

## Prayer List

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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, Jana Ward, Mary York

- Louise Bagwell's aunt passed away last week.
- Peggy Hogan (friend of Amanda Hatcher's family) will be undergoing testing this week due to a mass on her thyroid.

## The Numbers

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Attendance	Sunday, December 13	16/21/16
	Wednesday, December 16	15
Offering	Sunday, December 13	\$990.00

## Those Serving

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Prayer Before Sunday Class	Terry Hurst
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### Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & First Prayer	John Bagwell
Songs	Kevin Felker
Sermon	Brad Green
Lord's Supper	Charles Hatcher
Contribution	Tommy Sanders
Assisting	Donald Shipley
Closing Prayer	Barry Simmons

### Sunday Afternoon Worship

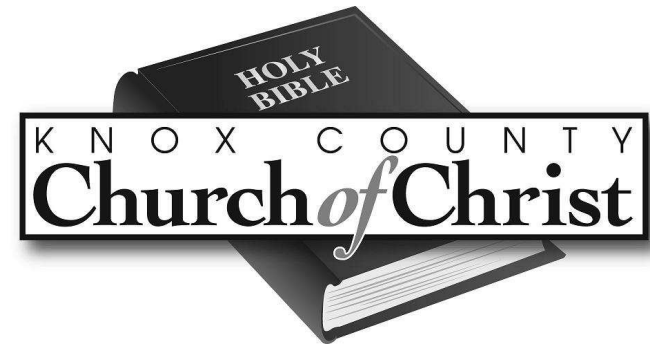
First Prayer	Tommy Sanders
Songs	Keith Keever
Sermon	Brad Green
Lord's Supper	Charles Hatcher
Closing Prayer	Terry Hurst

### Wednesday Night

Songs	Keith Keever
First Prayer	Barry Simmons
Devotional	John Bagwell
Closing Prayer	Donald Shipley

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

**December 20, 2015**



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

### Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 PM



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

### **“WANTED: CHRISTIANS WHO CAN ‘KEEP RANK’”**

*[This article by Bill Jackson appeared in the November 26, 2007 Beacon, A Publication of the Bellview Church of Christ in Pensacola, FL]*

In the book of 1 Chronicles a good portion of Scripture is given to the listing of David's mighty men. Among those listed from the various tribes were men of Zebulun and Asher, etc., men expert in war and who “could keep rank.” Here is an early reference to discipline and such discipline as would insure success in combat (1 Chr. 12:33-38). Keeping rank—keeping order—was essential, for failure to do so not only reflected upon the individual soldier's fidelity but also had an adverse effect upon others, to say nothing of providing the improper example. Ultimately, the entire army's effectiveness would be hindered. It was vital that men “keep rank.” Disorderly walking—failing to “keep rank”—hinders the church greatly today, and if we are going to face and deal with some of the problems facing us, we must close ranks and give true allegiance to the Captain of our salvation (Heb. 2:10). We need these:

(1) Elders who can “keep rank” behind the Christ, the Chief Shepherd (1 Pet. 5:4), and whose loyalty to God and the Word is such that they truly watch over the flock, faithfully using that Word to exhort and convict the man of the crooked part (Tit. 1:9). Much of the liberalism now invading the church would never have become a problem if more of our elders had “kept rank.”

(2) Preachers who will “keep rank” and recognize a loyalty to God and to the Word resulting in this charge ever before them: **“preach the word!”** (2 Tim. 4:2). We must admit

that in so many places today preachers have broken rank and no longer give that certain biblical sound—backing up their points with a “thus saith the Lord.” In stating that the Word is the basis of judgment (John 12:48) and that the Word furnishes us completely unto every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17), God has prescribed the area of work for His preachers. There is only one authoritative message. Men who value souls—their own and those of their hearers—“will keep rank,” being faithful to their Lord by faithfully proclaiming that message **only!** There will be no interest in gimmickry, sectarian ideas, and sectarian doctrine, when preachers put forth effort to keep rank!

(3) Bible class teachers who will “keep rank” in making their classes real **Bible** study classes rather than playtime! Elders are charged with feeding the flock of God (Acts 20:28), and the teachers selected for the classes must be those who expedite that feeding. Sadly, church history bears out that in several crises we have faced error came into our midst through the Bible classes. We did not have teachers who were “keeping rank.”

(4) Finally, those who are the heart and core—the backbone—of the church: the members themselves. We need men and women of all ages who will “keep rank.” Members who rally behind Him Who is the head of the church (Col. 1:18), members who will seek first the Kingdom of God and the righteousness of God (Mat. 6:33), members who will present themselves as living sacrifices before God and who will prove in their lives what is well-pleasing to Him (Rom. 12:1-2), and members who will see themselves as lights in a dark and sinful world and do their utmost to reflect the Christ (Mat. 5:16) are those who “keep

rank.” How much we need members who will “keep rank!”

Drawing again on the military background of our expression, an army either has those who “keep rank,” or it is not really an army; it is a mob! Discipline is the key. Whatever our place and our work in the kingdom, let us all do all we can in every way that we can to insure that we “keep rank” behind our Savior. Then, and only then, will we be pleasing to Him Who will one day judge us. How thankful we are for those, in this time of apostasy, who have not yet bowed the knee to Baal. Yea, bless those, Father, who “keep rank!”

*--Bill Jackson*

## **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!



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## **Welcome Visitors!**

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