

SICK IN THE COMMUNITY...

Ronnie & Judy England has not been feeling well now for several weeks. Prayers.
 Cooper Lacy was sick last week with a double ear infection and went to the doctor.
 Mike Taylor was not feeling well last week.
 Cora Hinson was sick on Sunday.
 Mark & Sue Garrett were sick last week with sinus issues.
 Connie Smith has been sick with covid.
 Norma Jean Bailey was sick on Sunday.
 Kathy Sells has been diagnosed with covid.
 Julie Poston (Larry Melton's sister) is taking treatments & doing well. Prayers.
 Geraldine Stover is in the hospital at Lebanon for fluid on her feet & legs. Prayers
 Edwin Garrett will be transferred to Bethesda in Cookeville in the next couple of days. Prayers.
 Lonnie Melton has ecophagus cancer and will be starting treatments. Prayers.
 Gerlene England is now in Rehab after suffering a stroke. Prayers.
 David England (Ronnie England's brother) has stage 4 brain cancer. Prayers.
 Judy Adcock was flown to Nashville for a possible stroke last week.

EXTENDED SICKNESS: (has been on the sick list for some time now)...

Emma Coil goes back to the Hip Institute in Nashville on Jan. 4th & has started therapy. Prayers.
 Howard Gibson had triple bypass surgery & is having some lung issues & is very sick. Prayers.
 Theresa Riley will recheck bloodwork in January due to increased Leukemia numbers. Prayers.
 Dakota Bean has 2 blood clots & a mass in his heart & has started treatments. Prayers.
 Lucas White had a cyst found on his brain at a check up & will be monitored for 3 months. Prayers.
 Robert Stover has pancreatic cancer. Prayers.
 Chris Conner started chemo on July started 25th due to cancer coming back. Prayers.
 Kenneth Conner has been diagnosed with cancer. Prayers.
 Melva Nunnery (Doris Mullins' sister) has been diagnosed with ALS. Prayers.

**Special prayers for all the people we have mentioned & know God is in control!*

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

Dec. 17th, 2023

Sympathy and Prayers
 extended to the family and
 friends of:



THE LORD'S WORK

Wednesday Night, Dec. 20th at 6:30p.m.

SONG LEADER **FIRST PRAYER** **CLOSING PRAYER**

STEVE MARTIN **ROGER HARVEY** **MARK GARRETT**

Sunday Morning, Dec. 24th at 10:00a.m.

SONG LEADER **PRAYER**

LARRY MELTON **MIKE TAYLOR**

Sunday Morning, Dec. 24th at 11:00a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **SONG LEADER** **FIRST PRAYER**

TANNER LACY **LOGAN RAMSEY** **KEVEN REEDER**

SCRIPTURE READING **LORD'S TABLE-SERVE** **LORD'S TABLE-ASSIST**

COY JOHNSON **ROGER HARVEY** **TIM KENNEDY**
JAMES WILSON **GREG NIVENS**

LORD'S SUPPER **DONALD** **CLOSING** **TEDDY**
SCRIPTURE READING **WILSON** **PRAYER** **DAILEY**

Sunday Evening, Dec. 24th at 6:00p.m.

SONG LEADER **FIRST PRAYER** **CLOSING PRAYER**

DALE BOULDIN **MASON RAMSEY** **CODY MELTON**

Prayer List (Those who have an extended illness, injury, or has asked for prayers)

Donald Norrod	Howard Gibson	Larry Coleman	Glenn & Theresa Riley
Scott Mullins	James Winingham	Robert Leach	Evan Hayes
Anita Beason	Chris Conner	Danny Bailey	Betty Winingham
Michael Garrett	Elaina Conner	Roy Dailey	Alva Dean Seber
Donald Wells	Ben Walker	Sheila Tedford	Joyce Wakefield
Misty Waller	Jessica Jackson	Carl Reagan	Lisa Wallen
Ann Alfred	Dave Medeiros	Edwin Garrett	Kim Reagan
Melva Nunnery	Anita Short	Brandon Walker	Richard Newman
Lucas White	Rebecca Sullivan	Bill Hill	Tony Robbins
Julie Poston	Jonelda Sells	Rex Tompkins	Missie Richardt
Debbie Little	Emma Coil	Kenneth Conner	Christy Lee
Mary Bell	Dean Mayberry	Jack Dale	Traci & Mike Taylor
Randall Richardson	Howard Nolen	Denny Scott	James Nelson
Wayne Reeder	Tina Melton	Robert Stover	David England

**Your assistance in keeping the Prayer List up to date is greatly appreciated. You can notify Donna or Keven Reeder of any names that can be removed. Thank you!*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Garrett Rogers on Dec. 17th.
 Cody Melton, Marcus Ramsey, & Malcolm Ramsey on Dec. 18th.
 Karen Daniels & Everly Parrott on Dec. 19th.
 Timmy Reagan on Dec. 21st.
 Hannah White on Dec. 23rd.

Edwin Garrett
 3625 Celina Highway
 Allons, TN 38541

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mr. & Mrs. Chris Coil on Dec. 19th.
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Hicks on Dec. 20th.
 Mr. & Mrs. Mike Coleman on Dec. 23rd.
 Mr. & Mrs. Billy Ledbetter on Dec. 23rd.

Willa Dean Mayberry's address:
 C/O Jeff Mayberry
 10599 N. Keppel Lane
 Mooresville, IN 46158

Where True Wisdom Begins By Mike Riley

He was a brilliant man. Those who knew him well and those who only knew him by reputation said he had more than merely “raw” intelligence. He had been given a particular gift and of course it was from God (1 Kings 3:5-15). He was handed the kingdom on a platter. His father had already defeated the principle opponents in the struggle for the land. Now he had to build the temple to God to secure the borders of the kingdom and keep the peace. Of course I’m writing about Solomon. Because of God’s gift of wisdom, he was considered to be the wisest of men (1 Kings 4:29-34; cf. 1 Kings 10:1-7). We don’t really know when Solomon decided to write some his “books” or reflections on life. He wrote many of the Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. For this study I will be reflecting on his writings in Ecclesiastes. In Hebrew this is called “Quoheleth”.... which can be translated as “wise ways or one who speaks to an assembly.” We can call it writing of the Preacher. He wants to teach us about life and a warning for those who forsake their faith. That’s the job of a Preacher. It is the realism of his words that is striking. They are brutally honest. What Solomon seems to be showing us is that life can be experienced from two distinct points of view one who fears the Lord and one who does not (Ecclesiastes 7:16-18; Ecclesiastes 8:12-13). As I read his words, I know that he has experienced what he is teaching. He isn’t pulling any punches. He knows what these two choices mean in one’s life and he is sharing his world view. “Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless” (Ecclesiastes 1:14; Ecclesiastes 2:11,17,26; Ecclesiastes 4:4,16; Ecclesiastes 6:9) This word meaningless, means “vapor, breath, something transitory.” It means something that eludes us and in actuality doesn’t bring fulfillment. He looks at different areas of life work, nature, the senses, history, etc. to see what they might teach about the meaning of life now while we are alive. Solomon was a realist — he knew and experienced life to the fullest. Now, let’s look for a moment at work, or labor, as he puts it. We spend most of our hours in some sort of work. Not all bad. We need to eat after all, and meaningful work can be fulfilling in our lives. Helping others brings a sense of deep satisfaction. Our Lord, often speaks of laboring in the vineyards or fields. However, at the end of the day, Solomon declares that working only to acquire wealth is as though we are chasing the wind! (Ecclesiastes 1:3; Ecclesiastes 5:16). Even if all of our efforts result in acquiring a fortune, what good is that to us? We have a few years of pleasure and then it’s over (Ecclesiastes 5:9-15). Here are my three objectives for work: 1) We work to bring Glory to God. “Whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31). Paul here states the real purpose of our work. My, how can my washing the floors bring glory to God? Let me think about that! Do you have any ideas? 2) We work to gain a living. “If a man will not work, he shall not eat” (2 Thessalonians 3:10). This is God’s plan; always was and always will be. 3) Work brings us opportunities for Christian witness. Jesus said, “Do you not say, there are still four months and then comes the harvest? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest” (John 4:35). This is definitely our work as Christians. Take heart, dear reader and friend. Your labor will not be in vain (1 Corinthians 15:50-58). We labor to give glory to God (Ephesians 6:5-8; cf. Isaiah 43:7), helping others; building bridges for winning and discipling people for Him (Matthew 5:14-16; Matthew 7:7-12; Gal. 6:6-10; Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16).

On Sunday, Dec. 17th Brother Joe Mallory will be a guest speaker at Free Communion at the 10:00a.m. & 11:00a.m. services.

Upcoming Church Events...

5th Sunday Singing at Free Communion on Sunday evening, Dec. 31st at 6:00p.m.

Attendance for last week...	
Sunday A.M. Bible Study	71
Sunday A.M. Worship	92
Sunday P.M.	50
Wed. Bible Study	52

Free Communion CHURCH of CHRIST



“For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.” Matthew 18:20

ELDERS:

- Dale Bouldin
- Roger Harvey
- Larry Melton
- Jack Parrott
- Roy Parrott
- Keven Reeder

Church Meeting Times:

- Sunday Bible Study 10:00a.m.
- Sunday Worship 11:00a.m.
- Sunday Evening 6:00p.m.
- Wednesday Night 6:30p.m.

Members Expected... Visitors Welcome...

DEACONS:

- Teddy Dailey
- Mark Garrett
- Tanner Lacy
- Logan Ramsey
- Donald Wilson

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” HEBREWS 10:25