

## Ellendale Church of Christ

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Web Site:  
[ellendalechurchofchrist.org](http://ellendalechurchofchrist.org)

### SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

#### SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Worship service at Culpepper.....1:30 p.m.  
Worship.....5:30 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study and Devotional...7:00 p.m.

#### THURSDAY

Bible Study at Culpepper.....1:30 p.m.

### ORDER OF SERVICES

September 30, 2018

#### A.M. Services

Announcements  
Lead Singing - Mike O'Guinn  
Opening Prayer  
Communion  
Sermon - David Looney  
Closing Prayer

#### P.M. Services

Sermon - David Looney

(Please meet in the library as soon  
as possible after Bible Study.)

#### Mission Work

Eastern European Mission  
Haiti  
India (Jerry Bates)  
India (Purpose and Vision)  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Paragould Children's Home

### FOR THE LORD'S SERVICE

September 23, 2018

Budget. . . . . \$2,900.00  
Contribution. . . . . \$2,294.00  
Attendance. . . . . 53

### OPPORTUNITIES WHEN HOMEBOUND

#### **John DeBerry - Coleman Ave.:**

WTWV TV 23 Sun. 4 p.m., Tues. 6:30 p.m.,  
Weds. 6:00 p.m., Sat. 6:30 p.m. Channel 14  
Comcast/Direct TV

#### **John Shannon - James Road:**

YouTube; TV: Channel 17, 20 & 21 - Weds. 6  
p.m.; Channels 14 & 23 - Fri. 6 p.m.; Sat. 12:00  
p.m.

#### **GBN - The Truth in Love:**

WHBQ AM 560 - Sunday 8 a.m.

#### **In Search of the Lord's Way:**

WLMT TV Channel 30 - Sunday 7 a.m.

## The Bulletin...

September 30, 2018



*Ellendale Church of Christ*

*"Where Christ is our Lord and the Bible our guide"*

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105  
Jesus said, "...I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in  
darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12



**POSTMASTER:**  
Send address changes to:  
Ellendale Church of Christ  
7365 US Hwy 70  
Bartlett, TN 38133-2631

## BAAL OR GOD?

It is sometimes said that a crisis never makes a man—it only reveals what he already is. That thought is both comforting and frightening because we all wonder how we would react if everything we held dear was really on the line. Our family, our health, our career, our life when that time comes what will we do? On Tuesday morning September 11, 2001 United Airlines flight 93 was a flight just like any other flight. There were 41 people on board leaving Newark International Airport headed to San Francisco International Airport. The plane was hijacked and became part of the September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks and was headed to The White House when Todd Beamer a passenger on that flight led the charge to regain control of the plane that crashed in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. His haunting words were heard numerous times in the media just before they fought with the hijackers “Are you ready, Let’s Roll!” This was it, everything was on the line and there was no turning back. One thing is sure about Todd Beamer, September 11, 2001 did not change him; it only revealed what was already there on the inside.

There are certain stories in the Bible that we read about a number of different individuals and when you hear their names certain things come to mind. When we say Noah, we think of the flood. We say Abraham, we think of Isaac. We say Joshua, we think of Jericho. When we say David, we think of Goliath. When we say Daniel, we think of the lions’ den. When we say Elijah, we think of the crisis on Mt. Carmel. Ahab and Jezebel were a horribly wicked power couple who introduced Baal worship into the Northern kingdom to God’s people and it became very much accepted and was sweeping the nation with sinfulness and perversion. The time had come, when one man Elijah stood against 850 prophets of Baal. What could one man do? The odds were tremendous. But one man dedicated to God was not afraid to confront the evil that was present during his day. God is a majority and a faithful man standing with God is an unbeatable combination. That man was Elijah, and when it was all on the line when it mattered the most, he stood tall and he stood firm in his faith. His name indicates that he would be faithful as Elijah means “The Lord is My God.”

In I Kings 18:19 “Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto Mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.” Now was this a rash vow, or was this a man who was deeply committed and in touch with God? He was definitely in touch with God and God knew he was with Him. In I Kings 18:21, “And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD [is] God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him. But the people answered him not a word” (NKJV). The most important phrase is the last part of this verse, “...the people answered him not a word.” The same is true in the church today people struggle about what they are going to do and how they are going to do it. Spiritual indecision is plaguing the church and the church is caught in the valley of uncertainty. There is such an inability of the people of God to make up their minds as to the direction that they are going to go or with whom they are going to stand. Notice the little word “if” in verse 21 “If the Lord is God... indicates that the people are now at a cross-road in the spiritual development and must make the decision if they are going to follow the majority or if they are going to stand alone with God. We know how this story plays out, they continued to follow unqualified leaders and refused to stand with the man of God. The outcome was not good!

He proposed a simple experiment so the people would know which god was the true God. “You take Baal and I’ll take the Lord God of Israel. The one who answers by fire, he is God. We could use more of that sort of courage today. We need a little less talk and a lot more action. There comes a time when talk is cheap. The people of Israel were halting between two opinions. They cried out to Baal and did so all day long. They began cutting themselves and jumping up and down they were totally committed to what they believed, but they were totally wrong in those beliefs. At the time of the evening sacrifice they are exhausted from Elijah’s taunting and from their dedication to their false beliefs and now, all eyes turn to the man of God. There is a famine in the land physically and spiritually and water was at a premium but he orders 12 barrels of water to be poured over the sacrifice. And then he cries out to the God of heaven and God answers by fire. I Kings 18:36 is one of the greatest verses of conviction and dedication to God in all of scripture “And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word.” Three great statements come out of this passage that should be uttered by all Christians today:

**Thou Art God in Israel** – Elijah is giving the church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century tremendous advice. Oh how we need to let a lost and dying world know Our God is Alive. Too many Christians want to sing “Standing on the Promises” and are content to sit on the premises. There have been times when Christians have confronted people in the community and said things in anger that have hurt the reputation of the church. How can we let people know about the love of God when what they see from Christians is anger? Sadly, when confronted by people in the community when asked about the angry outbursts I had to respond that I was sorry that those words were ever spoken and to please not judge the entire church because of the inappropriateness of that individual.

(Continued on page 3, column 2)

## News & Notes

### OUR SICK

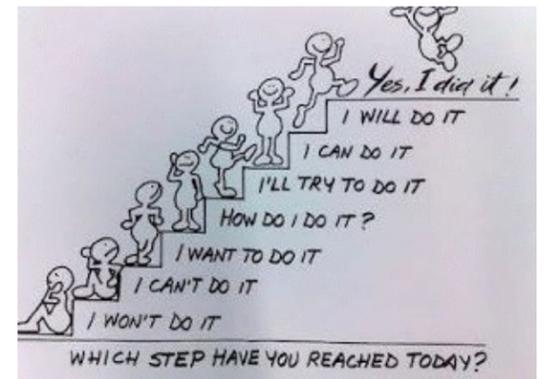
Joe Neil Brown  
Betty Harder  
Ronnie Harder  
Jennifer Hicks  
Glenda Kirk  
Sam McJunkin  
Yvonne Meyers  
JoeAnn Patterson  
Evan Rasberry  
Ron Rasberry  
Frances Williams  
(Quail Ridge Alzheimer Special Care Center)  
Elizabeth Yow

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 30 - Devotional at Hearthiside, 1:30 p.m.  
Sept. 30 - Birthday/Anniversary Celebration after p.m.  
worship service  
Oct. 1 - Bible Study at Hearthiside, 1:00 p.m.



Pick up a visitation card in the library after evening services. A card, call and/or a visit means a lot to those who are unable to attend.



## BAAL OR GOD (Continued from page 2)

**I Am Thy Servant** – He is facing 850 fanatical people who had been dedicated for 8 or 9 hours screaming out to their god to no avail. He prays to the God of Heaven and when he does, God answers by fire. He wanted people to know where he stood and with whom he stood. Today, we have people afraid to let people know that they are standing with God. A church that stands with God is not going to focus on the noise, nor are they going to buy into the crowd that has gathered; but they going to stand faithfully with God. There was a woman who went to her preacher concerned about the sins of the people professing to be Christians. She said, there is so much sin in this church and he told her he wanted her to do something for him. He handed her a glass full of water and told her to walk around the inside of the building and to come back to his office. She did so and he asked her what sins did you see while you were walking around? She replied, “None I was too busy looking at the glass of water so that I would not spill any of it.” He said that is my point, you were focused! If we focus on the Lord we will not have the time to be idle with the opportunity to be distracted and listen to harsh and futile words.

**I have done all these things at Thy Word** – My prayer for the church is that we will do all things according to a “Thus saith the Lord.” The time has come that all Christians must step up and do what is needed to move the church forward. May we always do what God wants in the way that He wants things done without fear or favor. May our focus always be on Him and not the distractions that cause us to look in other directions and take our eyes of the Lord? Elijah teaches us how to choose God when the majority is screaming Baal.

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