

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
FEBRUARY 21, 2021

SICK/TEMPORARY: Shelly Cates had an MRI yesterday; she should know the result of her recent fall in the next few days.

Emma Farrow was hospitalized for a time after not eating. Crystal Brown, niece of Paul and Suzanne Brown, is hoping to go home soon; she is now eating full meals. Michelle Cates, Dan and Shelly's sister-in-law, was sent to the ER Thursday night with a serious bleeding ulcer. She was hospitalized but was to have gotten home yesterday.

PROTRACTED: Scooter Birmingham (friend of Destiny Clayton); Brian Brown (Paul Brown's nephew)—epilepsy; Shelly Cates—fibromyalgia; Gladys Marie Elrod (Mary Ray's son-in-law's mother)—congestive heart failure; Addliae Farrow (Tabatha Clayton's great niece)—heart; Bubba Farrow (Emma Farrow's son)—Alzheimer's; Jimmy Ferguson (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; Kaylie Hadley—UCTD; Paula Harrison—Meniere's Disease; Wanda Jackson—a-fib; Monica La Rock (granddaughter of Orelia Ferguson and mother of Noah); Garrett Lentz (son of a co-worker of Cody Hadley)—seizures; Sheila Massey—Bell's palsy; Easton McCullough (Grayson Hadley's best friend)—Bell's Palsy; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Shelby Peyton—knee; Robert Rawson (preacher at Crockett)—diabetes; Ray Reynolds (Sheila Massey and Mary West's dad)—memory trouble; Brett Rutherford (Dan Cates' friend)—MS; Tammy Turner (a preacher's wife whom we support)—dementia; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray); and Jerry Worthington (neighbor of the Hounshells)—physical and emotional difficulties.

CANCER: Clifton Angel (preacher at Coldwater)—thyroid; Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Alicia Busby (from the community); Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Brenda Davis (a grandmother of Edra and Ryan Farrow); Nathan Jones (the Hounshells' neighbors' 16 year old family member)—brain; Sara Kiestler (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; Wade Loggins (member of congregation in Elkmont, AL); Dorothy Mosher (wife of an MSOP instructor); Carol Ogelsby (family of Sonny Stewart and the Browns)—stomach; Tommy Pierce (the Browns' friend); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; Tiffany Taylor (the Browns' friend); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: Janice Bailey (home); Marie Crockett (home), Emma Farrow (in a care facility in Sardis), Orelia Ferguson (home), and Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is in a care center in Pensacola, FL).

SERVING: Dylan and Maggie Cooper (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, Hawaii). Also, please continue to pray for Kyle Embrey (Syble Embrey's grandson—policeman) and all other military [especially who are going or remain abroad] and for all those in authority that we might live "quiet and peaceable" lives (I Timothy 2:1,2).

Independence Church of Christ
8543 Highway 305
Coldwater, MS 38618

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Informer



8543 Highway 305

Coldwater, MS 38618

662-560-8045

www.independencechurchofchrist.org

Services: Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 4:45 p.m. (pew-packers), 5 p.m.
Wednesday 7:15 p.m.

Ministers: Every Christian

Elders: Dan Cates (662-560-8045)

Carl Hounshell (812-653-2358)

Evangelist: Dan Cates (662-560-8045; dsmccates@yahoo.com)

Missions [the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]

Independence Mission Fund (next: tbd)

Memphis School of Preaching

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Save Asian Souls (Providing physical and spiritual aid)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Panama) [Overseeing funds]

School of Biblical Studies (Jos, Nigeria)

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

UNSHAKEABLE FAITH IN THE IMMOVEABLE KINGDOM

Kerry Duke

In the heat of the Civil War, Moses Lard penned this “Note to the Brotherhood” to encourage Christians:

More now than ever before in this country; do even Christians need to be placed completely under the influence of Christianity. In mind and heart they are deeply and painfully agitated. Christianity alone can tranquillize and soothe them. In thought they are distracted and unsettled, and in affection alienated one from another. Truth alone can unitize, settle, and reassure them. Their zeal has cooled, their energy lost its ancient tone. Fresh, living pictures of the love of Christ, more than anything else, can rekindle the former, and vitalize the latter. Exciting political news so engrosses their attention that their views of the Gospel are in uncommon danger of becoming dim and unreliable. Nothing can so effectually prevent this as sharp, spirited discussions of the great elementary themes of Christianity. Indeed, never before did so high a necessity exist in our ranks for sound elementary preaching, and sound elementary writing as now. Let such preaching, and such writing, quick with the noble warmth of preacher and writer, be sent home to the hearts of the people, and salvation, and joy, and gladness will be the result... We cannot desert it now in this hour of trial. *No*: we must work for it with pen, work for it with tongue, work for it with prayer, work for it in hope, work for it the livelong day, and dream of it in watches of the night—work for it and never faint (*Lard's Quarterly*, September, 1863).

These same restless feelings threaten to distract us today and dampen our spirits. If we will learn from history as well as the Scriptures, we will see that the key to our faith's survival is persistence. We must hold to the things we have learned. We must let the Bible put things into perspective. We must not lose focus. This is not easy especially when we hear so much. In times of great distress we tend to be preoccupied with threats to our physical life. The church must keep teaching the grand foundational truths of the gospel. This is our only protection against something far worse—spiritual death.

If anyone understood stress it was David. It was at those low points that he doubled down in his commitment to God. “Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I” (Psa. 61:1-2). “Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities

be overpast” (Psa. 57:1). God heard these prayers then. He will hear them today. The only question is whether we will trust Him (Prov. 3:5-6).

“That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:” (Ephesians 4:14,15)

BIBLE QUESTION:

This week's question: Who could not say, “Shibboleth”?

Last week's question: Whom did Sarah judge faithful?

Last week's answer: God, Who had promised Isaac (*Hebrews 11:11*)

SERMONS: Bewrayed (*Matthew 26:73*)

“All the Counsel of God”: Contend-Defend-Fight

DAILY BIBLE READING (February 22-28):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Numbers	18-20	21-24	25-27	28-30	31-33	34-36	
						Deuteronomy	1-3

SCRIPTURE READING (FEBRUARY): Dan Cates (Judges 12:4-6)

(*MARCH*): Thomas Massey

PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER MORNING (FEBRUARY): Cody Hadley

(*MARCH*): Carl Hounshell

ASSIST LORD'S SUPPER (FEBRUARY): Ray Stanford and Mark Peyton

(*MARCH*): Paul Brown and Sonny Stewart

CLEAN BUILDING (FEBRUARY): The Hounshells

(*MARCH*): Tabatha Clayton

PREPARE COMMUNION (FEBRUARY): Kim Arrington

(*MARCH*): Shelly Cates

PANTRY NEEDS: Please see the sheet with Children's Home needs.

UPCOMING EVENTS (For particular details, check the bulletin board for flyers):

February 25

The MSOP **MOST** classes should begin. Times are 11, 2, and 6. One can watch the classes and even take part at msopmost.org. The classes had been scheduled to begin on the 11th then the 16th, but weather prevented them..

April 1

The **Tennessee Children's Home** truck will be here. A list of their needs is in the foyer.

May 23-27

MSOP Lectures (moved from March). We are asked to provide 25 cakes for Monday, May 24.

June 6-9

Gospel meeting with Brian Stewart.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are honored to have you with us today. Please take a few minutes and fill out an attendance card for us so that we can have a record of your attendance.