



Bible-based. Christ-centered. Family-focused. Mission-minded.

**Welcome! We're glad you are here!**

**Sunday - October 22, 2023**

## Why Your Attendance is Important

by Troy Spradlin

The shutdowns that happened during the Covid 19 pandemic have proven to be the cause of many detrimental and long-lasting consequences. Aside from all the economic, social, and psychological repercussions it produced, perhaps the worst is what it has done to worship attendance across the globe. Many congregations have still not returned to their pre-Covid numbers. Even after all this time, there are still many congregants who are "worshipping" online and using Covid as an excuse for not attending in person. While I recognize there can be legitimate circumstances that can prevent a Christian from being able to attend worship services, we still need to understand the importance of assembling together as the Lord's body for worship. Consider the following questions concerning worship:

### Is pleasing God important to you?

Jesus taught His disciples, *"If you love me, keep my commandments,"* (John 14:15). He also said that only those who fulfill the will of God will enter into heaven (Matt 7:21). With that in mind, listen to what He told the woman at the well, *"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him,"* (John 4:23). It is God's desire – it is His will – that you and I worship Him, together. Therefore, if we truly want to please God, then we must worship Him and do it in the way He commands us to.



### Are you thankful for what God has done for you?

Do you understand the "Scheme of Redemption," the sacrifice that God and Jesus made on your behalf (John 3:16)? That should be more than enough to motivate you to worship God. When the disciples came face to face with the reality of Jesus' power and deity calming a storm and saving their lives, they worshiped Him! (Matt 14:30-33) Are you thankful for God's gift of salvation? Show it by worshipping Him with the assembly of the saints (1 Pet 2:9).

### Do you want the best for your family and myself?

Edification, knowledge, and brotherly love are better developed in a corporate setting. They can't be increased in solitude. Simply being around fellow Christians can have a major, positive impact on one's life. With so many negative influences in the world, we certainly need positive reinforcement. The church provides that! (John 13:35; Galatians 6:2; 1 Thess. 5:11) It is an "organism" (more so than an organization); a body, a family, that cries and rejoices together – you won't typically find that kind of support in a worldly setting (1 Cor 12:23-26). Worship is yet another way we build up each other (Colossians 3:16). That can only happen when we come together as His church.

### Is the salvation of your soul important to you?

According to 2 Timothy 2:10, salvation is "in" Christ Jesus – that is, one must be in His body. This implies that one cannot be saved outside of the church. There is no such thing as "isolation salvation" presented in the Scriptures. So, active involvement in the church, within Christ's body, is absolutely necessary. This is exactly what is seen in the many examples of the first Christians (Acts 2:44, 11:26, 14:27, 20:7; Romans 16:5, 16:16; 1 Cor. 14:23). **Just being a member is not all that is required of a disciple.** Worship, therefore, is connected to our salvation.

If you answered "No" to any of the above questions, then perhaps you need to check your heart. God only wants those who will worship Him in spirit and truth. You might also ponder this: if you don't like assembling with the saints to worship God, if you don't look forward to lifting up His name in praise with the church at every opportunity available to you, then what do you think you will be doing in heaven? If we truly want to be prepared for heaven, then let's worship our God by *"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching,"* (Hebrews 10:25).

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# YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

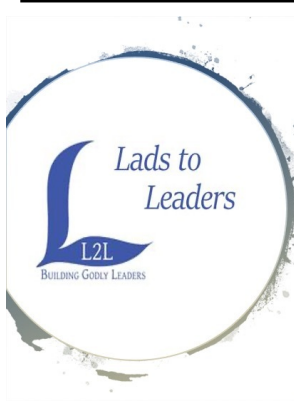
## UPCOMING BIG EVENTS



**Lucedale, MS**  
**November 10 – 12**



**Huntsville, AL**  
**December 27 – 30**



**2023 - 2024**

**Workshop TODAY**

3-3:45, Speech

3:45-4:30, Bible Bowl

4:30-5:30, Song Leading

*\*Puppets & Oral Bible Reading begin in November*



**L2L Red Coat Project**

**For Hannah Raley:**

*Donations being accepted are cotton fabrics "45x45," thread, and/or funds to purchase needed. The supplies are to create tie lap blankets for assisted – living residents. Anyone willing to help sew, or tie, please let Hannah know!*



*"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." - Psalm 119:9-10*

# CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

## Recent/Urgent Requests

- Will Anderson-ear drum surgery (Elliot W.\*)
- Winston Burnham\* - surgery/recovery
- Cory Gilreath - hospital, tests (Longmire\*)
- Terry Jennings\*- Sacred, PT/recovery
- Joe King\* - surgery, recovery
- Richard McCool\*- prayers, health
- Mary McGriff\*- recovery, sciatic nerve
- Renee Ray\* - prayers, encouragement
- Aaron Rodriguez - final days (Lester\*)
- Damiyah Scott - surgery, recovery (J.Carter)
- Brittany Parker\* - prayers, encouragement
- Roxanne Pierce - surgery, prayers
- Glenn Price\* - triple bypass surgery, recovery
- Louie Vaughn - knee surgery, recovery
- Ruth Williams\* - recovery, healing

## Grieving a Loss

- Terry Baxley\* - passing of Darlene
- Brooklyn Bostwick\* - loss of mom, Kandi
- John Hart Ellis\* - loss of wife
- Hatcher family\* - loss of mom, Rachel Sullins
- Doug Lee & family\* - loss of mom, Betty
- Linda Loftin\* and family - loss of Jim\*
- Elsa Nunes\* - loss of brother, Guillermo Deir
- Scott Shanahan - loss of Scott's father, Kevin
- Gloria Vonada & family - loss of Troy\*

## Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Dennis Brice - hospice (Gary Coleman\*)
- Sherry Davis\* - The Blake (Davis/Napier\*)
- Donna Dudley-Life Care Center (S. Davis\*)
- Annie Favorite - Haven (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia\*- Fort Walton Beach
- Linda Mann\* - Shut In
- Larry McDaniel\*-Santa Rosa Rehab
- Ina Ruth Miller\*
- Ruth Phillips\*- Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines\* - Victorian Manor
- Mary Salinas\* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith - Shut in (J.English mom)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton\*)

## Students in College

- Seth Crider
- Savannah Smith
- Stephen English
- Nick Webb
- Caitlyn Frizzell
- Lily Weathersbee
- Jackson Lash
- Reed Wilson
- Caleb Owens
- Lexi Wildes

## Expectant Mothers

- April Estain - January 2024
- Hannah Newcomb - April 2024
- Tara Henry - June 2024

## Other Requests / Health Issues

- Sharon Ates - upcoming surg. (Gallagher\*)
- Patricia Ann\* - prayers, health (MZL)
- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Bob Black - health (Lipford\*)
- Max Bowers- prayers, final stages (S.Temple)
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health
- Mike Brown - stroke, recovery (former mem)
- Robbie Bullard-aneurysm/defect valve (Lee\*)
- Janice Carter\* - mobility, prayers
- Robert Collins - foot problem (J.Pace cousin)
- Sherryn Canniff\*- health, pain
- Renee Decker - final stage /kidney (Lester\*)
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire\*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee\* mom)
- Myrna Fuller\* - pulmonary fibrosis
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Gary Good\* - tests
- Dixie Gorham - heart failure
- Scott Graham\* - back pain/travels to OK
- Jackie Hamilton-test results, pray (McGriff\*)
- Daphne Hamilton - health
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Steve Hartzog - health issues(Alonna's friend)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's\* friend)
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes\*)
- Martin family\* - prayers
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Donald McGriff\* - health, prayers
- Ron Miller- esophagus infection (Ina Ruth\*)
- Jeffery Norman - transplant list (Nunes\*)
- Elsa Nunes\* - fell/recovery, arthritis
- Patsy Prince - (Burnham\*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher\*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott\*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia\*)
- Rodger Schwitzerlett - (Gallagher\*)
- Gloria Vonada\* - health
- Jan Whitney\* - heart procedure, recovery

## Military

- Nick Bartell - Ft. Walton Beach
- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer England - Japan
- Javanta Johnson - NAS Jacksonville Airforce
- Spencer Gable - New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey\* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kansas

## Mission Works

- Shanahans\* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute

## Cancer

- Mike Anderson - (Warrington)
- Darrell Bozeman\*
- Misty Bray\* - (Bird\*)
- Jimmy Calhoun - (Mike Scott\*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis\*)
- Tish Clark - (Hatcher\*)
- Jack Davis\*
- Pat Deforest\*
- Sheryl Downy - surgery (Burnham\*)
- Eddie English - (R.English\*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley\*)
- Ricky Jenning - (McGriff\*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff\*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley\*)
- Evergena Larkin - final stages (McGriff\*)
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell\*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey\*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill\*)
- Connie Moore - (Fulton\*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin\* friend)
- Ariel Perry - throat (Hatcher)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher\*)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley\* - waiting on results
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff\*)
- Meg Stojanik - (Hatcher\*)
- Donnie Turner- (Helms\*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English\*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

## 2023 Recently Baptized / Restored / Identified

- Jada Crider\* - Baptized
- Brittany Parker\* - Baptized
- Dawson Hitchcock\* - Baptized
- Matthew & Ashley Gingerich\* - Baptized
- Olivia Gingerich\* - Baptized
- Lanie Scott\* - Baptized
- Ashley Scott Buckley\* - Baptized
- Sharon Parker\* - Baptized
- Scott Graham\* - Baptized
- Gary and Sherian Good\* - Identified
- Jan Holmes\* - Identified
- Mike and Addie Frahm\* - Identified
- Terry & Judy Jennings\* - Identified
- Josh & Stephanie Jennings\* - Identified
- Jeremy & Amber Dunaway\* - Identified
- Allen & Heather Overton family\* - Identified
- John & Holley Raley family\* - Identified
- Philip and Lanya Lester family\* - Identified



# SERVING WITH HONOR

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22**

## MORNING

Opening Prayer ..... Steve Fulton  
 Song Director ..... Caesy Bearden  
 Sermon ..... Troy Spradlin  
 ..... "Twelve Ordinary Men (4)"  
 Scripture Reading ..... Allan Overton  
 ..... Luke 9:51-56  
 Closing Prayer ..... Joe Wilson

## **Serving Communion (Left - Right):**

Philip Lester ..... Mike Frahm  
 Bob Locklin ..... John Pace  
 ..... Luke McReynolds (Balcony)  
 Comments ..... Josh Owens

## EVENING

Opening Prayer ..... Matt McRenolds  
 Singing ..... Mark Hitchcock  
 Scripture ..... Blake Hatcher  
 ..... Revelation 5:6-10  
 Comments ..... Josh Owens

## Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep ..... Hatcher family  
 PowerPoint ..... Matt McReynolds  
 Greeters ..... John Pace  
 Secure Building ..... Phillip Webb

## WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Director ..... Elliot Wilson  
 Opening Prayer ..... Bob Locklin

## WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class ..... 187  
 AM Worship ..... 216  
 PM Worship ..... 109  
 Wed. Night Bible Class ..... 149  
 Contribution ..... \$8,403

## TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class ..... 9:00 am  
 Sunday AM Worship ..... 10:00 am  
 Sunday PM Classes, Worship . 6:00 pm  
 Wednesday PM Bible Class ..... 6:30 pm

## Visitors:

**Thank you for coming!**

**You are our honored guest!**

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

**Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!**

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ADMINISTRATION

- Deadline for all bulletin items is **Thursday, by noon.**
- If interested in utilizing the library, please reserve with Blisse or Lisa.
- Apologetics Press Study Bibles available for purchase - see Blisse.
- **Reminder:** If you use online giving, please consider covering the processing fees as part of you contribution.

### BENEVOLENCE



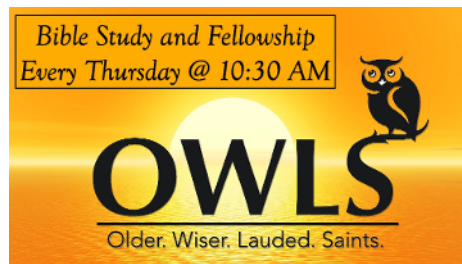
Margaret Street  
CHURCH of CHRIST

**FOOD PANTRY**

Food Pickup : 11/7 @ 9:30 AM  
 Preparing Boxes:  
 11/8 @ 5:30 PM  
 11/9 @ 9:30 AM  
 Distribution : 11/9 @ 2:30 PM  
**LAST PANTRY OF THE YEAR!**

### EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



Bible Study and Fellowship  
Every Thursday @ 10:30 AM

**OWLS**  
Older. Wiser. Lauded. Saints.

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



Scan this QR Code to open webpage for online giving

## STAFF

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## ELDERS

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**Joe Wilson** ..... 206-8350  
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## CONTACT FOR OCTOBER:

Primary..... Joe Wilson  
 Secondary ..... Rick Bird

## DEACONS\* & MINISTRIES

Administration ..... Troy Spradlin  
 Benevolence..... Dennis Maduell  
 Building & Grounds ..... Paul Lipford\*  
 Education ..... Chris Davis\*  
 Evangelism ..... Troy Spradlin  
 Finance .....  
 Fellowship ..... Jeff Scott\*  
 Involvement ..... Joe Taylor\*  
 Lads to Leaders ..... David English  
 OWLS ..... Stephen Fulton  
 Missions ..... Mike Scott\*  
 Visitation ..... Bob Locklin  
 ..... Mason Chandler  
 Kingdom Kids ..... Dane Harrington\*  
 Worship ..... Blake Hatcher\*  
 Youth & Family ..... Casey Bearden