

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING

January 8, 2017

WELCOME: Michael Gilbow
SONG LEADER: Don Barnett
OPENING PRAYER: Jim Bell
LORD'S TABLE: Albert Hall
Cayden Leonard
ASSIST: Tim Dixon
Tyler Blair
Tom Barkley
Darren Dent
CLOSING PRAYER: Valdy Eichmann
GREETERS: Michael & Cassi Gilbow
Gary & Becky Bradford
CARDS: Tate Stacks
Jonathan Rawls
VISITOR GIFT/ Cindy Wilson
HOSTESSES: Anne Steele
SCRIPTURE READER: Matthew Dent
Philippians 3:13-14

SUNDAY EVENING

January 8, 2017

SONG LEADER: Brian Drewry
OPENING PRAYER: Gene Blair
LORD'S TABLE: Jarrod DeValle
Mike Wolff
CLOSING PRAYER: Kevin Barley

WEDNESDAY EVENING

January 11, 2017

SONG LEADER: Kevin Lovell
OPENING PRAYER: Mike Brewer
DEVOTIONAL: Rod Wilson
CLOSING PRAYER: Don Barnett

****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 evening 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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January 8, 2017

ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH!

We will never understand the beauty of forgiveness until we understand our need for it. Why do we need forgiveness? Because we are guilty of sin. In Romans 3:23, Paul says, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..." Later, John confessed the same truth, saying, "If we say we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us....If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us" (1 Jn. 1:8, 10). Because we are guilty of sin, we all need God's forgiveness through the blood of Jesus our Savior.

Perhaps, a more penetrating question is: "Why should I forgive others?" We must forgive others or our own sins will remain unforgiven. Jesus taught us to pray as follows: "forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors" (Mt. 6:12). Then, He adds: "for if you forgive men for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions" (Mt. 6:14-15). Sounds like people have always struggled with forgiveness. But someone might object, saying, "I would forgive, but they do not deserve it!" While that may be true, neither do we deserve God's forgiveness.

Closely related to our need for God's forgiveness, is the question of how often must we forgive others. Peter asked, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven" (Mt. 18:15-20). Peter may have thought he was being generous in being willing to forgive seven times; after all, the Jewish rabbis taught that a man should only be forgiven three times. We might say that it was a "three strikes and you're out" policy on forgiveness. But, Peter doubled that amount and added one more for good measure. He might have even patted himself on the back, thinking that Jesus would be proud of the way he had grasped His teaching about forgiveness. But, instead of praise, Jesus provided correction. He replied, "Not seven times, but seventy times seven." Peter's math was way off.

The number "seven" often has a special meaning in the Bible. Seven or multiples of seven sometimes imply completeness or perfection. It is likely that Jesus was suggesting to Peter that forgiveness ought to occur an inexhaustible number of times. He was not teaching Peter to forgive 490 times and no more. He is saying that we must always be willing to forgive. Once is not enough.

--Glen Elliott--

CARE GROUPS:

If you are not already part of a care group, please signup on the bulletin board

MEN'S BREAKFAST

January 14th
at 8:00am
in the
fellowship room



VISITOR BAGS

for January 15th
Gina Ratliff & Beverly Woody



OUR RECORD

JANUARY 1, 2017

SUNDAY CLASS:	134
SUNDAY WORSHIP:	159
SUNDAY PM:	92
WEDNESDAY (4th):	137
BUDGET:	\$5,400
OFFERING:	\$5,196
YTD average:	\$5,196
YTD ahead/behind:	-\$204

NEWS & NOTES

PRAYER REQUESTS

*Our sympathy goes out to the Rawls family in the passing of Patrick's grandmother, Mary Nell Rawls. Her services were Monday in Alabama.

*Also, our sympathy goes out to Jan Biggs & Linda Black in the passing of their sister, Bonnie Palmer. Her services were Saturday in Bryant.

*Dorothy Tatum is not feeling well at this time.

*Linda Harness has requested prayers for her friend, and a former member here, Carlene Wolff. She has lung cancer.

*Helen Swindle has requested prayers for her sister, Shirley Gilbert, who is having some health issues.

*Remember Becky Gossett as she recovers from knee surgery. And Bob & Becky's son, Scott, as he recovers from burns.

*Keep Gina Ratliff's mom, Barbara, in prayer - she is in hospice care.

*Janet Banks and Alisa Stephens are not feeling well.

*Continue to keep Eric McNulty's friend, Steve; Doni McInturff; Robin Linn's dad, Michael; Susan Ward; and Gaylon Lewallen in your prayers.

BIRTHDAYS

Zac Gordey 1/10

ANNIVERSARYS

Darren & Shelly Dent 1/10

BRIDAL SHOWER

for Tonya Force
January 15th from 3:30-5:00
in the
fellowship room
She is
registered at
Target &
Wal-mart



REMOVING ROAD BLOCKS

ACTS 13:47

YOUTH OUTREACH UNIVERSITY

January 13th - 15th

- * **Teens** sign up in class (cost \$25)
- * **Members** we need help housing teens from Mountain Home church of Christ. Please see the bulletin board if you can help!!

FOOD COMMITTEE for January

Please contact

Kathy Camp or Shelly Dent
472-7943 339-8105



Melting a Heart of Stone

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37).

Jesus tells us this is the first and greatest commandment—and it's perhaps the hardest to keep. Sometimes we can honestly say, "All my longings lie open before you, Lord; my sighing is not hidden from you" (Psalm 38:9). Other times we truly try, but seem to make little progress in giving our whole life to God.

Why? It's not always that we have deliberately hardened our hearts. Sometimes it's like a rock has grown around our fears or worries or hopes, making them impossible to open and impossible to release. But nothing is impossible if we seek God's help.

When we offer God our all, we must offer it with the admission that we are flawed and imperfect, and attached to the flesh in ways we can't completely see or understand. We offer every weakness and sin, every wart and blemish. And what does God do in return? "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26).

-Spencer Cromwell