

Prayer List

Brian Carver, Marc Genua, Eleanor Green, Virgil Hale, Betty Harama, Gordon Hatcher, Amy Headrick, Dennis Hogan, Kenny Hughes, Evelyn Hunt, Magaly Orozco, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Keith Russell, Dolores Snyder, Sam Teasley, Mary York

• Jana Ward (friend of the Simmons) is in Vanderbilt Neuro ICU being treated for brain cancer after suffering from seizures for several days.

The Numbers

Attendance	Sunday, November 8	16/22/19
	Wednesday, November 11	
Offering	Sunday, November 8	\$1011.00

Those Serving

Prayer Before Sunday Class Barry Simmons

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & First Prayer	Keith Keever
Songs	Kevin Felker
Sermon	Brad Green
Lord's Supper	Terry Hurst
Contribution	Charles Hatcher
Assisting	John Bagwell
Closing Prayer	Tommy Sanders

Sunday Afternoon Worship

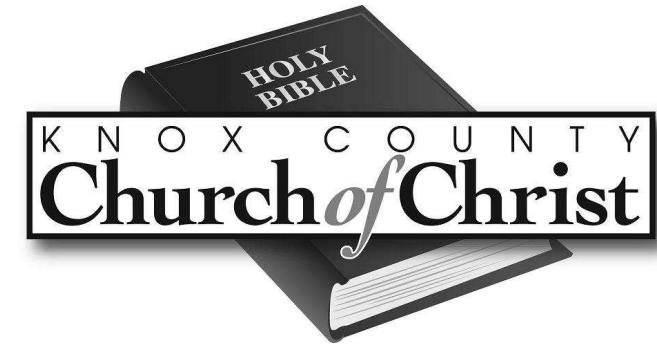
First Prayer	Tommy Sanders
Songs	John Bagwell
Sermon	Brad Green
Lord's Supper	Terry Hurst
Closing Prayer	Donald Shipley

Wednesday Night

Songs	David Snyder
First Prayer	Keith Keever
Devotional	Barry Simmons
Closing Prayer	Charles Hatcher

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

November 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.....10:30 AM & 1:30 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 PM



From The Preacher's Pen

"HEARING THEY HEAR NOT"

[This article by Marvin L. Weir appeared in the October 1, 2007 Beacon, A Publication of the Bellview Church of Christ in Pensacola, FL]

The Lord and Savior says:

Therefore speak I to them in parables; because seeing they see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And unto them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall in no wise understand; And seeing ye shall see, and shall in no wise perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, And their ears are dull of hearing, And their eyes they have closed; Lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And should turn again, And I should heal them (Mat. 13:13-15).

A carnal and material mind is never properly attuned to spiritual matters. A worldly mindset is the reason many consider the Gospel to be foolishness. The Word of God becomes a stumblingblock to those who steadfastly refuse to believe in the power and wisdom of God. Man's way has never been God's way. The apostle Paul reminds those who will hear: "it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching to save them that believe" (1 Cor. 1:21). If people do not understand this truth then they have no one to blame but themselves. One will dwell in darkness who refuses the light of God's Word.

Jesus mentions people who *hear* but really do not hear! They close their eyes lest they see, and they close their ears lest they hear. Isaiah's prophecy was true then, and it is also true today. It is

amazing that today so many **claim** to be religious, but are instead deaf to Bible truth. Let us notice some areas where people hear but do not hear.

Religious titles. Funeral home directors often ask me if I want to be listed as the pastor or a minister. I tell them that I am not a pastor, and that they can use the word "preacher" or "minister." I understand that these words are descriptive and are not used as a title. It never fails that they list me as being a "minister," and then call me "pastor." They hear but they do not hear!

Denominations have so influenced people that they can think only in denominational terms. *Pastor (poimen)* refers not to preachers but to elders—the shepherds of the flock (1 Pet. 5:2). Qualifications for "pastors" (elders or bishops) are given in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. *Pastor* thus refers to the elders who oversee the flock.

Plan of salvation. One can proclaim the Gospel plan of salvation and people will often hear but not hear! It is not uncommon for a Gospel preacher to stress that people must believe (Heb. 11:6), repent of their sins (Luke 13:3), make the good confession (Rom. 10:9-10), and be baptized (immersed) for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16), and then have one of denominational persuasion to note how wonderful it is that a person can believe in and accept Jesus as their Savior and be saved.

Those who reject immersion as part of the Gospel plan of salvation do not hear what the Scriptures have to say. One who is baptized into Christ puts on Christ (Gal. 3:27). Does this mean one can be saved simply by believing and without putting on Christ? Peter says that baptism saves one (1 Pet. 3:21) while members of denominations say that one is saved before being baptized. Is it not

amazing that people can hear the Word of God without really hearing **what** the Word has to say?

The truth about the Lord's church. One can teach on the uniqueness of the blood bought church of Christ (Acts 20:28) and still have plenty of folks who hearing hear not. Christ promised to build **His** church (Mat. 16:18), and not some church or a church. How can people read verses such as those just mentioned and still believe that it is great for one to attend the church of his choice? Some people are quick to say: "The church doesn't save one anyway—Christ does the saving." Does it matter if one severs the **head** from the **body**? The Scriptures declare that God gave "him [Christ] to be head over all things to the church, which is his body" (Eph. 1:22-23). Instead of attempting to defend multiple man-made churches, one should seek out the **only** body (church) that Christ has promised to save (Eph. 5:23).

The truth about worship. Is anyone listening to what the Lord has to say about worship? He says that one must worship God "in spirit and truth" (John 4:24). Worship is not something that is done to one, but something that one does. Entertainment is not worship. Drama is not worship. What someone else can do for you is not worship.

The Lord says, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven" (Mat. 7:21). He also said, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46). Most people, however, prefer the word of man to the Word of God. Those who hear but hear not will not be pleased with the sentence they receive at the Day of Judgment.

--Marvin L. Weir