



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST

# Family Matters

March 26, 2023

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## Leadership

### Elders

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Allen Hedge  
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Gary Ridenour  
573.225.6480

Randy Seabaugh  
573.576.1128

David Selvig  
573.620.7407

Steve Simmons  
573.450.6358

### Minister

Brian Mitchell  
270-498-8407

### Deacons

George Clark  
Nate Crowden  
Greg Dowdy  
Charlie Kluesner  
Doug Lester  
Brian Mitchell  
Todd Newman  
Kenny Simmons  
Scott Spraggs

## Lessons for Today

**AM: Brian Mitchell**  
"Understanding How the Church Grows—Education"  
1 Kings 3:12

**PM: Brian Mitchell**  
"Putting It All Into Perspective"  
1 Corinthians 3:18-23

## Understanding How the Church Grows—Education

All men today need exactly that same thing that Solomon acquired long ago directly from God. A wise and discerning heart, that is the ability to know right from wrong according to God and then to make proper application of that knowledge. Unfortunately for us that kind of heart can't be received directly from God and only comes through a diligent, constant, and fervent study of His Word. I say it is unfortunate not because we have to work to know God's will, but rather because of the fact that it does involve diligent effort, there are not as many wise and discerning hearts as we need in this world and in the church.

One of the clearest signs of a truly healthy congregation (healthy congregations grow), is seen in the amount of Bible knowledge possessed by those who belong to said congregation. "My People are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hos.4:6). Do you delight in the knowledge of God's Word? "I will delight myself in Your statutes, I will not forget Your word" (Ps.119:16). "Your testimonies are also my delight and my counselors" (Ps.119:24). "Make me walk in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it" (Ps.119:35).

Given the delight which should accompany the knowledge of God's word, every congregation of the Lord's church ought to be filled with members who know what the Bible teaches. And not only does every congregation need to be filled with members who know God's Word, they need to be filled with members who will "turn neither to the right or to the left" (Prov.4:27) of that Word. With this in mind I want today to discuss with the educational program of this congregation.

Strong educational programs are another defining characteristic of a healthy church and healthy churches are growing churches. Ira North used to say that "as goes the Bible program, so goes the church." In other words his belief was that a key element found in strong, vibrant, and growing churches was a strong emphasis on the quality of biblical knowledge that was attained through the educational program of the church. The educational program of the church is a wonderful opportunity for every member of that church to grow in their knowledge of God's Word and thus in their relationship with God.

For years the denominations have emphasized the Bible school to the detriment of congregational worship while we in the churches of Christ have historically done the exact opposite. We have emphasized the congregational worship service to the detriment of the Bible school program. Neither is wise or effective in building strong, healthy, growing congregations. So how does the educational program help the church grow?

It provides an opportunity for the members of the church to grow in their knowledge of God's Word—the byproduct of that is increased faithfulness of the members—Individual Spiritual Growth. It also provides an opportunity for us to invite and reach out to our friends and neighbors—Congregational Growth. That covers the two areas of church growth that we are interested in and both can be accomplished through a strong emphasis on the Bible program.

Thus, it is my belief that in order for a church to grow it needs to place a strong emphasis on its educational program. No church filled with biblically illiterate people will ever grow as God intended. God's people are destroyed when a lack of knowledge is prevalent, both spiritually and numerically. If we want to grow we must make sure that our educational program becomes a high priority of this congregation. How can we share with others that which we do not possess?

Brian Mitchell

## Worship Times

### Sunday

Bible Class: 9:00 am  
AM Worship: 10:00 am  
PM Worship: 6:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

## For the Record

Sunday Class: 82  
Sunday AM: 132  
Sunday PM: 82  
Wednesday PM: 62  
Contribution: \$4627  
Budget: \$4831

## Think on This...

Be kind to one another,  
tenderhearted,  
forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

**Ephesians 4:32**

## Celebrating This Week...

### Birthdays

Marcia Ridenour: 03.26  
Liam Campbell: 03.26  
Sarah Singleton: 03.28  
David McDowell: 03.29  
Emily Newman: 03.29

## Serving This Week

**Announcements:** Randy Seabaugh

### SUNDAY

**Greeters:** Gary & Marcia Ridenour

**Ushers:** Troy Bryan/Todd Newman

**A/V:** Nate Crowden

**Nursery:** Eva Mitchell

**Lead Singing:** Greg Dowdy

**Head Lord's Table:** Phil Singleton

**Scripture:** Lance Kluesner

**Prayers:**

**AM:** David Selvig/Kenny Simmons

**PM:** Jerry Singleton/Kevin Bolen

### WEDNESDAY

**Lead Singing:** Todd Newman

**Devo:** Phil Swiney

**Prayer:** Doug Lester

**Elder Chair:** Gary Ridenour

**Communion to Shut-Ins:** Dan Silvers

**Worship Organizer:** Ron Fehr

## Remember in Prayer

- **Sonny Huskey**, Jack's dad, has end-stage renal disease and his doctors have an expectation for 2 weeks to 2 months for him to live. Please pray for Sonny as well as the family during this time.
- **Susan Seabaugh** is continuing to struggle with a great deal of pain. Pain management has not been able to help and she is scheduled to see a surgeon on Friday. Please continue praying for her to get relief from this constant pain.
- **Judy Dunn** has been suffering with hip, tooth, and eye problems and has not been able to be with us recently.
- **Chris Weaver** is continuing therapy at home and appreciates our prayers and encouragement.
- **Scott Lanpher**, Barbara Lanpher's son & Jennifer Huskey's brother, remains in St Francis Hospital with several health issues.

## Sympathy

George & Barbara Clark's son, **David Clark** passed away on Sunday in Austin, Texas. Please remember the entire family, especially his sons, Dax and Payton, in your prayers as they grieve.

## Daily Bible Reading

**March 26:** Joshua 12-15

**March 27:** Joshua 16-18

**March 28:** Joshua 19-21

**March 29:** Joshua 22-24

**March 30:** Judges 1-2

**March 31:** Judges 3-5

**April 1:** Judges 6-7

## News & Notes

- **Paragould Children's Homes** truck will pick up on **Monday, April 3**. Please bring your grocery donations to the building by Sunday, April 2. Items needed are: **Spaghetti Noodles, Chili Mixes, Large Freezer Bags, Microwave Popcorn, Kidney Beans, Ranch Style Beans.**
- A new **Fire/Burn-Out Ministry** has been set up to help in gathering items for future needs in our area. Thank you for your quick response to the initial request for items!
- All ladies are invited to a wedding shower luncheon honoring **Peyton Watson** on **Sunday, April 23** immediately following morning services in the fellowship room. Peyton and Will McQuade are planning a May wedding and are registered at Target and Amazon.
- Mark your calendars and make plans to join us for a **Potluck Lunch** celebrating our graduating seniors on **Sunday, April 30**. Our high school seniors are **Katelyn Dowdy** (Cape), **Baden Hackworth** (Jackson), **Gage Kelleff** (Jackson), **Macayla Meyer** (Advance), **Hannah Mitchell** (Jackson), and **Emily Newman** (Jackson). Local college grads are **Tori Bryan** (State Tech), **Luke Selvig** (SEMO), and **John Singleton** (SEMO). Gift bags will be available soon for cards. [Sydney (Watson) Moore also completed her coursework in December and will graduate in May from Faulkner in Alabama.]

## Continuing Prayer Needs

**\*\*Contact the office with updates\*\***

Ron Anderson	Jalonda Harris
Ginger Avery	Allen & Juanita Hedge
Esther Beck	Betty Jones
Shannon Birk	Sid Naramore
Mark Blaylock	Carolyn Neese
Lee Brooks	Wanda Raper
Dalton Bryan	Susan Seabaugh
Reita Conley	Steve Simmons
Donna Cox	Lee Simpson
Bill Dillman	Don Tawney
Newt & Kay Gilliland	Chris Weaver

## Upcoming Gospel Meetings

- **April 2-5: Gideon** with **Brent Newton**; Theme: "Knowing God"
- **April 2-4: Arnold** with **Cliff Goodwin**

## Scholarship Opportunities

- **Sarah's Gift Scholarship** is open to any graduating senior attending college or technical school. Applications are available in the office and must be postmarked by **April 15**.
- **Curtis James Memorial Scholarship** is available to any student enrolled at a college or university affiliated with the churches of Christ. Applications are available in the office and should be returned by **May 1** to the office.

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted,  
forgiving one another, as God in  
Christ forgave you."

Ephesians 4:32 (ESV)