

JULY 30, 2023

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 THOUGHTFUL . . .

Recently a representative from South Carolina made headlines with some suggestive comments she made during, of all things, a prayer breakfast. Nancy Mace was trying to compliment presidential candidate Tim Scott by relating how early she (and many others) had gotten to the event and how important he is to them, when she veered off-course by telling of her fiancé's amorous attempt to get her to come back to bed.

She acted as if it were playful and just a normal thing, however admitting that it may have been "T.M.I." (too much information) and that he could wait until she got home that night. Perhaps she, at that moment, realized that her comments were inappropriate because she was at a prayer breakfast, or because she is a woman, or because some people are just prudes. While her words should have made her, and everyone who heard them uncomfortable, her words were not the most uncomfortable thing we learned about her or her fiancé.

We learned that neither of them seems concerned about committing the sin of fornication, and this brings some questions to my mind. "Why are they not concerned about it?" Does she not realize that there are people who hold to biblical principles—especially in the south? Does she think that parading her sin makes her look grown-up, liberated, and free from the constraints of biblical morality? Some will argue that if two people genuinely love each other, then they have the right to express their love through the physical outlet of sex. Question: if this is the case, who gave them that right? What moral arbiter of the universe said, "Go ahead and fornicate, you shall not surely die"?

After a few folks called Mace out for her cringeworthy remarks, she attempted to defend and deflect by tweeting, "Glad those in attendance, including

@SenatorTimScott and our pastor, took this joke in stride. Pastor Greg and I will have a little extra to talk about on Sunday now”. A joke???? Jokes are supposed to be funny. Jokes do not end with punchlines wherein people damn their souls through fornication!!!!

The apostle Paul wrote to the church of Christ at Corinth, “to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband” (1 Corinthians 7:2). Too, the inspired record says, “Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge” (Hebrews 13:4).

Perhaps it is the case that she and her fiancé hold the mistaken notion that if a couple consummates their relationship in the physical act then they are, for all intents and purposes, married. However, no such arrangement exists in the mind of God and for those who hold such an illusion, they are sadly mistaken. Were that the case—that sex equals marriage— what sense would a command against fornication make? In other words, why prohibit something that would be impossible to do?

I am not so naïve as to think that our leaders are sinless, pillars of the community, but I long for discretion and integrity among them. I am embarrassed for Tim Scott—he seems like a decent man. I will pray for Nancy Mace, her fiancé, and for all who are living in sin. I will pray for the righteous who strive daily to avoid sin.

I close echoing the thoughts of Twitter© user and president of *Founders Ministries*, Tom Ascol, “How thoughtful for @NancyMace to delay fornication so she could show up on time for @votetimscott's prayer breakfast”—*JK*.

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

This morning, please welcome **Aaron Burch** who will have the morning study and lesson. **Alan Wells** will deliver the evening lesson. **Raymond Wayble** has agreed to take the Wednesday Bible Study. God willing, I will be at *West Virginia Christian Youth Camp* until Saturday — *RK*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Evelyn Barton** is the proud grandmother of **Evelyn Faye Barton**, who was born this past Friday. Mother, **Samantha**, and baby are doing fine but will be in the NICU for a while. Little Evelyn is over 5 lbs. and is breathing on her own.
- **Rick Lambert** reports that the tumors in his lungs and stomach have shrunk about 3/8 “. His radiologist is encouraged.
- **Richard Mayo** is to undergo surgery this Wednesday to remove his right kidney because of a tumor. It is not yet known if he will need radiation or chemotherapy.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ **Men’s Prayer Breakfast** 9 a.m. on August 5th at Denny’s. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- ❖ **Oct. 7—Men’s Encouragement Day** here with **Roger Rush**.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Kevin Adkins, Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erna Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Katelynngayle Jamiel, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Hazel Leap, Heather Lucas, Jody Main, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Jean Whitley, and Randy Yost.

SHUT-INS:
Debbie Jones,
Nancy Love,

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: **Weston Boulet** (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Betty Cox** (Diann Bachmann’s sister), **T.J. Hart**, **Trudy Kerby**, **Linda Potts** (Joyce Starrett’s sister-in-law), **Addy Reed**, **Rodney Reeves** (Erica Cunningham’s father), **John Rockhold**, **John Shipley** (New Concord), **Conrad Schultz**, the U.S.A., **Ukraine** and remember to pray for **one another**.

AM STUDY	SUN. AM	SUN. PM	GIVING \$2,460)	WED.
33	49	33	\$1,985	28