

Prayer List

Kenny Even, Doris Reyes Fernandez, Marc Genua, Ashleigh Green, Ella Green, Alice Hall, Gordon Hatcher, Kim Johnson, Norman Lee, Mary Lynn McAleer, Tony Priola, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Ronald Russell, Sandra Simmons, Tim Smith, Sheila Sollars, Jim and Carole Turk, Abby Yarlequé.

- Diane Capps, Sara Johnson, and Donald Shipley have all had recent health issues.
- The Simmons will be traveling for the next few weeks.
- Phillip Hutton (James' father) will be having surgery tomorrow.
- Betty Hurst (neighbor of the Huttons) has congestive heart failure. Her daughter, Louise Walker, is her caregiver.

Announcements

There is a note from the Carvers on the table.

The Numbers

Attendance	Sunday, February 6	14/14/17
	Wednesday, February 9	13
Offering	Sunday, February 6	\$1113.14

Those Serving

Prayer Before Sunday Classes James Hutton

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & Prayer Lance Green
Songs Keith Keever
Sermon Brad Green

Lord's Supper & Contribution Charles Hatcher
Assistants Levy Cox and Donald Shipley

Closing Prayer Tommy Sanders

Sunday Afternoon Worship

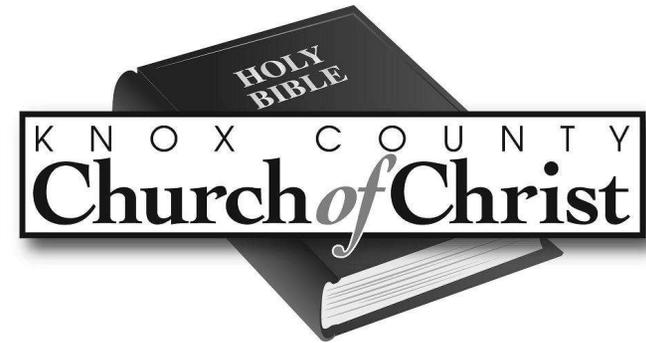
First Prayer Charles Hatcher
Songs David Snyder
Sermon Brad Green
Lord's Supper James Hutton
Closing Prayer Donald Shipley

Wednesday Night

Songs Lance Green
First Prayer David Snyder
Devotional Keith Keever
Closing Prayer Tommy Sanders

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

February 13, 2011



<http://www.knoxcoc.com>

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

Schedule of Services

Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 PM

From The Preacher's Pen

"PARTLY CLOUDY?" OR MOSTLY SUNNY?

While listening to the car radio this past week, a meteorologist began to give an overview of the day's weather forecast. I was not paying much attention to the forecast, but the sun was shining brightly and I did not have my sunglasses in the car. What finally caught my attention was the proclamation that the day would be "partly cloudy." Immediately looking out the window, I could not believe that the day's weather could be considered "cloudy" in any form or fashion. The skies were blue and everything that could reflect light was sparkling with the rays of the sun. Once I had reached my destination, I looked up into the sky and noticed that there were quite a few clouds in the sky. None of them, however, blocked the sunshine from view. The decision therefore to describe the day as "partly cloudy," or "mostly sunny," was a matter of perspective.

God's Word is objective (John 8:31-32) and not subject to man's perspective. The apostle Peter writes, "knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Pet. 1:20-21). God's commands are not up for debate or submissive to the "private interpretation" of men. Upon seeing Jesus, John the baptizer proclaimed, "behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). This pronouncement was not based upon any man's perception; it was a fact based upon evidence (John 1:32-33, 2:23). When Jesus asked "whom say ye that I am," Peter responded, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not

revealed it unto thee, but My Father which is in Heaven" (Mat. 16:15-17). The fact that Jesus is the Christ and Son of God is not up for "private interpretation;" it is confirmed Truth which cannot be honestly challenged.

There are, however, matters in life (those not pertaining to man's salvation and faithfulness to God) which are evaluated from an individual's perspective. For example, is the day's weather "partly cloudy," or "mostly sunny?" Everyone has "gray" days – days wherein nothing seems to be going right. It is important, though, to not make everything and everyday out to be "partly cloudy." Perhaps everyone has at sometime heard the maxim, "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade." It is not healthy to look at everything from a "bitter" perspective, especially when just a little sugar is all one needs to turn lemons into lemonade. When it is gray, cloudy, and raining, we should be reminded of God's providential care (Mat. 5:45). Many in the first century refused and rejected the Savior of the world because, from man's perspective, they questioned, "can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:46). The majority of the Jews were looking for a great and mighty conqueror, but solely from a physical perspective. Though Jesus was spiritually great and mighty, and did indeed conquer death (Rom. 1:4; 1 Cor. 15:54), physically Jesus grew up "as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him" (Isa. 53:2). Oh the many blessings that men have turned away due to a "gray" disposition! The majority of the religious world continues to reject God's Law and replace it with their more modern and physically appealing traditions (c.f., Mat. 15:9). Upon hearing that he could be healed of his leprosy (a most horrible disease) by simply washing in the Jordan River seven times, "Naaman was wroth, and went

away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage" (2 Kin. 5:11-12). Naaman was willing to walk away from the blessings of God simply because, from his perspective, the remedy was not extravagant enough. Fortunately for Naaman, his servants were able to logically appeal, "if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean" (2 Kin. 5:13-14).

Some days are cloudy; some are bright. Let us seek and strive to find more sun than clouds.

--Brad Green

