

**Sunshine Baskets for 11/23/2008**

Malinda Dawson, Elizabeth Howell,  
Jennifer Phillips, Melissa Robinson,  
Diane Duke, Grace Sloan

**Happy Birthday to...**

Kayla Sloan (11/18), Elizabeth Howell (11/18),  
Judy Cantrell (11/19), Charles Mitchell (11/19),  
Louise Haney (11/21)

**Announcements & Upcoming Events...**

**November 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Jackson Co. 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing

HERE @ 2:00 pm.

**November 25<sup>th</sup>:** Tuesday mid-week Bible study due to Thanksgiving.

**November 30<sup>th</sup>:** The collection for this day will go entirely to the building fund.

**November 30<sup>th</sup>:** All Male Member Meeting @ 1pm

**December 14<sup>th</sup>:** Nursing Home Services @ 2 pm.

**December 21<sup>st</sup>:** Christmas dinner after morning worship with 1:00 pm worship service in place of the 5:00 pm service.

**December 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Tuesday mid-week Bible Study due to Christmas Eve.

**December 30<sup>th</sup>:** Tuesday mid-week Bible Study due to New Year's Eve.

**Challenge Youth Conference:** February 27-March 1, 2009 in Gatlinburg, TN @ the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Sign-up sheet in the back.

This year the registration fee & fuel cost for each person are being paid for, but the cost of the room will be divided evenly among everyone. For more details visit <http://cyconline.com/> **The last day to sign up is Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008!**

**\*\*\*\*If you are visiting with us today, we'd like for you to know that you're our honored guest! If you would, please take the time to fill out the card in the back of the pew in front of it & place it in the collection basket as it comes around so we can get to know you better! We're so glad you're here!\*\*\*\***

**Privileged To Serve November 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- Ushers..... Tracy Jenkins
- ..... Glen Haney
- ..... Jeff McDowell
- ..... Ben Young
- Announcements..... Roy Smallwood
- Song Leader..... Roy Young
- Scripture Reading..... Austin Robinson
- Speaker..... John Mabery
- Opening Prayer..... Chris Mabery
- Closing Prayer..... Mike Martin
- Oversee Lord's Supper . Chris Mabery
- Prepare Trays..... Carl Call
- Scripture Reading..... Raymond Haney
- Serve..... \*Charles Whitaker
- ..... \*Charles Mitchell
- ..... \*Neal Chaffin
- ..... Titus Anderson
- ..... Alton Mayberry
- ..... Brian Dawson
- Alternate to Serve..... Dale Dennis
- ..... Greg Scott
- Dismiss Classes..... Rellon Burris
- Count Contribution..... Corky Trisdale
- ..... Earl Jones
- ..... Blake Maberry
- ..... Roy Flatt
- Response Card..... Burton Young
- Power Point..... Jonathan Conner

**Sunday Night (11/23/2008)**

- Speaker..... Bill Coe
- Scripture Reading..... Larry Howell
- Song Leader..... Jerry Young
- Opening Prayer..... Neal Chaffin
- Closing Prayer..... Roy Flatt
- Power Point..... Brian Trisdale

**Wednesday (11/25/2008)**

- Song Leader..... Jerry Young
- Devotional..... John Anderson
- Opening Prayer..... Ted Ragland
- Closing Prayer..... Tyler Trisdale

\*Take to the sick & shut-in.  
Let Jerry Young know if you can't serve.

**Elders:**

- Ted Ragland 268.9387
- John Mabery 268.0651
- Cell: 265.3835

**Deacons:**

- John Anderson 268.2406
- Billy Scott 268.0569
- Robert Crabtree 268.4417
- Raymond Haney 268.2493
- Rellon Burris 268.4738
- Carl Call 268.2040
- Sjon Gentry 268.3273
- Bobby Haney 268.2754
- Jerry Young 268.2215

**Ministers:**

- John Mabery 268.0651
- John Anderson 268.2406

**To Be Saved, JESUS Said We MUST...**

**Believe** Him (Jn.8:24; Heb.11:6)

**Repent** of our sins (Lk.13:3, 5)

**Confess** Christ (Rom.10:9-10)

**Be immersed** in water for remission of sins  
(Mk.16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom.6:3-4)

Volume 7

November 16, 2008

Number 46

**If I Were the Devil's Preacher ... (Part VIII)**

*By John Mabery*

*If I were the devil's preacher I would try to undermine the Bible teaching on the exclusive nature of the Lord's church.* In other words, I would try to convince people that all churches are equal; that one is just as good as another! If believed, people will never know that the church was determined to be the place of salvation on earth from before the foundation of the world.

The church of Christ (i.e. the church Christ came to "build" after He died for her and was raised from the dead {cf. Mat.16:18, Acts 20:28; Acts 2}) was in the mind of God from eternity (Eph.3:8-12). Addressing the counsel that met in Jerusalem, James said

*"Known to God from eternity are all His works."* (Acts 15:18)

Rebellious Jews *thought* they triumphed over the Son of God by putting Him to death, but little did they know that He *willingly* allowed them this "victory" (John 10:18). Had the Lord desired, His Father would have sent "more than twelve legions of angels" to deliver Him (Mat.26:53 – a legion was a division of the Roman army numbering about 6,000 men), but He remained silent! It was, after all, for this very event that He came into the world (John 12:27).

Contrary to many popular denominational theologians' views, the Son of God came into the world *to die* for the sins of the human race; *not* to establish a throne in Jerusalem from whence He would govern the world while in the flesh. This was the very point Peter made to unbelieving Jews when he delivered the sermon on the Day of Pentecost (cf. Acts 2).

<sup>23</sup> *Him, being delivered* by the *determined purpose* and *foreknowledge* of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; <sup>24</sup> whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. Acts 2:23-24 (emp. jm)

*Continued inside ...*

**Center Grove Church Of Christ**

3857 Grundy Quarles Hwy.  
Gainesboro, TN. 38562  
931.858.7460 or 931.268.0651

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday:** Bible Classes @ 9:00 a.m.  
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.  
Worship @ 5:00 p.m.

**Wednesday:** Bible Classes @ 7:00 p.m.  
Our A.M. Service is **Televised** on Monday on Cable Channel 16 @ 6:00 pm

**Radio:** "The Lord's Word" on WLIV 920 AM  
10:10 a.m. Monday - Saturday  
*(We broadcast Thursday, Friday and Saturday)*

**Website:** [www.centergrovecoc.com](http://www.centergrovecoc.com)

**E-mail:** [centergrovecoc@gmail.com](mailto:centergrovecoc@gmail.com)

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, <sup>4</sup> just as *He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world*, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, <sup>5</sup> having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.” (Eph 1:3-7; emp. jm)

*Before the foundation of the world* God had already determined that Jesus would come into the world, die on a cross, be raised from the dead, ascend back to heaven, and establish *His* church. The church Christ established is referred to as His *body*, His *kingdom*, His *bride* (Eph.1:22-23; Mat.16:18; Rev.21:9). As the ark of Noah was the place of salvation during the flood, the church of Christ *is* the place of salvation during the Christian age.

“*Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.*” (Eph 5:23)  
 Since the church is *His* body (Eph.1:22-23), Christ is the Savior of *His* church. *He didn't*

***promise to save anyone else's church!***

By now you may see why the devil wants to convince people that one church is as good as another. Since the church is the ark of salvation during the Christian age, he can keep people out of God's place of safety (and heaven) as long as they believe an imitation is as good as the real thing.

This is one time the devil's preacher can tell the truth and still accomplish his goal. After all, with the lone exception of the church Christ planted, one church really *is* as good as another, it *doesn't* matter which church a person joins! Jesus, Himself, said,  
*"Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted."*

(Matt 15:13; bold, jm)

Of course if believers ever took the time to study the word of God and see what the Lord has said about *His* church, such as her *identifying marks*, they would soon realize that no church is the same as the church Christ built. No church has the Divine promise of salvation except for that *one body*, which is the *church* the Son of God died for (Eph.4:4). But how many are willing go to that much trouble? *To be continued...*

**Ephesians 4:1-6 Scripture Word Find**

Submitted by Bill Coe

N	S	A	W	S	W	I	T	H	A	L	N
G	S	A	O	G	D	E	O	B	O	D	Y
N	E	S	E	N	P	P	V	V	R	E	V
I	N	N	O	I	E	R	E	O	H	E	G
R	I	B	T	L	A	I	L	G	B	N	F
O	L	R	P	L	C	S	U	R	I	A	R
V	W	O	M	A	E	O	L	R	T	B	G
A	O	N	S	C	R	N	A	H	L	G	S
E	L	U	I	H	C	E	E	S	E	B	I
D	O	N	T	Y	B	R	R	S	V	O	E
N	I	I	P	T	I	R	I	P	S	D	E
E	A	T	A	W	A	L	K	G	U	Y	O
F	E	Y	B	T	W	O	R	T	H	Y	U

Prisoner	Walk	Calling	Gentleness	Spirit
Peace	Hope	Baptism	Bond	*Words go forwards,
One	Through	Beseech	Body	backwards, & diagonal.
Lord	Worthy	Lowliness	Love	<b>*Please don't do this during</b>
Body	Faith	Father	Bearing	<b>the sermon folks! Save it to</b>
Above	With	Endeavoring	Unity	<b>do @ home after church!</b> ☺

Sandy Haney  
 Ruby Dunn  
 Zella Charles  
 Roberta Hix  
 Dorothy Burris  
 Don Chaffin  
 Charlie Ward  
 Ruby Ward  
 Delenn Strong  
 Bessie Young  
 Earl Crabtree  
 John Anderson

**Prayer List**

Hugh Young  
 Billy Stafford  
 Opal Pippin  
 Anna Lou Flatt  
 Reba Mayberry  
 Joann Ledbetter  
 Connie Garret  
 Zola Flatt  
 Linda Jenkins

Bill Wisdom  
 Ozelma Martin  
 Elaine Hayes  
 Wynell Ballard  
 Sheldon Warren  
 Aline Whitaker  
 Marie Shoemake  
 Bobby Elkins  
 Mildred Elkins  
 Catherine Mabery  
 Charles Jones  
 Brody Garrison

**Area Hospitals:**

**Cookeville:** Billy Stafford

**Vanderbilt:** Chris Heady

**Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:**

**NHC:** Alice Pippin, Joe Anderson

**Mabry:** Plytha Petty

**Mabry Assisted Living:** Edna Roberts,  
 Velvia Denson

**Bethesda:** Donald Hensley

**Masters:** Wynell Ballard

**Requested Prayers:** Reba Mayberry

**Our Sympathy to the Families of:**

Robert Earl (Buddy) Meadows, Mary  
 Curnutte, Mary L. Dudney

**Please remember to keep each of these individuals in your prayers every day! They appreciate it greatly!**