

Prayer List

Doris Reyes Fernandez, Donna Fowler, Marc Genua, Ashleigh Green, Eleanor Green, Amanda Hatcher, Gordon Hatcher, Juan Mandujano, Mary Lynn McAleer, Betty Miller, Bernice & E. Y. Mock, Early Phillips, Chris Ragle, Ronald Russell, Tim Smith, Dolores Snyder, Sheila Sollars, Kevin (Chela Keever's nephew)

The Numbers

| | | |
|------------|---------------------|----------|
| Attendance | Sunday, April 14 | 19/20/14 |
| | Wednesday, April 17 | |
| Offering | Sunday, April 14 | \$656.00 |

Those Serving

Prayer Before Sunday Classes Barry Simmons

Sunday Morning Worship

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Announcements & Prayer | Charles Hatcher |
| Songs | David Snyder |
| Sermon | Brad Green |
| Lord's Supper & Contribution | Tommy Sanders |
| Assistant | Levy Cox |
| Closing Prayer | Lance Green |

Sunday Afternoon Worship

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| First Prayer | Barry Simmons |
| Songs | Lance Green |
| Sermon | Brad Green |
| Lord's Supper | Tommy Sanders |
| Closing Prayer | Charles Hatcher |

Wednesday Night

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Songs | Lance Green |
| First Prayer | Barry Simmons |
| Devotional | David Snyder |
| Closing Prayer | Donald Shipley |

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

April 21, 2013



<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

"BE OF GOOD CHEER"

[The following article was written by Michael Hatcher, and appeared in the November, 2006 Defender, published by the Bellview Church of Christ in Pensacola, FL.]

Cheer is found eight times in the New Testament. Jesus uses it on three occasions in encouraging others to "be of good cheer". We can learn a lot from these three occurrences. The first regards the man sick of the palsy. His friends bring him to Jesus for Jesus to heal him. "And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee" (Mat. 9:2). We might be tempted to say that this man had nothing to be cheerful about, yet Jesus tells him to be cheerful. Surely he was not to be cheerful about not being able to walk (palsy). He told him to be of good cheer because his sins were forgiven. Forgiveness of sins brings joy to an individual. Those on the day of Pentecost "gladly received his word" (Acts 2:41), after being baptized the Ethiopian "went on his way rejoicing" (Acts 8:39), and the Philippian jailor "rejoiced" after obeying the Gospel (Acts 16:34). We learn that outward circumstances do not affect the joy that the Christian possesses. Even though in a prison cell Paul would write to the Philippian brethren "Rejoice in the Lord alway: *and* again I say, Rejoice" (4:4), and then writes, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content" (4:11).

The second time, Jesus had come to the apostles walking on the water. The apostles thought that it was a ghost and cried out in fear. "But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid" (Mat. 14:27; cf. Mark 6:50). Companionship with God

brings joy. John shows the joyous nature of companionship with God when he writes, "And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 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 1:4-7). John wrote so we might have a full joy. Complete joy comes from fellowship with God. However, fellowship with God can only continue as we walk in the light. When we deviate from the truth, then we no longer have that joy which comes from our fellowship with God. When one walks in darkness, he can claim to have fellowship with God all he wants to but that fellowship has been severed. Part of that joy comes from our fellowship with other Christians (those in fellowship with God). If God no longer has fellowship with an individual and I continue to fellowship one whom God does not, then I lose that fellowship with God also and thus the joy which comes from that companionship.

The third time we find Jesus using this is when He was speaking to His apostles prior to His death. He informs them: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). In Christ we have peace. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27). We will have peace with God because we have the forgiveness of sins. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5:1). Because we have peace with God, we also will have peace with self. Consider the statement in John 14:27: "Let

not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." We then try to have peace with others. Paul writes, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men" (Rom. 12:18). We will have peace with whatever circumstances we might find ourselves in. Again Paul would write, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need" (Phi. 4:11-12). The Christian has a peace that this world will never know. "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phi. 4:7).

Then we are to be of good cheer because Christ has overcome the world. Likewise, when we are faithful to Him, we will be overcomers also. However, we are only victorious when we are in Christ. "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us" (Rom. 8:37). Paul writes, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:58). However, this victory only comes to those who have been forgiven of their sins and then have continued fellowship with God. John would write, "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:4-5). Then he would inform us, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son" (Rev. 21:7). Let us make sure that we inherit all things by having the forgiveness of sins through the blood of Christ and continue to walk in the light so we might have continued fellowship with God.

— *Michael Hatcher*