

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday:

Bible Classes 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Worship Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Office (870) 933-9134

Elders

Kemuel Camp (870) 930-6970
Scott Stubblefield (870) 934-8874

Deacons

Phillip Cassidy (870) 623-2588
Steve Lands (870) 974-1976
Travis Moody (870) 650-1649

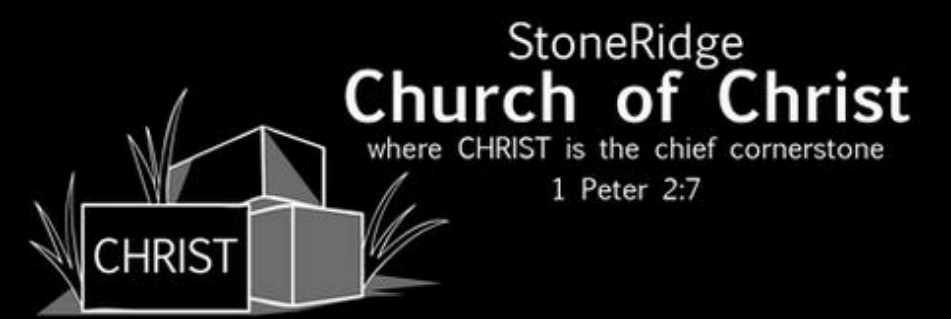
Preacher

John Mundy 870-623-5339

Editor

Dick Blackford 870-919-2266

**THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY,
MAKES CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS
ONLY. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS
COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE
NOT JOINED A DENOMINATION.**



StoneRidge
Church of Christ
where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone
1 Peter 2:7

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“Have It YOUR Way!!

A famous burger chain says that. This is not true in religion, although many churches practice it. You can choose “contemporary worship” at one hour, or “traditional worship” at another. Some even offer a “mixed” service - your choice. Have it YOUR way. And there are churches that offer a worship period “WITHOUT instrumental music” at one hour or “WITH instruments” at another. Have It YOUR way!

Then, there are churches that offer what they call “modes” of baptism – multiple choice: sprinkling, pouring, or immersion. Some have called this “Burger King Religion” – Have it YOUR way. We agree, when it comes to burgers. But in Christianity?

There is a problem. When Jesus came, He didn’t come preaching “**Have it YOUR way!**” He came preaching “*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me*” (Mt 16:24). He didn’t come preaching “**I’m okay, you’re okay.**” He came preaching “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand*” (Mt 4:17). He didn’t come preaching. “**What matters is if you feel good about yourself. Everybody’s going to saved.**” He said many would go the broad way to destruction and few would find the strait and narrow way (Mt 7:13,14). He said **not** EVERYONE who claim to be his followers will enter the kingdom of heaven (Mt 7:21-23).

Worship. It has **always** made a difference how you worship, beginning with Cain. People haven’t taken that seriously. What in the world has to happen →

from front page

before they will??? We're told "people should use their talents in worship." Thus, instrumental music. (I wonder why they never tell the tuba players). Cain used his talent as a farmer and offered his crops. God **rejected** his worship because it was not offered by faith (faith comes by hearing what God said, Rom 10:17). Cain did not obey what God required. Two priests offered strange fire which God had not commanded. They were consumed by the fire because it makes a difference how you worship (Lev 10:1). Jesus said it is "**vain worship**" when we follow the teaching of men (Mt 15:9). The NT also condemns "**will worship**" (Col 2:22,23). "Will worship" is that which is designed to please the will of the worshiper rather than the one being worshiped. These are the ones who want it THEIR way. It's very popular today. There is also "**ignorant worship**" that Paul spoke of to the philosophers of Athens (Acts 17:23). God seeks the **true worship** of those who worship in spirit and truth (Jn 4:23,24).

Baptism. Jesus died, was buried, and resurrected. Baptism is a re-enactment of that. It is called a "likeness" and a "form." If we engage in that likeness we shall also be in the likeness of his resurrection (Rom 6:5). They "obeyed from the heart that form (baptism), being THEN made free from sin..." (Rom 6:17,18). When? "**Then**," when they were baptized. The text shows that man dies to sin and is then buried (in baptism) and is raised to walk in "newness of life" (Rom 6:3-5; Col 2:12,13). We bury a dead man who is then raised to newness of life. But if he is made alive at the point of "faith only" and then buried (baptized), he is buried alive!! That destroys Paul's analogy and contradicts scripture.

I've seen artist's conceptions of John baptizing Jesus. Some depict Jesus and John almost waist deep with John pouring water on Jesus' head. Another shows a picture of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch not even in the water but on the shore, with Philip pouring water on the eunuch. Do they not read the Bible before painting their pictures? The whole point of sprinkling and pouring is to avoid getting in the water, a convenience. Both Jesus and the eunuch got into the water (Mk 1:10; Acts 8:38,39). ↗

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. **Susan Pickens** has another detached retina. Prayers needed.... **Sherry Horton** had another back injection and needs complete rest... **Gracelyn Lands** will have surgery on 12/6...**Virginia Bishop** will have knee surgery on 11/9... ..**Ruby Vanhoose** (Virginia's mom) is now under hospice care...**Bob Evans** fell recently... **Corey Ladyman** had foot surgery and has a large wound ...**Sherry Horton** had another back injection and is to have an MRI...**Holly Kortan's** biopsy was positive and surgery is pending... **Ellie Beth Pierce** (Paul's & Melissa's granddaughter) is still under doctor's care...**Debbie Spencer** is now having issues with her hip...**Karen Livesay** is some improved from migraines... **Kathryn Dunman's** brother-in-law is still in serious condition. **Shut-ins:** **Rhea Vines** (at Roger's house)...**Gail Brooks** room 423 Lawrence Hall, Walnut Ridge... **Rita Kieffer**, St. Bernard Village ...**Shirley Coots**, Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth's Place... **Bob and Jean Evans** at home...**Betty Shrable** at home. Pray for these!

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Oct 22-25 – East Shelby (Collierville TN) – Ryan Goodwin & Preston Nichols
Oct 22-27 – Village Creek – Brian Sullivan
Oct 29-Nov 1 -Northside – Greg Gwin

GROUP MEETINGS. Group 1 is meeting Oct 21 at 5:30 at the Bearden's house.
Group 2 will meet Nov 4 at the Christenberry's.

- That wouldn't be necessary if water was going to be sprinkled on them. In Bible baptism, the person is applied to the water. In sprinkling, the water is applied to the person. It's inaccurate to say he was sprinkled in baptism when he really wasn't. They didn't sprinkle him in drops or pour him in a stream. They did that to the water. *Baptizo* means to "dip, immerse" (Vine's Dictionary of New Testament Words, p. 50). You wouldn't say one was immersed by sprinkling. That's the mess you get into when you try to change the word of God. John "*was baptizing in Aenon near Salim because there was MUCH WATER there*" (Jn 3:23). Much water is needed for immersion, not for sprinkling. If it didn't make any difference... but it DID! Why claim you want to follow Jesus, but then insist on having it YOUR way? Instead of saying "I did it MY way," why not say "I did it THY way?" The Savior knows best. If we can't be faithful over a few things, can we expect to become rulers over many things (Mt 25:21,23)? -db
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For you numbered the stars
Creating and making us who we are
You know the next step before we take
Guiding us through the decisions we make
Help remind me where my help comes from
Looking up to you above
Knowing I'd be lost without you
I wouldn't make it through. - **Autumn Lamkin**

Psalms 121:1,2 - I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
