



Woodland Hills

The Woodland Hills HERALD (806-000) is published weekly (except Christmas/Thanksgiving/New Year's weeks) by the Woodland Hills Church of Christ, 10011 Woodland Hills Drive, Cordova, TN 38018-6649. Second class postage paid at Cordova, TN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Woodland Hills Church of Christ, 10011 Woodland Hills Drive, Cordova, TN 38018-6649.

HERALD

Sunday, October 14, 2018

Volume 62, Number 41

Snakes and Bears

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)

One of our hikes was about four miles long, with significant stops at three waterfalls along the way. This hike started out in a state park. The lady at the information desk warned us about two things. There had been a bit of trouble with a bear in the area. Some campers had left out some food and trash and it drew the bear to the campground area. He had not yet decided to leave. They had to close the campground for a while. She told us that the bear was not really a threat. She said if he saw you he would probably run the other way. She went on to tell us not to worry about the bear, we should worry rather about the snakes. They had lots of copperheads and rattlesnakes. As it turns out, we did not see the bear, and we saw no snakes at all – even though one of us was watching very, very, very carefully.

A threat can be real and the warning serious – even if you personally do not ever see the danger. God has chosen to warn us about the dangers of hypocrisy (Mt. 23), false religion (Col. 2:20-23), empty religion (Jas. 1:26-27), and worldliness (1 Jn. 2:15-17). My desire for you is that you never experience these deadly poisons. My desire for you is that you always have a pleasant, safe, enjoyable experience as you follow Jesus. But, the threat is real and the warning is serious.

See you Sunday, safe in Jesus...

David

Church Identity

David South

John was exiled to the island of Patmos for preaching the gospel of Jesus. While there, he received a message from the Lord in symbolic terms which we have recorded for us as the book of Revelation. When Jesus appeared to John, he first instructed him to write letters to the seven churches of Asia (Rev. 2-3). These were literal churches, with literal successes and failures. It is interesting, however, that he sent letters to SEVEN churches. The number seven does seem to be symbolically important in the Bible. Perhaps we should interpret this to mean that what is said about these seven churches represents the kinds of elements (both positive and negative) that can occur in any church. Thus we can learn much about what we should be as the church of Jesus. Consider the identity of the seven churches of Asia.

The church at Ephesus defended the truth, but had left its first love. The church at Smyrna was rich in faith, even though they faced poverty and slander. The church at Pergamum held fast the name of Christ even in the face of persecution, but tolerated false teachers. The church at Thyatira demonstrated Christian service and endurance, but tolerated immorality. The church at Sardis had a reputation as a fine church, but was spiritually dead. The church at Philadelphia stayed true to Jesus and his word, even in the face of opposition. The church at Laodicea was lukewarm.

Just from these descriptions, churches can learn some things it takes to be the church of Jesus. The church of Jesus will not tolerate false teachers or immorality. It will hold the truth without compromise and will defend it. It will be true to Jesus and his truth no matter what kind of slander or persecution it faces. It will practice genuine Christian character. It will operate out of love and faith, especially its genuine love for Jesus. Its reputation as a church that follows Jesus will be more than just reputation. It will be a church that is not just “coasting” along. It will be alive and active and “on fire” for the Lord.

The elders, as the overseers of a congregation (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:2), set the stage for the work, attitude, and direction of a congregation. Thus, whether a congregation is truly a follower of Jesus depends upon the elders leading it in the proper direction.

As you know, the church is a group of people who have been immersed into Christ. That is, the church is not some sort of organizational structure separate from the members. Christians are the church, the house of God (1 Pet. 2:5). What that means is that in order for any congregation to reflect the identity of Jesus, the individual members must reflect the identity of Jesus.

As individuals and as a whole let us serve Jesus with love, faith, truth, sincerity, endurance, and energy.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Our Woodland Hills Members:

Clemmie Allison, Dwain Coleman, Norma Davis, Sharon Estes, John & Jackie Greene, Bill Lewelling, Raymond McClendon, Jerry Mathis, Mary Ann Morrison, Ina Story, Pat Thomas

Our Friends/Relatives:

Jim Adams, Lillie Baker, LaVerne Baxter (recent surgery), Sue Bowen, Jan Burks, Shelby Callahan, Garrett Carroll, Ramona Carter, Dan Clemenz, Byron Coleman, Todd Collier, Gabbi Cook, Colby Cresswell, Corrine Crowell, Brittney Daily, Sharon Davis, Eleanor Donald, Roy Ghormley, Kristy Hearn, Eleanor & Jordan Herron, Dr. Heather Blackburn Irizarry, Bill Joshlin, Molly Kelly, Christian Krogh, James Langston, Judy Long, Carol Lynn, Haley McCommon, David & Wayne McMillan, Sheryl Menz, Sharon Olsen, Keith Ricks, Selina Rivieria, Charles South, Amanda Spears, Anita Thomsen, Connie Waddell, Ron Waddell 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 Carriage Court of Memphis, 1645 W. Massey Road, Apt. #314, Memphis, TN 38120, phone 365-9095.

October 14, 2018

Song Leader	Thomas Williams
Welcome & Announcements	Dick Holt
Opening Prayer	Ron Hinton
Sermon	David South
Communion Preparation:	James and Jackie Wilson
Serving Communion:	David Close, Darrell Dacus, Ed Dacus, Robert Jones, Bob Karr, John Waddell, Keith Williams, James Wilson
Pick Up Cards	Caleb Sanders & Creede Criswell
AM Closing Prayer	Ryan Miller
Nursery	Kathy Bryson & Brenda Renner

5 PM WORSHIP SERVICE

PM Song Leader	Thomas Williams
PM Opening Prayer	Mitch Bradshaw
Devo./Holy Spirit Study	David South
PM Closing Prayer	Pat Patchell
PM Nursery	Kathy Hillis

Pew Packers Tonight at 5:00 PM



Soup/Chili/Fixings and Desserts

***Sunday, October 21st
following morning worship.***

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Van and Wanda Jones and family in the death of Wanda's father, Arthur Leon Poor. Funeral services were held this past Monday in Newbern, TN.



AREA-WIDE WORSHIP

October 14th an area-wide worship service will be held at the Germantown Church, 8723 Poplar Pike at 5:00 pm. This year's theme will be "Our Journey of Faith." This year's speakers will be Jim Howard, minister at the Forrest City Church of Christ, and Jason Manning, minister at the Raleigh Springs Church of Christ. Our own Dennis Sangster will be one of the two song leaders. Nursery will be provided for infants and toddlers

WEDNESDAY FALL SERIES

Our Wednesday night fall series with guest speaker, Ralph Gilmore will resume on Wednesday evening October 17th and again on October 24th. The topic will be "The Diety of Christ." Bro. Gilmore is from the Henderson area where he is serving as Professor of Bible and of Philosophy at Freed-Hardeman University. Come have a wonderful meal with us at 6:00 and stay for the last two lessons in this series. You won't want to miss a single one!"

LIVE-STREAMING SERMONS

Don't forget. If you miss a service, or sick at home or just want to listen again to the sermon you may go to Woodland Hills's Facebook account at your convenience and choose the topic of choice. You may watch these videos live but they will also be saved and accessible anytime on our web site. (www.woodlandhillschurch.com)

Please sign the back of your attendance card the number in your family that will be attending the meal.



YOUTH CORNER

Thomas Williams

Hello everyone! I hope this finds you well. This week, in the youth group, there was a lot of discussion and excitement over fall break. It seems the first few weeks of school had hit them hard, and they were more than ready for a little rest. They couldn't wait for it. I'm sure all of us have felt this way! We've all counted down the days to the next vacation, the next day off, or even just the next weekend!

As I reflected on these emotions, I was reminded of Psalm 63, when it says:

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where
there is no water. (ESV)

This language of deep longing and expectation is used a lot in scripture, but it is almost always applied to the desire for God. I found this quite convicting. I know that I and the youth (from observation) often spend a lot more time communicating desire for things that aren't God, than for God himself.

This week, I'd love to ask for your prayers that myself, the youth group, and the whole church, may truly desire God above all else. Thank you all!

TRUNK *Coming Soon!*
TREAT *Sun, Oct. 28th To Begin at 4:30 pm.*

Trick R Trunk is approaching quickly! This year our Trick R Trunk will be on Sunday, October 28th, at 4:30 pm in the pavilion. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided but request that you bring sides, drinks and desserts. If you wish, decorate the trunk of your car and bring candy to hand out to all the kids. We are planning to have a photo booth, hay ride, inflatables, crafts and many other exciting things! This is a great opportunity to invite friends and family. We hope to see you there.

FLU SHOTS

We are hearing that this season will be another tough flu season, so you want to be sure to get vaccinated, and ***it will be free*** here on Sunday, October 21st following our 3rd Sunday meal. Walgreen's will be giving the vaccinations.