

## Prayer List

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Doris Reyes Fernandez, Marc Genua, Ashleigh Green, Eleanor Green, Amanda Hatcher, Gordon Hatcher, Norman Lee, Early Phillips, Andrew Ragle, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Verne Ragle, Ronald Russell, Tim Smith, Dolores Snyder, Tresa Snyder, Sheila Sollars, Ramona Sutton

- Joe Stephenson (friend of Keith Keever) is in the hospital with pneumonia, and is not doing well. He also has cancer, and has stopped chemo treatments.

## The Numbers

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Attendance	Sunday, February 12	16/18/17
	Wednesday, February 15	17
Offering	Sunday, February 12	\$750.00

## Those Serving

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Prayer Before Sunday Classes Charles Hatcher

### Sunday Morning Worship

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

### Sunday Afternoon Worship

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

### Wednesday Night

Songs	Lance Green
First Prayer	Tommy Sanders
Devotional	David Snyder
Closing Prayer	Donald Shipley

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

**February 19, 2012**



<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***

### **“WHY ARE WE LOSING ‘OUR’ CHILDREN?”**

[This article was written by brother Kent Bailey, preacher for the Northside church of Christ, Calhoun, GA.]

As we give consideration to this crucial question we define the key terms to better deal with the issue at hand. By the collective pronouns "we" and "our" we refer to the divine institution of the family or the home. Child rearing is the responsibility of the home, not the church. Many parents, who are Christians – members of the Lord's church, have failed to grasp the fundamental truth that it is their responsibility, not the responsibility of the church, to bring up their children “the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:1-4). Indeed the local church has a responsibility to preach, teach, and defend God's truth (2 Tim. 4:1-5; Mat. 28:18-20, Phi. 1:16-17; Jude 3). The case being that children would constitute a specific class within the scope of humanity, the church has the obligation to teach them. However, it is the home or the family relationship that has the obligation to teach children in such a way as to give them a proper up-bringing or rearing. By the term "lost" we refer to a spiritual condition of being either ruined or destroyed spiritually. This miserable condition is attained only when one, as an individual, becomes accountable and/or responsible to God. One finds oneself in such a condition by either attaining responsibility and becoming an alien sinner, or by returning to the service of Satan after obeying the Gospel of Christ. By the term "children" we refer to accountable, responsible young people.

When the question is raised, “Are We Losing Our Children?,” we seek to ascertain answers as to why there is a growing number of accountable, responsible young people who either never obey the Gospel of Christ, or else do not remain faithful to the Lord after having obeyed Him. Young people within the family relationship are a great heritage (Psa. 127:1-5).

### **Families Are Losing Young People Because They Are Failing To Instruct Them Regarding The Importance of Authority.**

A careful study of the scriptures will indicate the existence of three divine institutions: (1) The home or family (Eph. 6:1-4), (2) Civil government (Rom. 13:1-7), and (3) The New Testament church (1 Tim. 3:15). All three institutions serve as a capstone for civilization. None of the three can exist without the recognition, acceptance, and application of authority or power. God is the fountain of all authority. He is the Creator of all living. Without Him nothing can or could exist. Thus, by right of creation, God has all authority. In order that we may be acceptable unto God we must recognize the absolute right of divine authority to be exercised within the spheres of our families, our nation, and the church. When parents fail to enact proper discipline and control over children they are failing to instruct them in the aspect of authority. If children do not learn to respect their earthly fathers how can we expect them to respect the Heavenly Father? If children do not respect delegated authority of civil government how can they learn to respect delegated authority of elders in the realm of the local church (Col. 3:17; 2 John 9-11; Heb. 13:7, 17)?

### **Families Are Losing Young People Because They Are Not Teaching The Crucial Aspect of Spiritual Values.**

Other than the obvious responsibility that parents have for the salvation of their own souls, there is no greater responsibility than teaching God's Truth by word and example to their children whereby personal knowledge of God's way of salvation can be brought about in their children's lives. Indeed there is a responsibility for parents to provide a necessary secular education to their children for them to adequately provide a living for themselves and their families that they will bring into this world in their adult years (Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:8). However, while the right type of secular education is necessary, Secular Humanism has invaded public education bringing about a total

destruction of the souls of many young people. Secular Humanism is promoting the heresies of atheism, agnosticism, and immorality. Postmodernism, eastern religious cultism, the New Age Movement, Islam, and the Positive Thought cult are other heresies being thrust upon our young people in this modern age. Parents must provide adequate instruction in the scriptures from both a positive and negative perspective to counteract the heresies from Hell that are seeking to destroy the home, our nation, and the Lord's church (Hos. 4:6-11; 2 Tim. 2:15; 3:15-17; Eph. 6:1-4). While indeed we as Christians have an individual obligation, and while the local church has a collective obligation to preach, teach, and defend God's Truth; it is the home that is assigned the responsibility to so teach young people as to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

### **Families Are Losing Young People Because They Are Not Emphasizing The Importance of Personal Accountability.**

When time comes to an abrupt halt and the curtain of eternity descends upon life within this world, all accountable individuals will stand before Christ in eternal judgment and give an account of all things that they as individuals accomplished and/or failed to accomplish in this life (2 The. 1:6-10; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:11-15; 1 Cor. 4:1-2). While the New Testament does make a distinction between individual action and local church action, we need to remind ourselves that even with local church action such is contingent upon individual Christians accepting personal accountability to function concurrently in an organized capacity where our actions promote collective function. Parents need to diligently instruct their children that in the realm of the home, the nation, and the church, there exists a personal accountability to God. Such is true regarding Biblical morality and purity, obligations to ourselves, our families, our nation, as well as within the Lord's church by means of sound doctrine in thought as well as in practice.

*– Kent Bailey*