

April 21, 2021

BROAD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOL. XXXVI NO. 16



From Where I Sit...

# "The Necessity of the Church"

(Matt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 5:25)

Note that the earliest church historian, gives us ample evidence of the implementation of this purpose as recorded in Acts 2:38-47. Luke tells us that those who responded to that first Gospel sermon were added to the body--the church which Jesus said He would build.

The church became a reality on that eventful feast-day! The inspired writer tells us that those who were being saved were being added to that institution that very same day. Some reject the message concerning an "organized" church due to some dissatisfaction or disenchantment. They cry: "preach Christ and leave the church out of it" -- or "The church doesn't save, Jesus does!" I understand the sentiment of this latter statement, for certainly the Bible teaches that Jesus alone is savior. It would be sad to use that logic to say the church is not important or necessary, for the Lord made it so. He made it His body of the saved.

We have an obligation to examine whether salvation can be separated from the church by examining God's purpose and intent for the church. We need to view the church through Christ's eyes and see just what it was and is to Him. It would be a tragic fallacy to reject the church on the grounds of her problems--inadequacies--or failures! **GRANTED SHE HAS SOME!** Not because God's plan isn't perfect, but because we humans are inadequate to perfectly work the plan. These problems are based on our human involvements. The church as conceived in the mind of God is perfect. May we come to love the church the way Christ loved her (Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 5:23-25)

The Bible teaches that the Church is inseparably linked with God's eternal purpose, and one cannot minimize her importance. The mystery of God was defined as "the uniting of Gentiles and Jews (all men) in one body." The whole of religious history centered around this act. We all were to be fellowheirs and of the same body (Eph. 3:3-6). Gentiles, without Christ, were aliens, strangers, they had no hope, they were without God. Yet they, along with the Jews, were reconciled in one body by the cross (Eph. 2:11-16). Man is saved in the one body of Christ!

Furthermore, the church exists as the visible, working body of all men so united in Christ in keeping with God's eternal purpose for her (**Eph. 3:9-11**). From this passage we learn that the "manifold" wisdom of God is made known BY THE CHURCH. The message of salvation and uniting in one body is what the church is commissioned in the eternal plan to preach.

We note in **Eph. 1:22-23** that the church is the "body"--and the "fulness" of Christ---that which makes Him complete. It shows His manifold wisdom. Yes, Christ is the HEAD, and his church is the BODY, which works in keeping with His eternal purpose. THUS: Christ and His church are INSEPARABLE! It is only as men are brought into the body of Christ--the church--that God's purpose in Him is accomplished. It's no wonder then that in **Acts 2:47** the Lord added to the church (body) those who were being saved!

# .... Terry Broome



# Please pray for our sick and remember them with cards, calls and visits.

**Debra Kime** is feeling better and was to be transferred today to Signature Healthy ecovery HealthCare of South Pittsburg. The address to send her mail is 201 East 10 Street, South Pittsburg, TN 37380.

Please keep Debra in your prayers.

**John A. Porch** is scheduled for shoulder surgery on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please remember him in your prayers.

**Ron Graham's** mother-in-law, Rita French, age 89, is still in the hospital and not doing very well. Please pray for her. Her address is 738 Southgate Dr., Morganfield, KY 42437.

#### LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST

Brad Wilhelm

Scott Grant

**Brenda Price** 

**Polly Franklin** 

**Roger Myers** 

Charlotte Vinson

Tammy McGuire

Irene Gist

Sam Wright

Harold Reynolds

Judy Roberts

Samuel Cobb

Holly Cobb

John Graham, Katie Graham's father-in-law.

Judy Solomon, sister of Martha Pendley.

Marie Sullivan, mother of Betty Clayson

Hudson Coldwell, Martha Pendley's grandson.

**Kenny Jimenez**, son-in-law of Dave & Elane Bagley and brother-in-law of David & Ashley Dover, 124 Helen Ave., Modesto, CA 95354.

Leonard West, 95 year old uncle of Ron Graham.

Lana Jones, granddaughter of Doyle & Cathy Lemaster.

Bob Milk, brother-in-law of Robin Shelton.

Winston Busby, brother of Doris Laney, 198 Weaver Rd., Henagar, AL 35978.

Sally Abbott, aunt of Bill Price, 440 2<sup>nd</sup> St., S Naples, FL 34102-8620.

Tom & Mary Ann Worst, Libby Crona's brother & sister-in-law.

Jackie Loyd, member at Gonce congregation.

Linda Nickells, sister of Betty Robinson.

Faye Blizzard, employee at Woods Cove Florist.

Shep Knight, child of Jo Reed Brumley's cousin. Clarence Potter, brother of Marie Garrett. Vickie Farr, sister of Charlotte Vinson. Jordan McCormack, US Navy Trent McCormack, US Navy Jordan Holt, US Navy Abigail Holt, US Navy Nathan Bridges, US Air Force-Reserve Paige Chrisman, US Air Force Nathaniel Doan, US Marine Corps Anthony Worst, US Marine Corps

#### NURSING HOME RESIDENTS & HOMEBOUND

Clove rdale	Rosewood	Southern
Manor	Manor	Estates
412 Cloverdale Rd.	1513 Co. Park Rd.	212 E. Stewart Rd.
Scottsboro, 35768	Scottsboro, 35769	Scottsboro, 35769
Helen Ott	Doris Johnson	Tommy Bellomy
Jean Hancock1703 Stewart Rd., 35768Polly Franklin9440 Hwy. 79 Bypass, 35768Mark Little107 Benson Lane, 35768Elsie Goodman406 S Houston St., 35768Martha Nan Baker 701 Monroe St., NW, Russellville, 35653Nell Anderson121 Brookridge Dr., Apt. 148, Madison, 35758Ruth Spurgeon8922 AL 227, Crossville, AL 35962Nellie Spring1950 Bob Jones Rd., 35769		

# Calendar of Upcoming Events—

April 25		Bible Classes & Sunday PM Worship resumes
May 2	_	Lads To Leaders Awards Presentation Following Morning Worship
May 6 May 16		TLC Graduation, 6 PM

One	
Measure	Wed. Bible Study
Of Our Love	Sun. Night Worship

# AREA EVENTS

May 2-5 — Gospel Meeting, Maysville church of Christ, speaker: Gary Puryear

# ARE WE A

### FRIENDLY CONGREGATION?

While we must be concerned with doing what we do in worship according to Christ's expressed will, we must also be sure to reflect His love to strangers, newcomers, outsiders, and otherwise unfamiliar faces. To improve upon our friendliness, we should consider the following principles: We must stop expecting that others will represent us in friendliness. Maybe we look at those few members of the congregation that "go after" our visitors and conclude that they are covering the bases for the rest of us. They cannot reach everybody, but even if they can, their friendliness does not let us off the hook. Dear reader, the chances are great that I am challenging you!

We must avoid the thinking that the visitor bears responsibility to be friendly. We're the hosts and they're the guests. It's hard to come into an unfamiliar place where you know no one and reach out to them. This is our "home turf", and we must always take the initiative!

We must practice the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12). Again, put yourself in their shoes. Treat them how you'd want to be treated in their place.

We must see ourselves as direct representatives of Jesus. Second Corinthians 5:20 calls us just that. Treat visitors exactly like Jesus would. Seek them out and do everything within your power to let them know how glad you are they are here.

We must understand the eternal implications of being friendly to visitors. Wouldn'tit be awful if we contributed to someone being discouraged, even to the point of walking away from Christ? We cannot minimize the eternal impact, for good or ill, we make by how we do in this matter.

We must break out of our ruts and routines. What creatures of comfort we are! We must get uncomfortable and change our current habits. Avoiding eye contact, walking past unfamiliar faces, withdrawing into ourselves, talking only to those who talk to us or those we feel comfortable with may be the niche we've carved for ourselves over a long period of time. Confront those well-established patterns and insist on breaking them.

Neal Pollard

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

On Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, the Broad Street Church of Christ will resume having Sunday morning Bible Classes at 9 AM; continue our 10 AM Morning Worship; and resume having our Evening Worship services at 6 PM. We encourage all our families to come together for these and our Wednesday Night sessions.

Beginning on the 25<sup>th</sup> we will resume the Young Adult Class on Sundays in the MPR with Mark Price as lead teacher. For the children, we will begin with the same class division on Sundays that we've been using on Wednesday nights: One class for babies through age 2; One class for ages 2- Kindergarten; One class for 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade; and one class for Grades 6 -12. Additional classes will be added as the numbers require and when we can safely open up the small classrooms.

We will also resume having the Sunday Auditorium Adult Class for all other adults, a study of "A Comparison of the Four Gospel Accounts" taught by Ed Clayson. This is a 19 week course Ed has developed over years of study.

Our Summer Series will begin Wednesday, June 2, for Grades 6-12 and all adults in the auditorium.

We encourage all our adults who are not teaching to choose one of the two Sunday adult classes, and the current Wednesday adult class with Buddy Holt, and the Summer Series beginning June  $2^{nd}$ .

Thanks to all the members that showed up for the work day last Saturday. A tremendous amount of work has made the place look fresh and new.

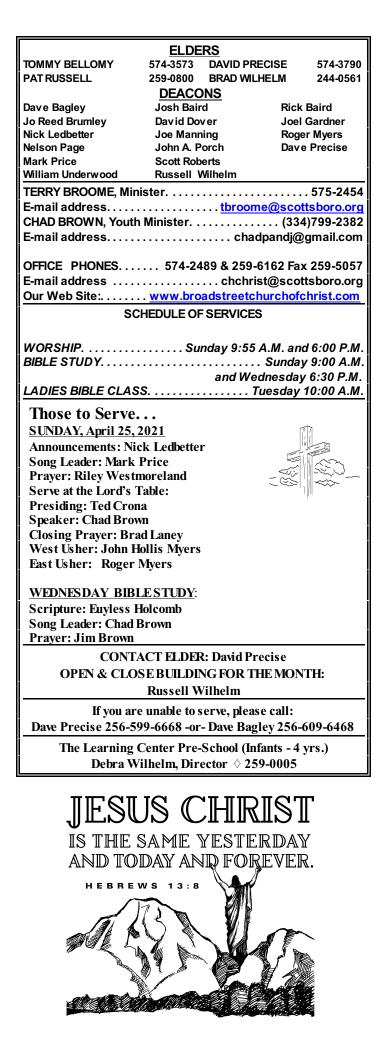


**Sunday** will be another Lord's day. It will be a time to praise our God, refresh our spirits, and encourage our brothers and sisters.

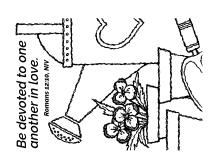
What a joy it will be to assemble together!

See you then!





irst Class Requires If you go to worship to hear something other The Word of God (the Bible) never changes have gone for the wrong reason If you hear something other, the wrong place. than His Word, are at You You Scottsboro, AL 35768-1709 **BROAD STREET BANNER** Published Weekly By The 613 S. Broad Street Church of Christ



Jesus, the very thought of Thee With sweetness fills my breast; But sweeter far Thy face to see, And in Thy presence rest. Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame, Nor can the memory find, A sweeter sound than Thy blest name, O Saviour of mankind. O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, To those who fall, how kind Thou art! How good to those who seek! But those who find Thee find a bliss Nor tongue nor pen can show: The love of Jesus, what it is, None but His loved ones know.