

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
MARCH 29 & APRIL 5, 2020

SICK/TEMPORARY: April Kinney is recovering from her recent fall.

PROTRACTED: Janice Bailey—Alzheimers; 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; Jerry Floate (of this community)—liver transplant; Kaylie Hadley—UCTD; Brook Hale (Tracy Roberts' niece)—Grave's Disease; Paula Harrison—Meniere's Disease; Wanda Jackson—a-fib; Brenda Jones—Lupus; Stan Jones—Meniere's Disease; Garrett Lentz (son of a co-worker of Cody Hadley)—seizures; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Robert Rawson (preacher at Crockett)—diabetes; Ray Reynold's (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 Madison Young—laryngomalacia.

CANCER: Clifton Angel (preacher at Coldwater)—thyroid; Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Alicia Busby (from the community); Earl Carlton (son of a friend of Syble Embrey)—esophageal; Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Brenda Davis (a grandmother of Edra and Ryan Farrow); Tom Gordon (Cody Hadley's grandfather); Nathan Jones (the Hounshell's 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); Tiffany Taylor (the Browns' friend); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

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

SERVING: Dylan and Maggie Cooper (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, Camp Lejeune, NC), Jacob Petrowski (grandson of former members here—Marines, Romania). 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)

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

Garrett Young (334-663-2509; gty021@gmail.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 (Jonathan Jenkins)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Costa Rica) [Overseeing funds]

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

ETERNAL LIFE

Bill Boyd

Man was made for eternal life. This life was his in the beginning, but when man chose sin, the life he had in Eden was taken from him and spiritually, he was dead (Gen. 2-3). The life that was lost in the garden is restored in Christ. "In him was life" John said (John 1:4), and Jesus said "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

There is a sense in which eternal life is spoken of as a future reward for "the righteous" (Matt. 25:46) that they will receive "in the world to come" (Mark 10:30), and therefore "he that soweth of the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:8). In this sense the righteous have eternal life in promise. Jesus died that "they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance" (Heb. 9:15). "This is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life" (1 John 2:25). Therefore we have eternal life in hope. Paul wrote to Titus "in hope of eternal life, which God that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2) and told him that being justified by grace we are made "heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:7).

But there is more to eternal life than eternal existence. Having been made spiritual beings in the image of God we will all exist eternally, but for some, this will be "eternal punishment" (Matt. 25:46). The eternal life Christ brings to us is not just eternal in duration, but it is also eternal in its qualities. The eternal qualities of eternal life are the qualities of the spiritual life we now have in Christ. That is why some passages speak of eternal life as a present possession. "God hath given to us eternal life," John wrote, "and this life is in his Son" (John 5:11). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life" (John 3:36). Jesus himself said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

God hath blessed us with "All spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Eph. 1:3). These spiritual blessings include the fellowship we have with God (1 John 1:3), the love of God that is shed abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5:5), the joy unspeakable and full of glory that comes by love and faith (1 Peter 1:8), the peace of God which passeth understanding (Phil. 4:7), the love of the brethren (1 John 3:14), and all the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). These blessings are eternal in nature and they constitute the eternal qualities of our spiritual life in Christ.

Someday we will physically die and leave all our temporal earthly blessings behind, but the eternal spiritual blessings we have in Christ will remain ours in eternity. This is what Jesus was speaking of when he said to Martha, "He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet

shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" (John 11:26); and, this is what Paul was writing about when he wrote in 1 Timothy 4:8, "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

"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: The Thessalonians' patient and faithful endurance of persecutions and trials was a "manifest token" of what?

Last week's question: Who asked the disciples, "Where is your faith"?

Last week's answer: Jesus (Luke 8:24,25)

SERMONS: How It All Ends (2 Thessalonians 1:4-10)

We will not meet on Sunday evenings or Wednesday nights for the foreseeable future.

DAILY BIBLE READING (March 30-April 12):

		Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
30th-5th	1 Samuel	14-16	17-20	21-24	25-28	29-31		
					2 Samuel		1-4	5-8
6th-12th	2 Samuel	9-12	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24		
						Psalms	1-3	4-6

SCRIPTURE READING (MARCH): Garrett Young (2 Thessalonians 1:4-10)

(APRIL): Dan Cates

PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER MORNING (MARCH): Dan Cates

(APRIL): Carl Hounshell

ASSIST LORD'S SUPPER (MARCH): Cody Hadley and Ray Stanford

(APRIL): Paul Brown and Sonny Stewart

CLEAN BUILDING (MARCH): Suzanne Brown and Katie Brown

(APRIL): The Hounshells

PREPARE COMMUNION (MARCH): Tabatha Clayton

(APRIL): Kim Arrington

PANTRY NEEDS: Please see the list of children's home's needs in the foyer. April 7 is pick-up.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

Gavin Arrington	April 5	Kaylie Hadley	April 6
Riley Young	April 10	Mary West	April 14
Carl Hounshell	April 20	Garrett Young	April 22

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

Today

We will **NOT** have our 5th Sunday Q&A or Potluck. Also, the **Lectureship** at MSOP has been postponed till 2021; accordingly, we will **NOT** need to have cakes.

April 7

Tennessee Children's Home truck will be here

May 2

Ladies' Day at **Southaven** with T.J. Clarke speaking on *Joy, the Gift of God*

May 3-6

Gospel meeting at Nesbit