDER— Weekly sermons are available on CD, our website and livestream on Facebook and YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 & 5:00pm and Wednesdays at 7:00pm. If you need the Bulletin, Christian Service List, Calendar or Directory call the office at (727) 446-4808.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Greeters— Van/Dianne Stewart

Announcements—Joe Bonelli

Song Leaders—Joe Bonelli/James George

Scripture Readers—Patrick Pinto/Randall Deily

Opening Prayer—Van Stewart/Rob Schlachter

Lord's Table—Mark Bernhardt

Closing Prayer—John Benson/David Jones

Birthdays This Week

John Core— September 3rd

Linda Kozola—September 5th

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 3, 2023
centralcofchrist@gmail.com
www.centralcofchrist.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



YouTube

(24/7) to hear Jeff Archey



fsop.net



soaringforsouls.com



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



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
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

The Book of Revelation

Chapter 1

Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM

Charles Broyles

Hear, Believe, Obey A Lie

John 8:32

Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM

Charles Broyles

Rightly Dividing The Word

2 Timothy 2:15

Men's Bible Study—Thursday

September 7th at 7:00PM

Ladies Bible Study—Friday

September 15th at 1:00PM

Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM

Charles Broyles

Salvation

All services are available!



facebook.com/central.cochrist.31



@centralcofc-clearwater



From the Preacher's Pen

SO BUILT WE THE WALL

Wade Webster

“So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.... So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days” (Neh. 4:6; 6:15). It is amazing how much the children of Israel accomplished in just a short time. God’s people

need to study this glorious book and encouraging account and apply the principles they learn. Many congregations are trying to copy the programs and gimmicks of the denominations. It seems many brethren have given up on doing things the Lord’s way and are thus doomed for failure. Let’s examine the reasons why Nehemiah and the people were so successful in their work.

First, they were successful because God was on their side. If any work is going to be successful we are going to have to have God on our side. Nehemiah clearly gave God the credit for being able to come back and rebuild the walls. We read, “Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah; And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king’s forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me” (Neh. 2:7-8). Notice Nehemiah says the reason he was able to come back and to cut timber from the king’s forest was “the good hand of God” upon him.

As Nehemiah was encouraging the people to help him rebuild the walls, he told the people God was on their side. “Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king’s words that he had spoken unto me” (2:18). The enemies of Nehemiah also saw God was fighting for His people. Nehemiah records, “And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses. And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work” (4:14-16). When the enemies viewed the walls finished in such a short time they realized God was helping His people (6:16).

The wall was completed in such a short time because God was helping them. Likewise today, if we are going to be successful in the work of the church we are going to have to have God’s help. Sadly, many congregations rush ahead in their work without consulting God through His word or through prayer. We must understand that if God is on our side, nothing can stop us. Paul wrote, “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?” (Rom. 8:31). First and foremost, if any work is going to be accomplished, God must be involved.

Second, they were successful because they had good leadership. Even the best of undertakings soon fail if there is not good leadership to oversee the work. Nehemiah was selected by God to oversee the work of rebuilding the walls. There are a number of things that made Nehemiah a good leader. (1) He felt for the condition of his people (Neh. 1:4). When Nehemiah learned of the condition of the city and the people, the Bible records he sat down, wept, mourned, fasted, and prayed. A leader cannot be removed from the suffering and sorrow of those whom he leads.

(2) Nehemiah prayed often to God. Before Nehemiah made his request before the king he prayed to God (Neh. 2:4). Also, when Nehemiah’s enemies were pressuring him to stop the work and to compromise, Nehemiah went to God in prayer (Neh. 4:4-5; 6:14). A leader must pray often to God for guidance if he is going to be successful. (3) Nehemiah analyzed the problem. Nehemiah determined the problem was sin and a failure to follow God’s word (Neh. 1:6-7). Leaders, before acting, must analyze the situation and go to the root of the problem. (4) Nehemiah gathered

information and organized the work. He surveyed the city at night with a small band of soldiers to see its condition (2:12-16). Nehemiah didn’t speak about what someone had told him, but what he had actually determined to be the situation. Leaders must gather information and organize that information before acting upon it.

(5) Nehemiah informed the people. He didn’t keep the people in the dark, but rather, informed them and encouraged them to rise up and help (2:17-18). Leaders must inform those under their oversight of their plans. Leaders do not have to lead necessarily by popular opinion, but they should keep the people informed. (6) Nehemiah divided the work among the people. The third chapter of the book of Nehemiah is a list of families to whom Nehemiah divided the work. This is extremely important. Leaders cannot do all the work and thus must incorporate the talents of those under their oversight. (7) Nehemiah supervised the work and helped in it. Nehemiah made sure everyone was working and then he joined in and helped them (Neh. 4:23; 5:16). In fact, Nehemiah worked while others were sleeping (Neh. 2:12-16). Leaders must oversee the work but they must also engage in the work to be successful. (8) Nehemiah encouraged the workers. When the people began to become discouraged by the enemy, Nehemiah encouraged them by telling them God was there to help them (4:14). Leaders must be great encouragers if the work of the church is going to be successful. (9) Nehemiah would not compromise. When asked to go down to the plains of Ono, Nehemiah replied, “I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?” (Neh. 6:1-4). Leaders must not compromise with the enemy if they are going to be successful. (10) Nehemiah listened to the problems of the people and tried to solve them (Neh. 5:13). Leaders must be willing to listen and to provide solutions. (11) Nehemiah would not tolerate sin (Neh. 13:10-11; 7:63-64). Leaders must deal with sin in the congregation lest the problem grow and souls are lost (2 The. 3:6). Any work that is going to be successful is going to have to have good leadership. We must remember it is God’s desire that every congregation ordain elders when they have qualified men (Tit. 1:5-9). Good leadership is a necessity if the work of the church is going to prosper for.

Third, they were successful because the people were willing to work. Any work that is successful must be characterized by members who are willing to be used in the Master’s vineyard. The Jews who helped in the work were willing from the very start. When Nehemiah suggested the work, they said, “Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work” (2:18). Chapter three pictures the people working on various parts of the wall. It is interesting to note how many times the words “built, builded, and repaired” are used. The words “builded” and “built” are used 7 times, and “repaired” is used 35 times. Nehemiah said concerning the work, “So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work” (Neh. 4:6). The enemies of the people thought it was impossible for them to rebuild the walls. Sanballet said, “What do these feeble Jews? will they fortify themselves? will they sacrifice? will they make an end in a day? will they revive the stones out of the heaps of the rubbish which are burned?” (Neh. 4:2). Tobiah also added to Sanballet’s statement: “Even that which they build, if a fox go up, he shall even break down their stone wall” (Neh. 4:3). The enemies of God thought the task was impossible, yet, because of God’s help, Nehemiah’s leadership, and the willingness of the people, the work was accomplished in a very short time. Likewise today, the church can do great things when there are members who have a mind to work. We need members that will volunteer to teach classes, lead prayers, lead singing, serve the communion, preach and many other things.

Nehemiah records a success story: “So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days” (Neh. 6:15). This should inspire us to do our part in the Lord’s work so we too can enjoy the success of working with the Lord and one another. Great things can be accomplished when we have God’s help, good leadership, and working members.