

## Upcoming Events

<b>April 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup></b>	Gospel Meeting at the Hall church of Christ with different speakers. See bulletin board for more information.
<b>April 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM</b>	Area Wide singing at the Bethel church of Christ.
<b>April 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup></b>	Gospel Meeting at the Mt. Della church of Christ with Greg Pickett speaking
<b>April 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup></b>	Lectureship at the East Ridge church of Christ. See bulletin board for more information.
<b>May 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup></b>	Gospel Meeting at Wheeler Hill with Eddy Craft speaking.

God uses preaching of His Word to teach us today. God also chooses to save the sinner through preaching the Word. Paul stated, *"For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe"* (1 Cor. 1:21). There is a tremendous benefit to hearing God's Word proclaimed, and we must strive to hear it.

Another portion of worship that we might gain great benefit from is the singing. Singing also uplifts faithful Christians. Paul stated, *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"* (Col. 3:16).

When a child of God is absent from the assembly they are truly missed! We must also keep in mind that they miss important portions of the Christians daily needs! Strive to make certain that your seat will not be empty.

*Dale Barger*

# The Messenger

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Vol. 8

April 14, 2019

#15



### Elders

Greg Anderson  
Dion Brown  
Matt Brown

### Deacons

Terry Denney  
Tim Hawn  
Mike Meloncon  
Jack Pendergrass

### Minister

Dale Barger

### Service Times

Sunday Morning .....10:00AM

Bible Study

11:00 AM

Worship

Sunday Evening .....6:00PM

Wednesday Bible Study ....7:00PM

### An Empty Seat

David was aware of Saul's hatred toward him and was going to avoid the king at the feast of the new moon. As David told Jonathan of his planned absence his friend responded, *"To morrow is the new moon: and thou shalt be missed, because thy seat will be empty"* (1 Sam. 20:18). At the previous feasts, David had been present with others of the king's court. Jonathan explained that David absence would not go unnoticed.

The question arises, why would David be missed? The answer is simple; he was not going to be able to share in the celebration of the feast as well as the company of his friends. His absence would cause others to wonder why he was not there. Saul assumed that David was absent because of ceremonial uncleanness, *"Nevertheless Saul spake not any thing that day: for he thought, Something hath befallen him, he is not clean; surely he is not clean"* (1 Sam. 20:26).

Have you ever questioned what happens when your seat is empty? When you are not present at the assemblies of the church you are missed. It can be discouraging to others to look around and see an empty seat where you normally sit. Many times, health problems cause a person not to be able to attend. When that is the case you are missed, and prayers are spoken on your behalf. When you are absent for other reason, you are missed.

Have you ever considered what you might miss when you are not present at the assemblies? One thing that you will miss is encouragement from faithful brothers and sisters in Christ. Many Christians struggle with the daily walks of life and need the kind words and uplifting presence of other faithful brethren. We have the responsibility to uplift the weak among us. The Hebrew writer encouraged, *"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works"* (Heb. 10:24). We cannot be encouraged, uplifted, and provoked unto good works if our seat is empty!

When our seat is empty, we also miss an opportunity to hear a message from God's Word. The proclamation of the Word will help us to learn the ways of God. The psalmist desired the Lord to instruct him, *"Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day"* (Psalm 25:4-5).

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### Prayer Request

Glenda Swanger; Jean White Smith; Leona & Jimmy Roberts; Irene Melton; Roberta Collier; Steve & Julie Neely; Mildred Gilbert; Barbara Angel; Mike White; Stanley Guinn; Dora Swafford; JoAnn Beach; Mary Harp; Barbara DeBord; Joyce Mears; Herb & Alice Hale; Belle Smith; Katherine Webb; Jack Pendergrass and Craig Mills.

### Sick/ Updates

Thomas Hawn has been ill with strep throat last week.

### Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of James "Buster" Turner; to the family of Neva Hale.

### Mid-Week Memory Verse

Memory Verse for mid-week bible study is 2 Cor. 3:2.

### Gospel Meeting

Our spring gospel meeting will be May 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> with Eddy Craft speaking. Please be planning for the week. There is a sign-up list for lunches on bulletin board.

### Women's Monthly Schedule

Prepare Lord's Supper for April: Gail Forsythe

### For The Record week of 4/7/19

Attendance: AM 85; PM 59; Wed. 57; Contribution \$1,781

### Happy Birthday!

Elizabeth Turner (18<sup>th</sup>), Doug Smith (18<sup>th</sup>)

### Children's Bible Class

Children's Bible class begins tonight at 5:45.

Note: If there are any updates or additions please let Dale know.