

MAY 15, 2022

CHURCH OF CHRIST



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

“...the churches of Christ salute you” (Romans 16:16)

HOW SHALL THEY HEAR WITHOUT A PREACHER

“The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple” (Psa. 19:7); “Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (Psa. 119:104-105).

Notice carefully what is here deemed “perfect converting the soul”, “sure”, that which enables understanding, a “light” and a “lamp”; it is nothing but the word of God (“law” , “testimony of the Lord”, “precepts”).

The word of God is perfect, complete, nothing lacking, all sufficient, pertaining to all things concerning life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3). God’s word is truth (Jn. 17:17) and is liberating (Jn. 8:32) in that it is “the power of God unto salvation” (Rom. 1:16).

As with anything that is good and profitable for man, it must be accessed, attained, and applied properly. If a man does not know he is lost how will he know to seek the salvation described in God’s word? While it is true that we are born with a sense that some things *ought* to be done and other things *ought* to be avoided, we need guidance in seeking the right direction; the Bible is that which will guide us.

Those who have been blessed to come to a knowledge of the truth have the responsibility to bless others with the same saving truth. Everyone in the fellowship of Christ should be a missionary of sorts, but some men are devoted to the furtherance of the Gospel, hence, we have “the preacher”—the herald of God’s word. Paul Revere was a herald as he blazed a trail with the message, “The British are coming! The British are coming!” The message of the preacher, however, comes from the authority of God and the consequences of ignoring the true message are far greater.

It seems to me a shame that today in answer to the question, “How shall they hear without a preacher?”, many have decided that simply preaching the old Jerusalem Gospel is “old hat”, tired, boring, and simply an ineffective means of reaching folks with the saving message. Instead of sound Gospel preaching, we are giving in to an entertainment-minded society and so instead of acquiring heralds of the Word, we are employing harbingers of the world; stand-up comedians, actors, dramatists (as if there is not enough drama already). Paul said, “For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ” (Gal. 1:10).

I’ll admit that there are some humorous narratives in Scripture (remember Samson and the three-hundred foxes in Judges 15?), but when we read the sermons preached (heralded) by Jesus, Peter, Paul, etc., we don’t even get a hint that there was anything in mind but saving the souls of men with the pure and undiluted Gospel preached with the gravity and integrity it so rightly deserves.

I do not say that “humor is never appropriate in the pulpit”, but when it is superimposed as the drawing power of God—we have a problem!

Jesus stated emphatically; “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me” (John 12:32). Also; “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me” (John 6:44-45). Christ draws us through the Gospel. Preachers need to be heralds of the Gospel; not entertainers—*JK*.

*Welcome! To our visitors,
We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue
cards and place it in one the collection plates.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Cathy Jackson's** correct contact information is: 813 Garfield Ave. Cambridge, OH. 43725. Phone: 740-255-2420.
- **Jean Whitely** fell this past Lord's Day morning. X-ray and CT scan were negative, but she is quite sore.
- **Rick Lambert** has a tumor on his abdomen and one near his liver. He is scheduled for surgery on June 3 and may have some chemo prior to then.
- **Prayer Request** from **Diann Bachmann** for a family friend, **Sidney Suttles**, who had a heart attack and triple by-pass surgery recently.
- **John** will be away on June 15th and August 3rd. If any men would like to teach class either of those Wednesday evenings, let John know.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ Those wishing to update their picture on the board, please see Brenda Warne.
- ❖ Remember to take advantage of our library in the basement.
- ❖ Please inform John of any changes needed to the prayer list, or directory.

TODAY'S LESSONS

Today, our speaker is **Jordan Smith**. Jordan is a student at the West Virginia School of Preaching. John and Tina are on vacation.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, and Carol Mitchell.

SHUT-INS:
Debbie Jones,
Nancy Love,
Randy Yost

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Debra Bates-Phillabaum, Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Tiffany Endly (Jerri Mackie's niece), Diane James (Raymond and Fawn Wayble's daughter), Trudy Kerby, Colleen Kiester (Mo Smith's sister), Janet Patterson, Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), Addy Reed, Rodney Reeves (Erica Cunningham's father), John Rockhold, Wilma Roe, Bob & Marge Watson, Ukraine and remember to pray for one another.

AM Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wed.	Contribution (Budget)
41	65	35	28	\$2250 \$ (\$2,420)