

January 7, 2024

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.

Roger Rush, Minister

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

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

UNNECESSARY GUILT

Are you discouraged, depressed, disappointed with yourself and your life? Do you find yourself thinking more about the mistakes of the past than the opportunities of the present? Could it be that you are carrying an unnecessary burden of guilt?

Forgiveness is available to all. There are no sins which cannot be forgiven if there is genuine repentance. Yes, I am aware of the sin of speaking against the Holy Spirit for which there is no forgiveness (Matthew 12:32; Mark 3:29). Those guilty of that sin have hard hearts (Hebrews 3:13), seared consciences (1 Timothy 4:2), and have become past feeling (Ephesians 4:19). For them there is no insensitiveness to repent, and no guilt associated with their sin. One who is wrestling with the demon of guilt is not guilty of speaking against the Holy Spirit.

It is important to remember that God loves us, in spite of our sins (John 3:16). Jesus died for us because of our sins. We are all hopelessly lost without Him (Romans 3:23; 6:23). But, we can seek and find divine forgiveness in Him. Paul is the perfect example of this. He wrote to Timothy: *This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life* (1 Timothy 1:15, 16). His argument is essentially this, "I was the worst sinner there was, but I was forgiven. If I

can be forgiven any one can be forgiven!”

The problem is not that God cannot forgive us. We sometimes struggle to forgive ourselves. We thus saddle ourselves with an imaginary load of guilt. The Lord has lifted our burden, yet we still let it weigh us down mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Forgiveness comes through obedience to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Peter’s call is still valid. *Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...* (Acts 2:38). The forgiven must then be forgiving. Paul told the Ephesians: *And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you* (Ephesians 4:32).

Accept His forgiveness. Unload the guilt. Forgive others. Life will be far more rewarding and enjoyable if you do. And, when life ends here, life begins in a better place!

---Roger

A Special Note of Thanks.

“We are all so blessed to have such a generous, wonderful & loving church family. Thank you so much for the gift bag of goodies & the extra surprise from Russ. In Christian Love, Linda Steele”

*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.*

*Five Lies
John 8:23-32

Faithful in the Church
2 Peter 2:17-22*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Added to the prayer list, Gleneda Powers friend of Erma Endly, and Eleneda's grandson, Zack Powers, had surgery last week for a brain mass.

<u>IN OUR PRAYERS:</u> Kevin Adkins, Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Jody Main, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Hazel Leep, Hillery Ruiz				<u>SHUT-INS:</u> Debbie Jones, Nancy Love, and Randy Yost
<u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS:</u> 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 , Gleneda Powers (Erma Endly's friend), Zack Powers (grandson of Gleneda) and remember to pray for one another .				
AM STUDY	SUN. AM	SUN. PM	GIVING (\$2,460)	WED.
32	53	33	\$1932	37

REMINDERS: