

SICK IN THE COMMUNITY . . .

Joann Winningham had a heart ablation a few weeks ago & has been sick with a cold. Prayers.
Danny Bailey has stage 4 kidney failure & will be having more tests. Prayers.
Jessie Parrott had a thyroid biopsy on Dec. 17th & hoping for good results soon. Prayers.
Everly Parrott was home sick on Sunday.
Nathan Ramsey was home sick on Wednesday night.
Judy England has had 2 falls in the last 2 weeks & doing some better. Prayers.
Cindy Hinson had a doctor's appointment in Nashville on Monday. Prayers.
Lisa Ramsey is still having pain issues due to shingles. Prayers.
Jade Hicks has been diagnosed with cancer. Prayers.
Amy Vaughn has cancer & will have surgery on Dec. 31st. Prayers.
Jade Hicks has been diagnosed with cancer. Prayers.
Aubrey McLearran is recovering after having multiple surgeries (16 years old). Prayers.
Glenn Riley (Donna Reeder's brother) has been in the Cookeville Hospital since Tuesday & went home Saturday but will have home health, physical therapy, & multiple doctor's appointments in the future & will have to see a vascular surgeon for his hand. Prayers.
Becka Lane (Patricia Hammock's Granddaughter) has been sick with the flu.

***Reminder: Bible Bowl at Walnut Grove will be Saturday, Jan. 3rd.**
Blake & Kayla McCormick placed membership with Free Communion last week.
We are so happy to call them family!

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

Grant Mullins has had cancer to return. Prayers
Donald Staggs (Melanie Staggs' husband) has been diagnosed with cancer. Prayers.
Jogenna McDonald has been diagnosed with colon cancer. Prayers.
Julianne Beatty has been a treatable form of Leukemia & has started the 1st treatment. Prayers.
Billy Joe Sells has been diagnosed with bone marrow cancer. Prayers.
Karla Waldon has a pituitary tumor & will most likely have surgery. 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

"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Joshua 1:9

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

Dawson Warren	Betty Winningham	Robert Leach	Joyce Wakefield
Scott Mullins	Carolyn Winingham	Danny Bailey	Richard Newman
Anita Beason	Chris Conner	Sheila Tedford	Kristin Robinson
Ann Allred	Elaina Conner	Kenneth Conner	James Nelson
Melva Nunnery	Tony Walker	Amy Vaughn	David England
Sarah Sutton	Francis Knight	Glenn Riley	Jerry Kennedy
Julie Poston	Saralee Cross	Wesley Newton	Conner Stokes
Mary Bell	Buddy Ledbetter	Sarah Davidson	Craig Story
Jennifer Bell	Geraldine Stover	Evan Hayes	Christy Fox
Randall Richardson	Karla Waldon	Terry Webb	Pauletta Brady
Lonnie Melton	Billy Joe Sells	Judy England	Melody Williams
Veola Hammock	Jogenna McDonald	Jade Hicks	Selma Davis
Christy Richardson	Wanda White	Aubrey McLearran	Sharon Pittman
Grant Mullins	Oaklynn Sutton		
	Sutton Long		

You can notify Donna or Keven Reeder of any names that can be removed. Thank you!

December 28th, 2025

Sympathy and Prayers
extended to the family
and friends of:
Sarah Tripp,
Archie Mullins,
Katherine Holman, &
Donald Norrod



THE LORD'S WORK

Wednesday Night, Dec. 31st @ 6:30p.m.

SONG LEADER	FIRST PRAYER	CLOSING PRAYER
MARK GARRETT	TANNER LACY	LARRY MELTON

Sunday Morning, at Jan. 4th @ 10:00a.m.

SONG LEADER	PRAYER
MASON RAMSEY	ROGER HARVEY

Preacher: Mark Garner

Sunday Morning, Jan. 4th @ 11:00a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS	SONG LEADER	FIRST PRAYER
MARK GARRETT	DONALD WILSON	JAMES WILSON

SCRIPTURE READING	LORD'S TABLE-SERVE	LORD'S TABLE-ASSIST
KASEN KENNEDY	LARRY MELTON STEVE MARTIN	GAGE COLEMAN MAC JOHNSON

LORD'S SUPPER	KANDEN COLEMAN	CLOSING BLAKE PRAYER
SCRIPTURE READING	COCO	MCCORMICK

Sunday Evening, Jan. 4th @ 6:00p.m.

SONG LEADER	FIRST PRAYER	CLOSING PRAYER
JAMES WILSON	TEDDY DAILEY	KEVEN REEDER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Shelly Gilpatrick & Asher Smith on Dec. 29th.
Billie Melton, Jasper Bray, & Rachel Langford on
Jan. 2nd.
Elean Reeder, Jake Branham, & Joel Wilson on
Jan. 3rd.
Matt Massengille on Jan. 4th.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Does Cleaning the Conscience by Jesus' Blood Come Before Any Obedience?

by Terry Wane Benton

Hebrews 9:14 says that He “offered Himself without spot to God,” and this was to “purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.” Does Jesus purge our conscience before we hear the gospel, believe it, repent of sins, and are baptized in His name “for remission of sins” (Acts 2:37-41)? Jesus said you first baptize the person into discipleship (Matthew 28:19f) after which you “teach them to observe all things I have commanded.” Baptism is involved in the purging process. The 3000 on Pentecost did not have “remission of sins” (which is a purged conscience by Jesus’ blood) until after they “repented and were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for remission of sins” (Acts 2:37-41). Baptism was not after they received remission of sins, a purged conscience by means of Jesus’ blood, but was involved in the process of obtaining that salvation from dead works.

It was argued that you cannot obey any command of God until after the blood of Jesus cleanses you. That is not true. God commanded the sinner to “Hear Him” (hear Jesus). Do you first have to have a clear conscience before obeying that command? No! There are some things that you have to obey to get the conscience-cleaning blood applied to you. Hearing the gospel comes before obtaining the cleansing of the conscience. There is the command to “believe on Him.” Must we have our conscience cleared by the blood of Jesus before we can obey the command to believe on Him? No! Believing is part of the process to get us to the conscience-clearing blood of Jesus. Thus, there are

things to obey to have the blood applied to our account. There is also the command to “repent” (Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30-31), and obeying the command to repent comes before the conscience-clearing blood gives us “remission of sins.” Baptism is burying the old sinful self, uniting with Christ, and rising to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-6). You don’t bury a living person who is saved and has a clear conscience. You bury the sinner, the one who has dead works, and you want that person “united together with Jesus” in His death, coming together with His blood to cleanse the conscience and rise up from that grave “to walk in newness of life.” New life begins in baptism, not before baptism. Thus, the process of having a clear conscience in the blood of Jesus

is this: we die to sin, bury that old person with Christ in baptism, unite there, and then rise up to walk in the newness of life. God told us precisely when He operates to remove our sins (Colossians 2:12-13). It is not before baptism. It is in baptism. So, again, there are acts of obedience that get us to the blood of Jesus applied. Since God told us that repentance and baptism in the name of Jesus come before remission of sins, we do not believe Him at all if we say otherwise. Do you believe God enough to do what He says to get your conscience purged by the precious blood of Christ?

Upcoming Church Events...

Nursing Home Visitation Jan. 4th @ 2pm.

Ladies Card Fellowship Thursday, Jan. 15th @ 6pm

Friday night singing at West End on Jan. 23rd @ 7pm

Attendance for last week...	
<u>Sunday A.M. Bible Study</u>	81
<u>Sunday A.M. Worship</u>	95
<u>Sunday P.M. Worship</u>	62
<u>Wed. Night Bible Study</u>	51

Free Communion Church of Christ

1219 Willow Grove Hwy.

Monroe, TN 38573

(3 Miles off Hwy. 111 on Willow Grove Rd.)



Minister: Brother Mark Garner

“But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” John 4:23

Elders:

Roger Harvey
Larry Melton
Jack Parrott
Keven Reeder



Members Expected...

Deacons:

Teddy Dailey
Mark Garrett
Logan Ramsey
Mason Ramsey
Donald Wilson

Visitors Welcome...

“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