

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



Vol. 16, No .8 October 1, 2023

How Do We Respond To Being Defamed?

“Even unto this present hour we both hunger, and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted, and have no certain dwelling place; And labor, working with our own hands: being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we suffer: Being defamed, we entreat: we are made as the filth of the world, and are the offscouring of all things unto this day” (1 Cor 4:11-13).

Bible-believing Christians today, especially creationists, have become the object of intense vilification by the news media and by self-appointed spokesmen for the scientific and educational establishments. The natural reaction is to respond in kind.

But this is not the spiritual reaction. *“Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that we should follow in his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judges righteously” (1 Pet 2:21-23).*

We not only have Christ’s example before us, but also his direct command: →
“Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake...Love your enemies, and pray→

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them that persecute you" (Mt 5:11,44).

The apostles endured far more insults and disgrace for Christ's sake than any of us shall ever have to suffer. Yet Paul, speaking for them all, could say in effect "*Being reviled, we bless; being defamed, we entreat, even though they call us the filth of the world!*" (1 Cor 4:12).

We can trust the Lord to take care of our reputations, for He is more concerned even than we, and His word tells us: "*Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord*" (Rom 12:19). -db

Changes In Attitudes Toward Recreation

There have been many changes of position by many young people, during the past few years. One of the most notable changes has been in the attitude toward social and recreational activities provided by the church and held in some part of the church building. The former idea of most members is set forth in an old issue of the Gospel Advocate Lesson Commentary, 1951, p. 229:

"Building recreation rooms and providing and supervising recreational activities at the expense of the church is a departure from the simple gospel plan revealed in the New Testament. The church might as well relieve the parents of feeding and disciplining all the young people at church expense as to take over the job of entertaining and supervising their recreation at church expense."

How immense appear to us the sins that we have not committed.

When you choose the lesser of two evils, always remember that it is still an evil.

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. **Alice Mellow** is now at home following hospitalization for high blood pressure... **Susan Pickens** got a good report about her detached retina. Things are looking better for her... **Nola Christenberry** has improved following a procedure to remove a skin cancer... **Sherry Horton** had another procedure on her back and has to have complete bed rest... **Gracelyn Lands'** surgery has been scheduled for 12/6... **Corey Ladyman** had foot surgery and has a large wound to heal... **Karleen Sheets** is better following a bout with Covid... **Holly Kortan's** surgery is scheduled for tomorrow at 7 a.m.... **Karen Livesay** is still dealing with some serious migraines... **Shut-ins: Rhea Vines** (at Roger's house. Roger has had Covid)... **Gail Brooks** room 423 Lawrence Hall, in Walnut Ridge, **Rita Kieffer**, St. Bernard Village ... **Shirley Coots**, Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** at St. Elizabeth's Place... Pray for these!

CROSS TIES. We rejoice with **Autumn Lamkin** who was baptized into Christ last Tuesday night by brother John following some Bible studies with Konor Erickson. We're proud of our young people as we see them bringing others to Christ. Trumann AR 72472; alareel00@gmail.com; phone: 870-408-1336; birthday: 8/16.

We're also happy for **Taylor** and **Courtney Harbin** who were baptized following services Thursday night.

BEREAVED. We received word that **Evelyn Riggs** has passed away. She was a member here for many years but was living near her daughter in Millington TN. We sympathize with Ann Hudson. They were sisters.

There are no losers in Christ!

