

Announcements and Church News

Our Sick

John Benson— recovering from hip replacement surgery; Pat Ledford— shingles; Tim Miller—doing better; Shirley Lydic—doing better; Ronnie Somerville, Jr.— finished radiation trmt; Delia Schlachter back issues; Teresa Broyles cancer treatment; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Guery & Nancy VanWinkle, health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

Les Vasterling's— brother James hospitalized for infection; Lydia MacClain's— father, Ray in VA Hosp; Lexi Cahill's— mom Kelly/chemo trmt; Molly Burgess's—daughter, Carrie/needs kidney transplant; Dottie Curls— son Douglas/serious health issues; The Adam's—granddaughter Trinity; Jackie Clark's mother Dorothy and grandmother Gayle/health issues; Patrick Pinto's—sister Angelina & nephew Joshua for prayers; Lexi Cahill's—grandfather/lung cancer & prayers for brother Jacob; Carol Untied's—stepmom Emily/shoulder surgery; Paula Davis— friend Tracey; Carol Mitchell— tumor on liver; The Stewart's—bro-in-law Russell Holt; 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—health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Charlotte Bytheway's cousin Janet Chaney; Tim Martin of Pinellas Park church of Christ; Dyianna Thompson's brother-in-law, Rodney; Ranny Reeves neighbor, Linda Wall; Linda Haddock'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: Wayne Bishop (Coral Oaks), Delia Schlachter, Joyce Stanley and Guery & Nancy VanWinkle

Activities

NEXT LADIES BIBLE CLASS—Friday, November 3rd at 1:00pm in the small building. All ladies are welcome. See Vicki Herman for more information.

MEN'S MONTHLY BIBLE CLASS—Thursday, November 2nd in the small building from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. See Van Stewart with any questions.

MEN'S LECTURESHIP— Eagle Lake Church of Christ on Saturday, November 4th. For more information pick up a flyer in the foyer.

FALL FAMILY CAMP— At Weeki Wachee Christian Camp from November 10th-12th. For more information pick up a flyer in the foyer.

GOSPEL MEETING— At the South Florida Ave Church of Christ from November 12th-15th. Flyers can be found in the foyer.

RESPONDED— Last Sunday Dawn McFarland and visitor Debra Pavolic came forward needing the prayers of the church.

SYMPATHY—Our deepest sympathy is extended to Regina Hunter and family for the loss of her sister in law, Pam Hunter. Remember Regina and family as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

Greeters— Deb Adams/Paula Davis
Announcements— Charles Broyles

Song Leaders— Joe Bonelli/Jesse Lancaster
Scripture Readers— Jesse Lancaster/Max Herman
Opening Prayer— Van Stewart/James George
Lord's Table— Mark Bernhardt
Closing Prayer— David Jones/Randall Deily

Birthdays This Week

Samantha Jones— October 22nd
Tim Adams—October 25th
Bob Haddock—October 25th
Eileen Chase—October 28th

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

October 22, 2023
centralcofc@gmail.com
www.centralcofc.org

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 **YouTube** (24/7) to hear Jeff Archey

House to House Heart to Heart www.HouseToHouse.com

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

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME
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 Class—9:30AM
Charles Broyles
Book of Revelation-Chapter 2-3

Sunday AM Worship—10:30AM
Charles Broyles

Back To Basics Of Spiritual Growth
2 Peter 1:3-4

Sunday PM Worship—5:00 PM
Charles Broyles

Thrown To The Lions
Daniel 6:1-3

Men's Bible Study—Thursday
November 2nd at 7:00PM

Ladies Bible Study—Friday
November 3rd at 1:00PM

Wednesday Bible Study—7:00PM
Charles Broyles
The Problem of Sin

All services are available!

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From the Preacher's Pen

WHEN YOU WANT TO HAVE IT BOTH WAYS

“Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.” (James 4:4)

The Christians James wrote to remind me another church who received a strongly-worded letter from an inspired writer. The Laodicean church, one of the seven congregations to whom the book of Revelation was addressed, was strongly rebuked by Jesus.

He said to them, “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” (Revelation 3:15-19).

The problem held by the Christians originally addressed by the books of James and Revelation was this: They wanted to have it both ways. They wanted to be recognized as followers of Christ while still embracing the sin of the world. That’s why Jesus called them “lukewarm” and wanted to spit (literally, vomit) them out of His mouth.

What was a problem two thousand years ago is still a problem today. Christians are commanded in the Bible to not conform to the world (Romans 12:2a), but the temptation to do just that is very strong. The power of influence is something which cannot be overlooked. We are influenced by those around us every day in numerous ways. The clothes we wear, the way we comb our hair, the cars we drive, the food we eat...these choices and more are made by us as a result of the influence of the society around us. Yet God calls Christians to be different from the world, so different that the world will notice, wonder why, and persecute us.

That’s what the Holy Spirit inspired the apostle Peter to promise Christians: “Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. For the time past of our life may suffice us to have wrought the will of the Gentiles, when we walked in lasciviousness, lusts, excess of wine, revellings, banquetings, and abominable idolatries: Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:” (1 Peter 4:1-4).

No one likes to be mocked, which is why Satan tempts today’s Christians very subtly to conform to the rest of the world, just as he did with the Christians during biblical times. Today’s Christians need to remember what was told to the Christians of the New Testament, that they became a part of the bride of Christ when they obey the gospel and are added by Him to His church. The apostle Paul wrote to the church, “For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband...Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God...” (Romans 7:2, 4). When Christians unrepentantly embrace the sin of the world rather than strive to live as God would have them to live, they basically commit spiritual adultery and thus become God’s enemies as James said. Is that really worth “the pleasures of sin for a season” (Hebrews 11:25)?

Read Revelation 21:8 and decide for yourself. “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”

SIN IS NOT A SMART INVESTMENT

1. Adam and Eve, for a bit of fruit when they were not even hungry, brought sin, suffering, shame, and death upon themselves and us (Gen. 3).
2. Lot’s wife, revealing her longing for the things that pertain to earth, took one last look back and became a pillar of salt (Gen. 19).
3. Achan, for a garment he could not wear, and for silver and gold, he could not spend, paid with all his possessions, family, and life (Jos. 7).
4. Samson, for the caress of a hypocritical woman, lost his will, strength, liberty, eyes, and finally, life (Jud. 16).
5. David, to enjoy another man’s wife, handed posterity a tale of adultery, shame, and tears, boldly written across his face (2 Sam. 11-12).
6. Ahab, coveting a vineyard he’d never enjoy, permitted his wife to have its owner killed (1 Kin. 21).
7. Judas, for thirty pieces of silver which he had no occasion or conscience to use, took his own life in shame and despair (Mat. 27).
8. Demas, loving the transient world more than a permanent future, forsook Paul and provoked the wrath of heaven (2 Tim. 4).

A Christian who leaves Christ and forfeits his ticket to heaven for only temporary joys (2 Pet. 2:20-22; Heb. 11:24-26).
Author Unknown