

April 16, 2019

We have a terrific Lord’s Day this past week, as we had Stephane Maillet and his family with us from SEIBS (he is scheduled to graduate this year and has already accepted a ministry position in Spencer, Wisconsin).

It has been a few weeks, but we did not want to neglect announcing the passing of Lesa Leonard’s aunt, Kate Dowell, who passed away in Kentucky. Please keep Lesa and the Leonard family, as well as all grieving families, in your prayers.

Keep the following friends of Montrose in your prayers: Duane Gossett (associate minister at McCoinsville) had a car accident last Saturday evening and is in Vanderbilt Hospital. Dimple Hicks (member at Carthage) suffered a stroke last week and is improving at Vanderbilt Hospital. Mary Jones (regular campers with us from Mount Juliet) is taking chemotherapy treatments at Saint Thomas Hospital this week for lymphoma.

We have obtained Viola Cleaver’s address and phone number, and I know she would love to hear from the members at Montrose who remember when her and Frank were here with us.

Viola Cleaver
c/o Brookdale Franklin, Room #331
910 Murfreesboro Road
Franklin, TN 37064
1.615.710.8652

In the foyer, there are new “House to House” publications on the table, new tracts in the tract rack, and new STOP publications. Please avail yourselves of these resources, both for yourself and for those whom you love!

Congratulations to Kaleb Bush and Alexis Meadors on their recent engagement!

If you are interested in being a counselor/staff for Taylor Christian Camp (JSCYC), please fill out application and give to Glen Reece ASAP.

Have a blessed week, and may God richly bless you and keep you!

—Sam

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO LEAD IN SERVING WORSHIP —SUNDAY—9:00 AM

April 21, 2019

- Coordinator.....Steve Anderson
- Announcements.....Brian Smith
- Scripture Reading.....Dallas Eddie
- Song Leader.....Jacky Carver, Jr.
- First Prayer.....Glen Reece
- Lord’s Supper—Preside.....Robert Hackett
- Serve.....Austin Clay, Mitchell Brooks
Ethan Leonard, JW Leonard
- AM Sermon.....Travis Thomas
- Closing Prayer.....Jacky Carver, Sr.
- Greeters.....Travis & Jennifer Thomas
Roger & Cynthia Draper
- Count Offering.....Kaleb Bush & Dallas Eddie

WORSHIP—SUNDAY—6:00 PM

Announcements.....Brian Smith
Song Leader.....Jeff Crockett
Scripture Reading.....Dallas Eddie
First Prayer.....Mitchell Brooks
PM Sermon.....Travis Thomas
Lord’s Supper.....Ethan Leonard, JW Leonard
Closing Prayer.....Glen Reece

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY — 7:00 PM

Announcements.....Brian Smith
Song Leader.....Jacky Carver, Sr.
First Prayer.....Justin Draper
Opening Prayer.....Kaleb Bush
Invitation.....Glen Reece
Closing Prayer.....Dallas Eddie

Prepare Communion for **APRIL**—Sherry Jo Anderson & Kelly Edens

Suggested Daily Bible Reading for April: Read 7 chapters of **Genesis** each day
(with 8 chapters on the final day of the week)

PRAYER LIST

Sawyer Cole (grandson of Larry & Vickie Cole), **Serenity Simmons** (granddaughter of Sam Willcut’s friend who is in Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital), **Ruby Mae West** (friend of many) is now living with her daughter, **Terry Wilmore** (friend of Peggy Kemp who is in Vanderbilt Hospital)

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

The week of 4/14/19	
Worship Sunday AM.....	95
Bible Study Sunday AM.....	91
Daily Bible Readers.....	49
Worship Sunday PM.....	80
Wednesday (4/10/19).....	66
Offering.....	\$3,421.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

April 26— Youth Supper @ Golden Corral & Bowling in Cookeville, 5:00 PM—9:00 PM
April 28—Dorcas & Timothy Classes, 4:00 PM
April 28— Fourth Sunday Fellowship (Graduates Dinner), 5:00 PM

AREA EVENTS

April 14-17—Gospel Meeting, Monterey

April 19—Area-wide Friday Night Singing, Bethel, Dunlap, 7:00 PM

April 21-24, Gospel Meeting, Smyrna, Cookeville

April 25—Smith County Drug Prevention Coalition Meeting on Addiction, Smith County Historic Courthouse, 6:00 PM

April 26-28—Gospel Meeting, East Main, Murfreesboro

April 27—Ladies' Day, Allons, 10:00 AM

April 28-May 1—Gospel Meeting, Burrstown, Gainesboro

April 28-May 1—Gospel Meeting, Adams Avenue, Lebanon

May 5-8—Gospel Meeting, Hilham

May 10—Mid-TN Friday Night Singing, Bethlehem, Baxter, 7:00 PM

May 11—Ladies' Day, Red Boiling Springs, 9:00 AM

May 18—Ladies' Day, Philippi, Castalian Springs, 9:00 AM—1:00 PM

The Abundant Life

Every Christian faces the same challenges: to meet the trials and temptations of the world with a Christ-like mindset. It is not easy. We are met with a barrage of influences through music, television and movies, and magazines that take our attention from biblical values and place our focus squarely on what "everybody else" is doing. After all, since "everybody else" is interested in pleasing self, should we not do the same? If "everyone else" grumbles and complains, so should we. Because "everyone else" gets mad and pouts if they are not the center of attention, we should follow suit. When "everyone else" makes a mad dash for things like money, pleasure, and power, we have to move quickly to keep up! NO!!!

Christians, let us never begin to think that our place is to follow the mindless movement of the cultural current. Paul commands us through apostolic authority: "*And do not be conformed to this world, but by transformed by the renewing of your mind...*" (Romans 12:2). Instead of blindly following the masses (who are heading the wrong direction anyway—Matthew 7:13-14), let us open our Bible and apply its Holy Spirit-inspired teachings to our life. When we do that, we will see "*fruit of the Spirit*" as the natural outgrowth of our daily activity. What is the fruit of the Spirit? It is "...*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...*" (Galatians 5:22-23).

Jesus said that He came so we could "...*have life, and have it abundantly*" (John 10:10b). The abundant life cannot be found in the footsteps of the world, but in the footsteps of Jesus. What can we do? Be a faithful child of God (Hebrews 5:8-9; Revelation 2:10), submit to God and resist the devil (James 4:7), go to your Heavenly Father in prayer (Philippians 4:6-7), and trust in the Lord (Hebrews 13:5-6). Live abundantly through Jesus Christ!

—Bud Woodall

Confession

Confession is the acknowledgement of something we need to show in our lives. It is important not only to salvation, but also to the daily life of a Christian.

We are to confess our sins. God promised the blessing of forgiveness to His children who will confess their sins (1 John 1:9). James wrote, “*Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much*” (James 5:16). Spiritual healing comes by confession.

We are to confess (freely acknowledge through personal faith) Jesus for whom He is (Matthew 10:32-33). Great men and women always confess. Peter confessed, “*Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God*” (Matthew 16:16). The gospel of John records five confessions:

- Nathanael confessed, “*Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel*” (1:49).
- The Samaritan woman confessed, “[*I*]s not this the Christ?” (4:29).
- Peter again confessed, “*And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God*” (6:69).
- Martha confessed, “*I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world*” (11:27).
- Thomas confessed, “*My Lord and my God*” after Jesus erased his doubts (20:28).

Thus, the Bible emphasizes confession as necessary for our salvation (Romans 10:9-10; 1 John 2:23; 4:2-3, 15; 2 John 1:7).

Confessing our faith is not always easy. Even after Peter confessed Jesus twice, he later denied Jesus when the situation was different. John the Immerser confessed Jesus even in the face of the Pharisees (John 1:15-18, 29; cf. Matthew 3:7ff). Eventually the Pharisees agreed to cast out any Jew caught confessing Jesus (John 9:22; 12:42-43). Not only that, but confession of sins is also difficult. People have a hard time admitting, “I have sinned.” Yet, God requires it to be pleasing to Him (1 John 1:8). The confession of the prodigal son is a perfect example by Christ to show the heart of the confessor: “*I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants’*” (Luke 15:18-19).

In direct contrast, notice the example of Achan. When Joshua lost the battle with Ai, God told him it was due to sin in the camp. So Joshua gathered the people and began to divide by tribe, family, household and man. Achan had the opportunity to confess during this time, but did not confess his sin until it was too late (Joshua 7:19-21). As he did, many will wait until it is too late. “*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father*” (Philippians 2:10-11). Will you confess Him too late?

—Sam Willcut