

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING

December 11, 2016

WELCOME: Darren Dent
SONG LEADER: Don Barnett
OPENING PRAYER: Marty Leonard
LORD'S TABLE: Shannon Whitley
Cayden Leonard
ASSIST: Wyatt Brewer
Kevin Barley
Zac Gordey
Eric McNulty
CLOSING PRAYER: Valdy Eichmann
GREETERS: Rick & Kathy Camp
Jim & Martha Bell
CARDS: Miguel Montenegro, Jr
Lyndon Lewis
VISITOR GIFT/STEPHANIE BARKLEY
HOSTESSES: Anne Janski
SCRIPTURE READER: JACOB RIELA
Isaiah 26:3-4

SUNDAY EVENING

December 11, 2016

SONG LEADER: Brian Drewry
OPENING PRAYER: Tyler Blair
LORD'S TABLE: Michael Cole
Mike Wolff
CLOSING PRAYER: Rick Camp

WEDNESDAY EVENING

December 14, 2016

SONG LEADER: Brian Drewry
OPENING PRAYER: Michael Gilbow
DEVOTIONAL: Michael Gilbow
CLOSING PRAYER: Matthew Dent

****Please contact Mike Wolff
if you are unable to serve.***

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

BIBLE CLASS 9:30 a.m.
WORSHIP 10:30 a.m.
EVENING 5:00 p.m.
LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

BIBLE CLASS 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY:

LADIES BIBLE CLASS 10:00 a.m.

Elders:

Gene Blair 501-499-5868 Darren Dent 501-581-3052
Gary Bradford 501-626-3232 Rod Wilson 501-328-7888

Deacons:

Kevin Barley 501-472-4852 Mike Brewer 501-472-7692
(ushers) (youth)
Michael Cole 815-622-1874 Jarrod DeValle 501-470-8710
(benevolence, pantry) (education & teachers)

Michael Gilbow 501-208-2909
(nursing home, fellowship room set up)

Mike Wolff 501-472-8912
(building & grounds)

Ministers:

Glen Elliott 501-314-9999
Spencer Cromwell 731-438-1206

GREENBRIER CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Greenbrier, AR 72058

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December 11, 2016

A USELESS LIFE

The Bible tells us that "it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment" (Heb. 9:27). Of this fact, we are acutely aware. But, even Christians, from time to time, overlook certain aspects of judgment.

For example, when the Lord comes in His judgment, He will meet out justice against the sin of uselessness. Concerning the man who hid his talent, Jesus said, "cast out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Mt. 25:30). Convenient to our point is the fact *useless* is an alternate translation of *worthless* in this passage. Regardless of translation, we must not miss the point that we will be judged in accordance with what we have done in *using* the talents God has given us.

Jesus compared this to a fig tree which had never produced fruit. When the owner wanted to cut it down, the vineyard-keeper said, "Let it alone, sir, for this year too, until I dig around it and put in fertilizer; and if it bears fruit next year, fine; but if not, cut it down" (Lk. 13:8-9).

Failure to do the right thing is a sin (Jas. 4:17). Living a useless life—to be a spoiled, selfish person who always receives but never gives—is a recipe for tragedy and heartache. In coming judgment, such uselessness will be condemned.

Similarly, judgment will be severe for those who do not react positively to human need. The Son of Man will sit in His glory and say to some, "Why did you not visit the sick?" And, to others, "Why did you not care about those in prison?" Still others will hear: "Why did you not care about those in need of clothing, food, or drink?" In the end, Jesus will declare, "I never knew you."

The rich man daily ignored a beggar by the name of Lazarus who sat at the gate to his house (Lk. 16:19-31). The text does not indicate any abuse other than the fact that Lazarus was ignored and neglected. The rich man saw Lazarus there and did nothing to help him.

On the Day of Judgment, those who did not care enough to help people in need will face condemnation. It will be a haunting thought for many to realize too late that in their selfish lives they never really did anything for anybody else. Resolve to be God's servant, useful in the kingdom, to His glory and the benefit of others.

--Glen Elliott--

HOLIDAY BOXES
 There is a list of needed items if you would like to purchase them yourself or you may give financially to Michael Cole

Deadline for donating is Wednesday, December 14th
Distribution of boxes will be Saturday, December 17th

 **VISITOR BAGS**
 for December 18th
 Edie Singleton & Annie Blair

OUR RECORD	
DECEMBER 4, 2016	
SUNDAY CLASS:	165
SUNDAY WORSHIP:	195
SUNDAY PM:	105
WEDNESDAY (7th):	114
BUDGET:	\$5,400
OFFERING:	\$4,809
YTD average:	\$5,643
YTD ahead/behind:	\$11,883

NEWS & NOTES

PRAYER REQUESTS

*Eric McNulty is requesting prayers for a friend of his, Steve. He has been diagnosed with throat cancer.
 *Vic Byrd as he continues to heal from surgery.
 *Continue to keep Peggy Braden's daughter, Terri; Gina Ratliff's mom, Betty; Doni McInturff; Robin Linn's dad, Michael; Susan Ward; Gaylon Lewallen; Janet Banks, Alisa Stephens, and Destiny Auten in your prayers.
 *Remember Jeanne Haithcote who is in the Greenbrier Nursing Home.

We rejoice with Mary Kennedy as she was baptized on Tuesday. Let's encourage her in her walk with the Lord.

BIRTHDAYS		
	Jim Ratliff	12/11
	Burnadean Murray	12/14
	Rick Camp	12/14
	Jim Bell	12/15
	Charles Reynolds	12/16
	Kristy Lewis	12/17
ANNIVERSARYS		
	- none -	

THANK YOU NOTES
 Please go by the bulletin board to see thank you notes from Doni McInturff & Chris Brill

 **AREA WIDE YOUTH DEVOTIONAL**
 December 11th
 Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a dessert. We will be providing pizza. If you can help financially with the purchase of the pizza, please see Spencer or Shelly

 **LADIES SNOWMAN EXCHANGE**
 DECEMBER 11th at 2pm in the home of the Barnett's bring a \$10 snowman gift to exchange and a small finger food

FOOD COMMITTEE for December
 Please contact
 Gina Ratliff or Dana Short
 581-1948 or 472-4740




"A Reminder in the Snow!"
 -Dec. 11, 2016

Have you ever been pleasantly surprised when looking through the window to see snow falling and doing wondrous things outside? A dull and dreary day was unexpectedly and suddenly transformed into an exciting, lovely, and beautiful day. A drab landscape was turned into a delightful sight as it was blanketed with snow. Bare and seemingly lifeless trees were turned into marvelous works of art as they were decorated with brilliant white highlights.

Our own lives are like that. Like the seemingly lifeless trees, we were once dead in our sins (Eph. 2:1) We were spiritually separated from God and His kingdom.

But then we were cleansed of our sins through faith in Jesus, and were made alive (Col. 1:13) No longer dark and bare trees, we were clothed in white. We had been given the brilliant clothes of those who are in Christ (1 Cor. 6:11). We had become beautiful works of art.

Also, as we are delighted to see a beautiful winter scene, so God is delighted to see His work in our lives. We who once were unsightly, being his enemies, have been marvelously transformed by His grace into children of God (Rom. 5:10; John 1:12) And just as the trees did not cover themselves with powdery snow, neither can we claim credit for our transformation (Eph. 2:8-9) It is the work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. When we soon see that snow falling in Greenbrier, may we all be reminded again of God's mercy, love, and saving grace!
 - Spencer Cromwell