

## Prayer List

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

- Phillip Hutton (James' father) will be having surgery Monday.
- Tresa Snyder will meet with a surgeon tomorrow regarding her recent biopsy results.
- Ella Green will see a rheumatologist tomorrow after having a reaction to her current medication.

## Announcements

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Men's Meeting Monday, March 7, at 7PM.

## The Numbers

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Attendance	Sunday, February 20	26/27/22	
	Wednesday, February 23	25	
Offering	Sunday, February 20	\$690.00	

## Those Serving

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Prayer Before Sunday Classes     James Hutton

### Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & Prayer     Tommy Sanders  
 Songs     Keith Keever  
 Sermon     Brad Green  
 Lord's Supper & Contribution     Lance Green  
 Assistants     Levy Cox and Donald Shipley  
 Closing Prayer     Charles Hatcher

### Sunday Afternoon Worship

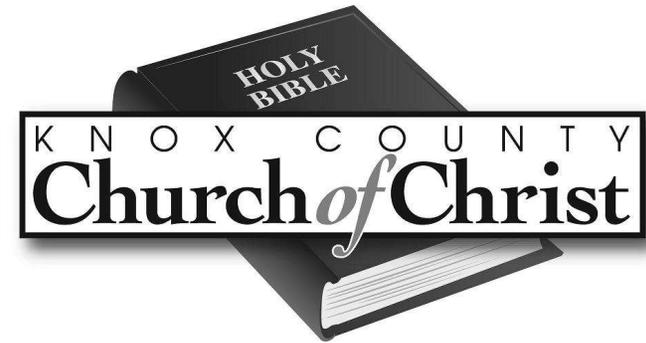
First Prayer     Charles Hatcher  
 Songs     *Singing*  
 Sermon     Brad Green  
 Lord's Supper     Tommy Sanders  
 Closing Prayer     Donald Shipley

### Wednesday Night

Songs     James Hutton  
 First Prayer     Keith Keever  
 Devotional     David Snyder  
 Closing Prayer     Lance Green

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

**February 27, 2011**



*<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



## ***From The Preacher's Pen***

### **“THE TRUTH ABOUT THE PHARISEES”**

The Pharisees were “a religious and political party in Palestine in New Testament times” (Nelson's). The sins of the Pharisees are many and have been chronicled in the Scripture. Sadly, however, many who rightly condemn the actions of the Pharisees, also manipulate the historical evidence about the Pharisees in order to “legalize” and condone their own sins. For example, many misrepresent facts regarding the conflict that existed between Jesus and the Pharisees. The claim is made that Jesus came to bring a “new perspective” to Scripture and that the Pharisees were simply “legalists.” This skewed version of events is then used to present those today who bring “new perspectives” to the Scriptures as “Christ-like” while those who are dogmatic in the “old ways” of looking at Scripture are, in essence, today’s Pharisees. Jesus did not come to present a “new perspective!” Jesus came to “fulfil the [*Old*] Law” (Mat. 5:17) and nail it to His cross (Col. 2:14). Jesus came to present a *New Law* (Heb. 8:13; 12:24), not a “new perspective.”

The Pharisees rejected Jesus because they refused to let go of their system of Judaism and follow the Law of Christ. The Pharisees *were not* “law-keepers;” they were false teachers. Jesus, Himself, announces, “all therefore whatsoever they [*the Pharisees*] bid you observe, that observe and do” (Mat. 23:3). Jesus never condemned the Pharisees for teaching or keeping law; Jesus condemned the Pharisees because “they say, and do not...they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers...all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their

garments...And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues” (Mat. 23:3-6). Jesus also condemns the Pharisees for being “hypocrites” (Mat. 23:13-15, 23, 25, 27, 29). Jesus refers to the Pharisees as those who “devour widows' houses” (23:14), are “blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel” (23:24), as “whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness” (23:27) and as a “generation of vipers” (23:33). The Pharisees were not condemned because of “law-keeping,” they were condemned because they bound as law that which God did not and were hypocritical in their application. Perhaps without knowing it, those who claim that keeping law is a sin are accusing that Jesus, Himself, was a sinner (and “Pharisaical”). Jesus was a “law-keeper.” When tempted in the wilderness, Jesus quoted Scripture and refused to break the Law to which He was amenable while on Earth and in the flesh (Mat. 4:4, 7, 10). When Jesus was asked by a certain man who had great possessions what was necessary for salvation, Jesus instructed the man to “keep the commandments” (Mat. 19:17). Jesus never taught, at any time, that man was to inject his own opinions into the commands of God.

In order to advance this attack against keeping the Law of God, many have perverted the twelfth chapter of Matthew – teaching that the Law of God can be broken as long as it is broken with the purpose of being merciful, loving, and kind. They imply that the Pharisees, according to the text, were actually attempting to uphold the Law of God when they accused Jesus’ disciples of doing “that which is not lawful to do upon the sabbath day” (Mat. 12:2). The Pharisees were doing nothing of the sort. They were misinterpreting, perverting, and misapplying Scripture. The Pharisees were trying to bind their false doctrine upon Jesus and the disciples – not

uphold the Truth! Jesus proves this fact by chiding the Pharisees, “have ye not read what David did,” and “have ye not read in the Law” (12:5). Jesus was not presenting a “new perspective;” He was correcting their false doctrine and was doing so by pointing them back to *THE LAW*. Jesus is not teaching, “I know that’s what the Law says, but in cases like this, mercy, kindness, and love dictate that My Father’s Law be broken.” Rightly divided, this text (Mat. 12:1-14) teaches that (1) the Pharisees were wrong in their accusation, (2) David, (the Pharisees’ genealogical hero), actually broke the Law but the Pharisees would never condemn his actions due to their biases, and (3) Jesus’ disciples had not broken the Law. Nowhere and in no way does this text teach that God approves and authorizes man to break the Law of God. Man has no right, according to God, to change any part of God’s Law (c.f., Jos. 1:7; Rev. 22:18-19). The prophet Jeremiah reminds us, “that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” (Jer. 10:23).

Let us be warned against and rightly condemn the errors of the Pharisees. Let us also be warned against the attacks being made against God’s Law. The sin of misrepresenting the facts about the Pharisees so as to justify other sins is just as abominable to God as the sins the Pharisees themselves committed.

--*Brad Green*

### **Welcome Visitors**

Thank you for visiting with us today. If you have any questions about anything said or done during our worship service, please feel free to ask. Also, please take a moment to fill out one of our visitor's information cards and stick around after services so that we can get to know you better.