

Prayer List

Marc Genua, Eleanor Green, Michelle Grimm, Virgil Hale, Betty Harama, Gordon Hatcher, Kenny Hughes, Evelyn Hunt, Magaly Orozco, Herbert and Jean Palmer, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Tim Smith, Dolores Snyder, Sam Teasley, Richard Thompson, Susan Vaigneur, Jana Ward, Andria Hurst Wood, Mary York, Terry York

- Norris Ragle (Amanda's uncle) of Abilene, TX passed away on Wednesday.

The Numbers

Attendance	Sunday, March 8	20/26/19
	Wednesday, March 11	12
Offering	Sunday, March 8	\$1261.00

Those Serving

Prayer before Sunday Class Kevin Felker

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & First Prayer	David Snyder
Songs	Keith Keever
Sermon	Brad Green
Lord's Supper	Charles Hatcher
Contribution	Terry Hurst
Assisting	Levy Cox
Closing Prayer	Tommy Sanders

Sunday Afternoon Worship

First Prayer	Keith Keever
Songs	Kevin Felker
Sermon	Brad Green
Lord's Supper	Charles Hatcher
Closing Prayer	Donald Shipley

Wednesday Night

Songs	David Snyder
First Prayer	Terry Hurst
Devotional	Barry Simmons
Closing Prayer	Tommy Sanders

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

March 15, 2015



<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



**“A ‘GOPHER WOOD’
CHRISTIAN”**

[This article is written by brother David P. Brown, and appeared in the June 24, 2002 Beacon, A Publication of the Bellview Church of Christ in Pensacola, FL]

Most of us are familiar with the story of Noah in Genesis 6. We remember how the Almighty decided to destroy the earth by water because “GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually” (Gen. 6:5). But we also remember that “Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD” (Gen. 6:8), because “Noah was a just man *and* perfect in his generations, *and* Noah walked with God” (Gen. 6:9). Thus, to provide salvation for Noah and his family, God commanded him to build an ark, and gave Noah exact instructions concerning how it was to be built (Gen. 6:14-16). Of Noah it is said, “Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he” (Gen. 6:22). Concerning Noah, the Hebrews’ writer declared, “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith” (Heb. 11:7).

Noah was a faithful “gopher wood” preacher and man of God. God told Noah to use gopher wood in the building of the ark, and this Noah did. God authorized no other wood out of which to build the ark. Thus, the only wood acceptable is gopher wood. All other wood is excluded because there is no authorization for it. This is known as the “law of exclusion.” It is a law that Noah understood and a law that we use everyday, but at times many conveniently ignore this law.

When we go to the café and order a hamburger and fries, we do not have to go through the whole menu telling the waitress what we do not want; we simply tell her what we want and that excludes all else. That is the law of exclusion! When we send our children to the store for a loaf of bread and a gallon of milk, we do not tell them all we do not want, but simply tell them what we do want and that excludes all else. That is the law of exclusion! We may not have known what this law was called, but we do use it each day of our lives. If it were not for this law we would spend our whole life telling people what we do not want.

In like manner, when God told Noah to use gopher wood to build the ark, that excluded any other kind of wood. That is the law of exclusion! In the New Testament when God said to use unleavened bread and fruit of the vine in the Lord’s Supper (Mat. 26:26-29) that excluded milk and cookies, water and cornbread, or anything else. When the Lord said that we must sing in our worship to Him (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16) that excluded mechanical instruments of music, humming, or anything else of that nature. Faithful “gopher wood” Christians know this and practice this. Remember: “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him” (Col. 3:17).

But, today, there are a host of people who conveniently ignore the law of exclusion when it will help them acquire what they want. When a mother sends a child to the store after a loaf of bread and a gallon of milk and the child comes back with cookies and ice cream as well, the mother will be displeased and will likely say, “I didn’t say you could get cookies and ice cream!” The child might then reply, “But mom, you didn’t say I couldn’t.” Parents will not put up with that type of reasoning and neither will God.

When the denominational world asks us why we do not use mechanical instruments of music in worship, we will say that we have no biblical authority to do so. Many will then reply, “But the Bible doesn’t say that you can’t.” Oh, but

it does my dear friend, in the law of exclusion. When God said to sing that automatically eliminated all other kinds of music. We understand the law of exclusion in our everyday walks of life, why can we not understand it in religion?

We need more “gopher wood” Christians in the church today, those who will speak where the Bible speaks (1 Pet. 4:11) and who will do Bible things in Bible ways (Col. 3:17), not adding to nor taking away from the word of truth (Rev. 22:18-19). What we like or dislike is not to be our authority in religion, for Solomon declared, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death” (Pro. 14:12). Now that is simple, and that is plain and you can understand it!

- David P. Brown

Our Location

We meet in Suite 102 of Four Seasons Village, at 130 Mabry Hood Road in Knoxville, TN. Coming from Kingston Pike, we are on the right just past Chili’s. Come and visit with us!

