

Ellendale Church of Christ

7365 US Hwy 70 (Summer Ave.)
Bartlett, TN 38133-2631
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Web Site:
ellendalechurchofchrist.org

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

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

TUESDAY

Ladies/Men's Bible Class.....10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

ORDER OF SERVICES

April 21, 2019

A.M. Services

Announcements
Lead Singing - Mike O'Guinn
Opening Prayer
Communion
Sermon - John Evans

P.M. Services

Sermon - John Evans

(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

April 14, 2019

Budget. \$3,500.00
Contribution. \$5,980.50
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:

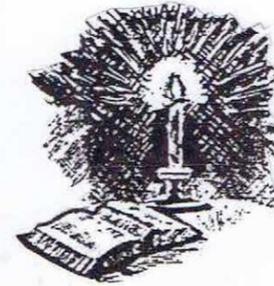
WHBQ AM 560 - Sunday 8 a.m.

In Search of the Lord's Way:

WLMT TV Channel 30 - Sunday 7 a.m.

The Bulletin...

April 21, 2019



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

THE PLACE OF SAFETY

BARRY GRIDER

The Psalmist wrote, "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makes me dwell in safety" (Psa. 4:8). In the midst of a world smitten with sin man needs a place of safety, security, and refuge. Such can only be found in the Lord. God has always provided such a place for those who love Him.

No one could have enjoyed peace and safety any more than Adam and Eve while living in the Garden of Eden. Not only was the garden a paradise on earth, it was also a place where the first couple had constant communion with God (Gen. 3:8). Wherever God dwells, those who live with Him are safe. After man sinned, he lost the peace and security that he once had with God. Yet down through the centuries a loving and gracious God would provide a safe haven for those who desired a relationship with Him.

According to Genesis, because of man's wickedness, God determined to destroy man from the face of the earth. "But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord" (Gen. 6:8).

Hence, God would save Noah from the devastation of the deluge. An ark was prepared according to God's specifications. This ark provided a place of safety for Noah and his family when the floodwaters raged. As a child, I was blessed to have a mother who read to me from the Bible. Whenever she read the account of Noah and the ark, she would conclude by reminding me that God has an ark of safety today. This ark of safety is the church of Christ.

Those who identify themselves as Christians acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Savior. However, most fail to realize what it means to be in Christ and in His church. Hence, such individuals remain in their sins. It is amazing how many scriptures speak of the necessity of being in Christ.

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new (2 Cor. 5:17)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ...In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace (Eph. 1:3,7)

Paul would add, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27). So the place of safety for all men today is in Christ. Free from sin, the Christian no longer has to fear its penalty. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23). To be in Christ is to be free from the condemnation of sin (Rom. 8:1). Many religious people speak of their eternal security. However, only the New Testament Christian, one who has obeyed the gospel of Christ, can really be secure. In Him, nothing can separate us from the love of God (Rom. 8:39).

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THE PLACE OF SAFETY

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But what does being in Christ have to do with the church of Christ? The church is comprised of those who are saved (Acts 2:47). Likewise, God's marvelous wisdom for saving man includes Christ and the church He purchased with His blood (Eph. 3:10-11).

Those who are saved are found in the body of Christ, which is His church. Paul exhorted, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Eph. 5:25). How does one get into the church, God's ark of safety? He does so the same way he gets into Christ. "For by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body" (1 Cor. 12:13).

The church is a refuge from the world. It provides security from the Devil and sin. Isaiah spoke of this safe place when he wrote,

The wolf shall also dwell with the lamb and the leopard shall lie down with the kid: and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the suckling child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters that cover the sea (Isa. 11:6-9).

Such is a highly figurative and symbolic language denoting the peaceful nature of the kingdom of Christ, which is the church.

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and fear (Heb. 12:28)

Since the kingdom or the church is eternal in nature (2 Pet. 1:11), and only citizens of the kingdom or members of the church will be saved (1 Cor. 15:24;

Eph. 5:23), let us implore all men to enter quickly into the fold of safely.

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

2 Corinthians 1:3,4

Suffering allows us to be used as God's comforters. We cannot fully understand the other person's problems until we have experienced similar ones. We shall never know how heavy another's burdens are until those weights have rested on our own shoulders. Distress may add tenderness to our hearts and nobility to our lives. It can bring us closer together. And as John Henry Newman said, "God does not comfort us to make us comfortable, but to make us comforters."

Leroy Brownlow
(From the 50th Anniversary Edition of
Flowers That Never Fade)

Cold prayers are
As arrows without heads,
As swords without edges,
As birds without wings;
They pierce not,
They cut not,
They fly not up to heaven.
Cold prayers always freeze
Before they reach heaven.

-Thomas Brooks

News & Notes

OUR SICK

Joe Neil Brown
Winnie Crews
Betty Harder
A. J. Henson
Glenda Kirk
Yvonne Meyers
JoeAnn Patterson
Evan Rasberry
Ron Rasberry
Dick Romine
Frances Williams - (Quail Ridge Alzheimer
Special Care Center, Rm. 6)

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 14 - Devotional at Hearthside, 1:30 p.m.
April 16 - Ladies/Men's Bible Class, 10 a.m.
April 18 - Bible Study at Hearthside, 1:30 p.m.
April 28 - Birthday/Anniversary Celebration
May 5 - Honor our graduate after p.m. service.
Refreshments will be served.

CORRECTION

Sunday, March 31, **Iston Lomax** was baptized into Christ. Last week's bulletin stated it was **Isha**. Sincere apologies for the error.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy is extended to **Johnnie Sparks** on the loss of her husband, **Jessie**, on April 13. His funeral was last Wednesday.



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.

LADIES/MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

Tuesday, 10 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP HALL

Teacher - Barry Grider

Please invite friends and neighbors to come with you. We are studying the theme "Blessed Assurance."

Children's Home Food Run

Suggested item for this week:

Snack Crackers

If you want to bring clothing items, please refer to the list on the bulletin board.

Confess vs. Hypocrisy

After hearing a sermon on confession a man approached his preacher with a heavy conscience. He explained that he worked for a boat builder and stole expensive brass nails.

The man could not tell the boat builder, he said, because he would lose his job and his boss would think him a hypocrite and all of the times I shared my faith with him will go to waste.

Finally guilt got so bad he had to confess. He offered restitution. His boss responded: "I always did think you were just a hypocrite, but now I feel there's something in this Christianity after all. Any religion that would make a dishonest workman come back and confess that he had been stealing brass nails and offer to settle for them must be worth having."

"Confess" (James 5:16).