

## Prayer List

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Anna Burris, Kenny Even, Doris Reyes Fernandez, Ashleigh Green, Ella Green, Alice Hall, Gordon Hatcher, Norman Lee, Luis Patiño, Tony Priola, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Tim Smith, Sheila Sollars, Jim and Carole Turk, Abby Yarlequé.

- Diane Capps has not been feeling well this past week.

## Announcements

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Our Next Men's Meeting will be Monday, November 1st, at 7 PM

## WELCOME VISITORS!

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### The Numbers

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Attendance	Sunday, October 24	26/26/21
	Wednesday, October 27	30
Offering	Sunday, October 24	\$593.00

### Those Serving

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Prayer Before Sunday Classes      Lance Green

#### Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & Prayer      James Hutton  
Songs      David Snyder  
Sermon      Brad Green  
Lord's Supper & Contribution      Tommy Sanders  
Assistants      Donald Shipley & Levy Cox  
Closing Prayer      Barry Simmons

#### Sunday Afternoon Worship

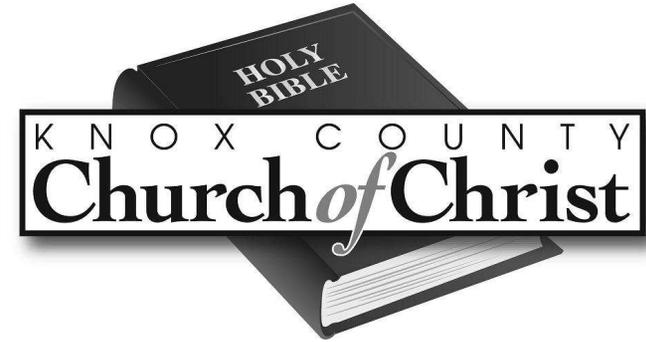
First Prayer      Charles Hatcher  
Songs      Keith Keever  
Sermon      Brad Green  
Lord's Supper      Barry Simmons  
Closing Prayer      Tommy Sanders

#### Wednesday Night

Songs      Lance Green  
First Prayer      James Hutton  
Devotional      Charles Hatcher  
Closing Prayer      David Snyder

Knox County Church of Christ  
PO Box 22441  
Knoxville, TN 37933

October 31, 2010



<http://www.knoxcoc.com>

**Meeting Location:**  
130 Mabry Hood Road  
Suite 102  
Knoxville, TN 37922  
865.247.4620

### Schedule of Services

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#### Sunday

Bible Study.....9:30 AM  
Worship.....10:30AM & 1:30 PM

#### Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 PM



It is the time of year when scary sights and sounds abound. However, there are some frightening occurrences taking place in the Church of Christ everyday that bear eternal consequences.

### **MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH SEEKING TO BE MORE LIKE THE DENOMINATIONS**

It seems that every time a denomination develops some "new" way of entertaining that it quickly finds its way to the Lord's Church. Under the guise of "edification," many man-made forms of amusement have crept into the Church of Christ. Though there is nothing inherently wrong with fun and games (as long as they do not transgress God's Law), entertainment is not a work of the Church. Many congregations have joined "church-sponsored" sports leagues where they find themselves commingling with the denominational world. From the perspective of the audience, every team participating is in fellowship with each other and "one church is just as good as another." When denominations began "Trunk-Or-Treat," many in the Church were not far behind. Though there is nothing inherently wrong with handing out candy to children or celebrating a national holiday, it is not a work of the Church and from the perspective of those who drive by the congregation's parking lot, it seems that "one church is just as good as another." It is scary to see the Church of Christ trying to be so much like the denominations around them. Remember the folly of the children of Israel when they said to Samuel – "behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us **like all the**

**nations...**And the LORD said unto Samuel, Harken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but **they have rejected Me**, that I should not reign over them" (1 Sam. 8:5, 7, emphasis B.G.).

### **"SHEEP'S CLOTHING" BECOMING MORE AND MORE REALISTIC**

Jesus warns, "beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Mat. 7:15). There has never been a time when evil men didn't try to sneak their way into the lives of innocent people. Their purpose – "through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you" (2 Pet. 2:3). These "soul traders" seek to possess you and use you to their own benefit until you are of no use to them anymore. These evil men will not introduce themselves as such; they will walk like you, talk like you, and dress like you. They want you to feel comfortable with them and welcome them into your life.

It seems that, now more than ever, members of the Church of Christ are having difficulty recognizing these wolves in sheep's clothing. The wolves have constructed a sheep outfit that is so realistic that innocent, unsuspecting Christians are being devoured before they even think to make sure that it is authentic. More and more "wolves" are looking more and more like "sheep," and their disguise is more convincing than ever. This is truly scary. Let us remember that Jesus commands, "judge **not according to the appearance**, but judge righteous judgment" (John 7:24, emphasis B.G.). The only way to distinguish sheep from wolves is by examining their actions, not their appearance. Jesus says, "ye shall know them by their fruits...by their fruits ye shall know them" (Mat. 7:16, 20). Since "wolves" have developed such a

realistic "sheep" costume, we must be more vigilant than ever to inspect their "fruits" because their looks can be deceiving.

### **SPIRITUAL DISARMAMENT**

Another scary problem taking place is Spiritual disarmament. Many Christians have found "ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1) and have decided to discard their Spiritual armor. While God implores, "put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6:11), many are laying their armor aside. Perhaps many Christians feel that the "threat level" is low, but God says, "be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). Some Christians may feel that the war is over, but God says, "fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses" (1 Tim. 6:12). Still others may hold to the idea that once a person is baptized, the work is done. They have been overtaken by Satan's "once saved always saved" doctrine. God says, "if we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin" (1 John 1:6-7).

### **CONCLUSION**

There are many scary and frightening things taking place all around us. May we always "watch and pray, that [we] enter not into temptation" (Mat. 26:41).