

## PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

### SUNDAY MORNING

December 4, 2016

WELCOME: Darren Dent  
SONG LEADER: Don Barnett  
OPENING PRAYER: Ron McInturff  
LORD'S TABLE: Patrick Rawls  
Tim Dixon  
ASSIST: Teddy Lewis  
Jarrod DeValle  
Jacob Riela  
Kevin Lovell  
CLOSING PRAYER: Bill Davidson  
GREETERS: Kevin & Amy Barley  
Aubrey & Donna Allensworth  
CARDS: Tate Stacks  
Jonathan Rawls  
VISITOR GIFT/ DOROTHY TATUM  
HOSTESSES: Cyndi Moore  
SCRIPTURE READER: Eli Leonard  
Psalm 113:1-4

### SUNDAY EVENING

December 4, 2016

SONG LEADER: Mike Wolff  
OPENING PRAYER: Greg Bradford  
LORD'S TABLE: Eric McNulty  
Randy Gordey  
CLOSING PRAYER: Gary Bradford

### WEDNESDAY EVENING

December 7, 2016

SONG LEADER: Mike Wolff  
OPENING PRAYER: Jackie Horton  
DEVOTIONAL: Kevin Barley  
CLOSING PRAYER: Zac Gordey

**\*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**

12 Wilson Farm Rd.  
Greenbrier, AR 72058

# *Greenbrier church of Christ*

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E-mail: [office@gbcofc.com](mailto:office@gbcofc.com)

(501) 679-3647

Web: [www.gbcofc.com](http://www.gbcofc.com)

December 4, 2016

## THE BLESSING IN CHRIST

It is one thing to receive a blessing; it is quite another to receive "the" blessing. The blessing which is ours in Christ takes us back to the time when God made His promises to Abraham. The Lord said to Abraham, who at that time was known as Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you; And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed" (Genesis 12:1-3).

The promised blessing through Abraham's seed is Christ. Paul says, "Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as referring to many, but rather to one, 'And to your seed,' that is Christ" (Gal. 3:16). In Christ, we are the spiritual descendants of Abraham and heirs according to promise (Gal. 3:29). This is the blessing God promised long ago.

The apostle Paul describes the promised blessing to Abraham under the heading of *faith* in Galatians 3:25 where he says, "But now...faith has come" (Gal. 3:25). The original text carries an article indicating that the apostle is referring to the system of faith as opposed to the law. He says that we are (1) no longer "kept in custody under the law..." (Gal. 3:23); that we are (2) "justified by faith" (Gal. 3:24); that we are "no longer under a tutor" (Gal. 3:25); and that we are "all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:26). Then, by way of explanation, he adds, "For all of [us] who have been baptized into Christ have clothed [ourselves] with Christ" (Gal. 3:27). These are some practical implications that pertain to the coming of *the faith* and how we may take hold of the blessing promised centuries ago to Abraham through Christ.

The blessing of Christ enriches our whole outlook on life because we know that in Christ we are "blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places..." (Eph. 1:3). In Christ, we are of all people, most blessed! When our focus is on Christ, our outlook is bright because He is the source of every spiritual blessing. "Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory" (Colossians 3:1-4). May God bless each of us with the blessing which comes only through knowing Jesus, the promised Messiah (Jn. 14:6).

--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

## THANK YOU NOTES

Please go by the bulletin board to see thank you notes from Charles Bane, Gary Bradford & family, and Bruce & Cindy Bradford



## VISITOR BAGS

for December 11th

Stephanie Barkley & Anne Janski

## OUR RECORD

NOVEMBER 27, 2016

SUNDAY CLASS:	158
SUNDAY WORSHIP:	224
SUNDAY PM:	88
WEDNESDAY (30th):	124
BUDGET:	\$5,400
OFFERING:	\$6,128
YTD average:	\$5,660
YTD ahead/behind:	\$12,474

# NEWS & NOTES

## PRAYER REQUESTS

\*Gina Ratliff's mom, Betty, is at home under hospice care. Continue to keep Gina and her family in your prayers.

\*Ratis Yeager has a lung disease that will have him needing to be on oxygen.

\*Continue to keep Vic Byrd in your prayers as he heals from surgery.

\*Peggy Braden's daughter, Terri, has some serious health concerns and is needing prayers.

\*Continue to keep 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.

\*Pick up an extended list of those in need of our prayers on the table in the foyer.

\*Some names from this list have been moved to the extended prayer list.

BIRTHDAYS		
Larry Ward	12/5	
Dudley Henry	12/7	
Victoria Linn	12/9	
Ginger Beene	12/10	
Linda Drewry	12/10	
ANNIVERSARYS		
- none -		

## NEW ADDRESS:

Spencer & Paige Cromwell  
18 Amethyst Street  
Greenbrier, AR 72058

Remember to change "new addresses and phone numbers" in your directory!

## 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

## "THANK YOU"

to all who helped with the Red Cross Blood Drive - from bringing goodies, sitting at the greeters table, and donating blood!

## FOOD COMMITTEE for December

Please contact

Gina Ratliff or Dana Short  
581-1948 472-4740



## "This Fight Ain't Got Any Rear"

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

I am from a small town in West TN located beside a Civil War battlefield known as one of the overall bloodiest battles of the American Civil War, not due to the numbers fighting, but to the amount of living/dead ratio by the end of the battle on both sides. This battleground came to be known as "The Battle of Shiloh".

There was a soldier who was wounded at the battle of Shiloh during the American Civil War and was ordered to go to the rear. The fighting was fierce and within minutes he returned to his commanding officer. "Captain, give me a gun!" he shouted. "This fight ain't got any rear!"

In Ephesians, Paul describes the armor that we should put on daily. Have you ever noticed that every part of the body is covered except for one? The back! The Lord didn't want us to run away and turn our back toward our enemy -- it would leave us vulnerable, with no armor to protect us against his attack!

And just as a dog would when he senses fear, if we run from the enemy, he will relentlessly chase us until we are broken. But if we take courage and stand strong in the power of God's might, then the battle will be the Lord's... and He has already won the victory!

The battle is raging! It's time to take up our armor and face the enemy head-on! There's no turning back! We're in this together!

There's so much work to be done!

- Spencer Cromwell