



## Woodland Hills

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# HERALD

Sunday, July 1, 2018

Volume 62, Number 26

## Freedom

### Minister

David South

### Minister of Songs & Praise

Dennis Sangster

### Family Minister

Matt Mitchell

### Youth Minister

Thomas Williams

### Missions

Malawi – Preacher Training  
Baxter Institute, Honduras  
Fleming Tarpidu Institute, India

### Benevolence

AGAPE  
Children's Homes:  
Pine Vale  
Sunnybrook  
Hope Works

### E-MAIL/WEB PAGE

info@woodlandhillschurch.com  
www.woodlandhillschurch.com

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.  
AM Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m.  
PM Worship Svc. 5:00 p.m.\*  
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.  
(Attended Nursery at all svcs.)

\*No 5:00 p.m. service on the third  
Sunday of the month

### Phones:

901-755-7709 (office)  
901-755-7214 (fax)

The identity of the United States of America is wrapped up in the sense of freedom. That is partly because the push for “independence” from Great Britain led to the beginning of this nation. There is, however, something of an identity crisis in this current era because there is a wide gap between groups concerning the proper definition and application of that “freedom.”

As it turns out, this same sort of identity crisis is being felt in American churches. Freedom is a significant part of the gospel message. We must make sure, though, that we interpret that freedom the way it is presented in Scripture. I have no right to take the concept of “freedom” from the Bible and define it or apply it any way I want.

Jesus has set us free from sin by his blood (Rev. 1:5). Jesus gave us the truth which sets us free from sin (Jn. 8:31-36). Jesus has set us free from a law which we could not keep and which could not save us (Gal. 5:1; Acts 13:38-39; Rom. 8:2). This freedom is not permission to live a sin-filled life (Gal. 5:13-21; 1 Pet. 2:16). This freedom is never defined in the gospel as the right to ignore God's boundaries for lifestyle, worship style, home life, etc. Let us appreciate and enjoy this marvelous freedom we have in Christ. May we never forget it or abuse it.

*See you Sunday, free from sin...*

*David*

## **Not a Secret**

David South

How much do people in general really know about Christianity? In our country, knowledge of Christianity could possibly be described as extremely wide and extremely shallow. That is to say, most people in the United States have heard about Christianity and know something about it. The biggest problem is that what they know is only a very shallow smattering of information – and much of that little bit that they know is skewed or altogether untrue!

Many people do not know or understand the principles and motives by which Christians live. While people know the name “Jesus,” and know he is connected to Christianity, many do not know who he really is or what he has done or the kind of lifestyle he advocates. The basics of Christianity and the principles of true Christian living appear to be secret. One is reminded of Paul’s statement in 2 Corinthians 4:4, “...the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

This big “secret” is not some sort of unknowable secret, or a secret that is intentionally kept hidden from all but a select few. It is available, but most people just do not know it. Since people are largely ignorant of the truths of Christianity, and since people love a scandal, any claim of underhanded, secret schemes to hide embarrassing facts draws a lot of attention.

There is no grand scheme to delude people in the name of Christianity. There are no back room shenanigans in which certain ones have managed to hide incriminating and embarrassing information about Jesus or the church. The truth is that some churches and church leaders have used underhanded methods and have tried to hide unethical behaviors. But that is not the Lord’s church. The truth is available and it is simple.

This is the way Jesus put it: “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free” (Jn. 8:31-32). Further, he said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” (Mt. 28:19-20). Jesus has always wanted all his truth to be made available to all people.

Consider at least two lessons out of all this for us today. Firstly, let us make sure that we pattern our lives after the truth of the gospel rather than after the wrong impressions of “Christianity” that seem to thrive in our culture. Secondly, let us do our best to help outsiders see the truth about what Christianity is and the truth about what Christian living is really all about.

## OUR PRAYER LIST

### Our Woodland Hills Members:

Clemmie Allison, Dwain Coleman, Norma Davis, Sharon Estes, John & Jackie Greene, John Knight, Larry Knox, Bill Lewelling, Jerry Mathis, Kay Michael, Mary Ann Morrison

### Our Friends/Relatives:

Jim Adams, Lillie Baker, Jan Burks, Shelby Callahan, Garrett Carroll, Ramona Carter, Dan Clemenz (bro-in-law of Brenda Renner, cancer), Byron Coleman, Todd Collier, Gabbi Cook, Colby Cresswell, Van & Dorothy Criswell, Corrine Crowell, Brittney Daily, Tom Davidson, Sharon Davis, Eleanor Donald, Rose Franklin, Roy Ghormley, Kristy Hearn, Eleanor & Jordan Herron, Dr. Heather Blackburn Irizarry, Bill Joshlin, Molly Kelly, Christian Krogh, James Langston, Judy Long, Regina Loring, Carol Lynn, Haley McCommon, David & Wayne McMillan, Sheryl Menz, Sharon Olsen, Arthur Lee Poor, Keith Ricks, Selina Rivieria, Charles South, Amanda Spears, Anita Thomsen, Connie Waddell, Ron Waddell, Eli Williams and William Wilson

### In Assisted/Senior Living/Homebound:

Clemmie Allison is at 1730 Dorchester Dr, Southaven, MS 38671, Essie Brown at Germantown Plantation, 9293 Poplar Ave, Germantown, TN 38138, Dwain Coleman, 335 Fisherville Rd, Collierville, TN 38017, John & Jackie Greene, 308 Briarbrook Cv, Collierville 38017 new phone 854-2182, Mary Ann Morrison, 10083 Cross Valley Drive, Cordova 38018, Jane Nolen #205 & Clara Shipman #160 at 7820 Walking-Horse Cr, Germantown, TN 38138, Ruth Sain is at 6539 Knight Arnold Rd, Room 103A, Memphis, TN 38115, phone 365-9095.

**July 1, 2018**

Song Leader	Kenny Cox
Welcome & Announcements	Mike Barrios
Opening Prayer	Bill Estes
Sermon	David South
Communion Preparation:	Bill & Robi Seward
Pick Up Cards	Eli Robinson & Owen Miller
AM Closing Prayer	Ron Hinton
Nursery	Renee Brittain

### **Evening Worship**

PM Song Leader	Kenny Cox
PM Opening Prayer	Garrett Pilgrim
Sermon	David South
PM Closing Prayer	John Waddell
PM Nursery	Carol Spellings

## FAMILY RETREAT JULY 20-22



### Smoky Mountains

**Reservation Deadline is TODAY!**  
See Addie Mitchell if you need to sign up!

## SYMPATHY



Our sincere sympathy is extended to Dwain Coleman in the recent death of his sister, Hazel Ragland.

Our sympathy is also extended to Tom Adams and his family in the death of his brother, Phil Adams. Tom and his siblings had just returned from a trip to Arizona to visit with his brother. Phil passed from this life on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Please sign the  
back of your  
attendance  
card the  
number in  
your family**



**that will be attending the meal.  
This week's meal will be chicken and  
dumplings with sides and dessert!**



**REMEMBER OUR 13**  
*Members in prayer who are in  
Honduras on a Summer Mission Trip.*

## YOUTH CORNER

Thomas Williams

Hello everyone! The summer is flying by, I hope you're having a great one! The youth group has a number of fun activities planned for the summer. One of our activities was held just last weekend. We had 16 teens show up for our "Incredibles" movie night. It was a whole lot of fun! It was especially exciting because this was the first youth group activity for our incoming seventh graders. It's always a blessing to welcome people into our group.

The youth group's main focus will always be spiritual growth. But we know that good fellowship with other Christians is a major factor to that growth. We need one another to push each other on, to hold us accountable, to encourage us, to help us grow. Christianity was always designed to be a community of believers, an "ekklesia" or "assembly." And I am so thankful that is the case! How wonderful it is that we are not alone in our faith. That we have fellow Christians to walk beside us.

What a blessing it is to be able to spend time in fellowship with our one another. This next week some of us will be heading to Honduras to fellowship and serve some more members of our wonderful family of God. Please keep us in your prayers. I can't wait to tell you all about when we get back. God bless you all!



### Wise Words

*The way to heaven is to turn right and keep straight.  
Smiles never go up in price nor down in value.  
You can't very well stumble if you are on your knees.  
Crime may not pay, but it sure costs.  
Out of the mouths of babes come words that parents  
should not have spoken in the first place.  
Temper improves the longer you keep it.*