

January 26, 2023

BE PREPARED

The city of Chicago was in a frenzy leading up to July 6, 1959. That day marked the first, and only time, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip would visit the windy city. Chicago was also her only stop in the US during the 1959 tour of the Great Lakes only a few years into her reign. She was coming to celebrate the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway, which allows people to reach Chicago from the Atlantic Ocean. And as her boat pulled in, it was quite the spectacle. Hundreds of thousands of people turned out to see her, and the city ended up paying about \$75,000 to prepare for the visit. That is about \$740,000 today. They painted the trash cans and cleaned up storefronts that she would be driving by and many of the hotels were alerted well in advance of their coming. Of course, it sent many hotel owners into a frenzy decorating and re-painting, trying to make it all look the best for the Queen. That is all except one. As a matter of fact, when the Drake Hotel was informed of the Queen planning to visit and stay in one of their rooms, the manager simply replied, "We are making no plans for the Queen; our rooms are always ready for royalty."

What a admirable mindset to have. To not be worried about a special client because they are always prepared for it. In a similar manner, when it comes to being spiritually prepared, it should be just as continual for the arrival of the King of kings. Jesus said in **John 14:2-3**, "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also." Jesus promised that He would come again and when He does, it will be to take His followers home. John echoes this message in **1 John 3:2-3** "Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies himself as He is pure." If we are going to be prepared for the coming of Christ, we must constantly and continuously fix our hope on Him. The only way to do that is by purifying our hearts in obedience to Him. **1 Peter 1:22-23** tells us this, "Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born

again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God."

Jesus also spoke of being continually prepared in His parable of the ten virgins in **Matthew 25**. In this parable, Jesus tells of 10 virgins, or bridesmaids as we would think of them. Five were wise and the other five were foolish. The wise women made sure to bring extra oil for their lamps while the foolish didn't. As the time went on and they waited for the groom to show up they slept and their lamps went out. When the call came that the groom had arrived, the foolish ones who didn't bring oil had to go out to the market to buy more. As they were out buying oil for the lamps, the ones who were prepared entered into the wedding feast and began to celebrate. By the time the unprepared women returned, it was too late and the doors were already closed. In **Matthew 25: 11-12** we hear the devastating reply that those women received. "Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us.' But He answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'" Jesus then tells us in verse 13, "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." When Jesus comes again, there will be no time for last minute preparations or final efforts to "get ourselves right." The time to be prepared starts now and should be continual, realizing that all that we have here will one day be gone and all that will be ahead is all of eternity. Where will you spend eternity? It begins by being prepared now. "Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (**2 Peter 3:11-13**)

Andrew Spivey

SYMPATHY

Our love and sympathy to **David & June Thompson** on the passing of David's niece **Angela Hume**. Her funeral was held on January 26th in Thompkinsville KY.

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Matthew 13:24-53
Wednesday Read – Matthew 8:18-22, Luke 8:22-39

BIBLE STUDY

Questions for last week's reading of;

Luke 12:22- 13:9 & Mark 4:1-29

1. How do the examples of God taking care of the birds and the lilies teach us that God will take care of us?
2. How has Jesus divided some families?
3. Name the soils in the parable of the sower.
4. What does each soil represent?
5. Who does the sower represent and what does the seed represent?

LADS TO LEADERS

Lads to Leaders convention is at the Opryland Hotel on **April 6 - 9, 2023**. If you or your student are interested in participating in the Lads to Leaders program, please see Garrett Rowlett, Andrew Spivey or Tim Strickland before **February 5th** to participate in the 2023 convention. **We will meet on Sunday, January 29th beginning at 3:30 PM in the Fellowship Room. Please turn in all Good Samaritan Logs at that time.**

DORCAS CLASS

Dorcas Class will be on Saturdays beginning on February 4th at 9:00 am. The class will meet every Saturday in February. For more details please see **Pam Newby**.

EXCEL'S

Excel's is having a Pizza party on **Saturday February 25th at 6:00 pm** in the Fellowship room. Pizza will be provided. Please bring drinks and desserts. We will also decide on more events for the year. Please make plans to attend and enjoy the fellowship. For more details please see **Marila Smith or Diana Stephenson**.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

January 29, 2023

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Brent Smith
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Rick Gallagher
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....David Johnson
Closing Prayer.....Bob Sever

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Tim Cummins
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Garrett Rowlett
Closing Prayer.....Eric Stephenson

WEDNESDAY

February 1, 2023

7:00 PM

Welcome.....David Thompson
Song Leader.....Matt Ellis
Opening Prayer.....Fate Evans
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Carl Newby

Door Greeters – West Door.....J/L Cherry
East Door.....Z/A Tooley

Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Sue Kloes

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroad.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Wanda Sherrill had bladder surgery and is home now recovering. **Lena Baggett** is home recovering from a rupture disc. **Ann Tyler** is having problems with her back and has shingles. **Mary Ann Reinhart** has been diagnosed with cancer. She has begun radiation treatments. **Vetrus Mee** has returned to Charter Senior Living in rm. 126. **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals, continues recovering from a snowboarding accident and is in rehab. He is improving each week. **James McCloskey** a former member has begun chemo treatments. Treatments will continue for about 10 months. **Mike Martin**, friend of the Jennings & Cato families, will be moved to Life Care Center in Old Hickory soon. He is improving some. **Rob Spivey**, son of Keith & Lisha Spivey, is recovering from a broken leg. **Paul Norman**, nephew of Carolyn Vester and cousin to Valarie Senn & Wanda Sherrill, has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. **Rachel Goode**, friend of Carl & Pam Newby is recovering at home from surgery she had on November 7th and is doing well. **April Cothran**, a good friend of Celena Marshall has been diagnosed with stage 4 adenosquamous carcinoma of the pancreas. She is taking chemo treatments. **Bryan Grissom**, cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover, has been diagnosed with cancer.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 220; **Joyce Savage**, NHC Place Sumner, room 322; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill**.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	99
Morning Worship.....	138
Sunday Evening.....	68
Wednesday Evening.....	61
Contribution.....	\$6,296.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$6,661.00

PRAYER LIST

Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; **Shelby Ross**; **Sandi Jones**; **Maxine Cothron**; **Gerald Miles**, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 305; **Frances Catron**; **Jean Deaton**; **Charlie Cliburn**; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Larry Bailey** son of Tina Bailey; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Ricky Cantrell**; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ricky Cross**, friend of Betty Buttrey; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson



Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Road
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431
 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.
 Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org
 Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister