

SEPTEMBER 24, 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)

GET COMFORTABLE BEING UNCOMFORTABLE

Steve Candela

As many of you know I have a way of relating my lesson around the fire service and I'm going to do that again here tonight. But some of you may not understand the similarities the fire service has to the Church. Let me give you short list of comparisons. It is a brotherhood. We are a family. We watch out for each other. Call each other out when we stumble. Get each other back on the right path when we go astray. We push each other. And like every one of you, we support each other. We lift each other up when we're struggling. And we always seek to find the best in one another.

At the firehouse we've adopted a saying from the US Navy seals that says "Get Comfortable Being Uncomfortable". If you can be comfortable being uncomfortable, you'll be prepared to handle whatever situation comes along in your own life. "For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin. For what I am doing, I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I would like to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate. But if I do the very thing I do not want to do, I agree with the Law, confessing that the Law is good. So now, no longer am I the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not" (Rom. 7:14-18).

Who gets uncomfortable just reading that? Paul is talking about the flesh, his sinful nature, not his new nature in Christ. All the good in Paul's life comes from Christ living in him, rather than originating in Paul. While the inability to do what is righteous and holy highlights humanity's sinful nature, it also demonstrates the goodness of the law, in contrast to the power of sin. As we are in pursuit of Jesus, we are dumbfounded by our ability to

do something, well, ignorant. At times we might ask ourselves, why did I do that? That's not going to get me any closer to Christ. The struggle is real. But Paul also points out the Grace of God is sufficient in our failings and our weaknesses. See at the firehouse for me, we are placed in uncomfortable situations almost every day. It could be out on an accident scene where no one has any regard for a big red truck with lights on in the road. Could be in a fire trying to put it out or search for victims. Or it might just be at the station behind closed doors having those difficult discussions with the ones we work with and care about. However getting comfortable with being uncomfortable does not mean to be complacent or use our flesh as a reason to sin. It means we need to stay vigilant and prepared. We need to understand that when we fall short of the goal, or we just miss the mark all together, the grace from God is there to lift us back up.

I have one other saying I'd like to share from our firehouse with you that hits home every time I say it. "Would you want you rescuing you?" We have one of the most physically demanding jobs in the world. The decisions we make and the actions we take have very real consequences. On each and every call we are working to increase the chance of survival for our fellow man. This mission is driven by perfected skills and physical preparation. It is our responsibility to show up physically prepared and hold ourselves accountable to the oath we swore (Eph. 6:10-17).

As Christians the decisions we make and the actions we take have very real consequences. Are we working each and every day to save our soul? Our mission is clear. The word of God provides us everything we need to extinguish evil. It is our individual responsibility to remain prepared and hold ourselves accountable to the oath we swore.

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.

SUNDAY: Please welcome **Alan Wells** today who will speak at both services while John is in Virginia.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: **Russ Singleton** will have the lesson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



REMINDERS:

❖ **Oct. 7—Men's Encouragement Day** here with **Roger Rush**.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Kevin Adkins, Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Katelynnngayle and baby Kaden Jamiel, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Heather Lucas, Jody Main, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Jean Whitley.

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

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: **Bill and Peggy Albright** (friend of the Starrett's), **Weston Boulet** (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Betty Cox** (Diann Bachmann's sister), **Ryleigh Farson**, **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.
38	61	42	\$7,247	