

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
JULY 9, 2023

SYMPATHY: Syble Embrey's cousin-in-law, **Peggy Johnston**, passed away last weekend.

SICK: **Cody Hadley** continues to suffer with kidney stones. **Karen Tuttle** will have an appointment July 18th regarding hole on her heart. **Shelly Cates** is scheduled to have hip surgery in late August. **Brenda Freeman**, daughter-in-law of the **Turtles**, is around the due date for her baby. **Bill Lord**, son-in-law of the **Houses**, suffered a ruptured appendix last weekend. **Katrina McKinney**, **Mary Ray's** grandson-in-law, was to have had surgery on Wednesday. **Jaylie Rayson**, 8 year old niece of **Savion Rayson**, has a mass behind one of her eyelids.

PROTRACTED: **Kim Arrington**—elbow; **Scooter Birmingham** (friend of **Destiny Clayton**); **Brian Brown** (**Paul Brown's** nephew)—epilepsy; **Lauren Brown** (niece of **Paul Brown**)—heart; **Suzanne Brown**—arthritis; **Shelly Cates**—fibromyalgia; **Janet Daniel** (sister of **Melinda Haas**)—lupus; **Addiae Farrow** (**Tabatha Clayton's** great niece)—heart; **Ella Cobb**, granddaughter of the **Houses**—seizures; **Elizabeth Ferguson** (wife of former preacher here)—dementia; **Jimmy Ferguson** (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; **Jane Haas** (**Wesley Haas's** mother)—hip; **Melinda Haas**—Lyme's Disease; **Cody Hadley**—Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; **Kaylie Hadley**—UCTD; **Paula Harrison**—Meniere's Disease; **Lorraine Hounshell**; **Jason House**—intestine surgery on March 14th; **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; **Denae Miller** (occasional visitor)—recovering from surgeries; **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's** friend)—MS; **Francis Wallace** (friend of **Mary Ray**); **Anthony** and **Rita Stacks** (nephew-in-law and niece of **Allene Baldwin** and **Syble Embrey**)—strokes and Alzheimers, respectively; **Erica Swindoll** (the **Massey's** daughter)—high risk pregnancy; and **Jerry Worthington** (neighbor of the **Hounshells**)—physical and emotional difficulties.

CANCER: **Neil Bennett** (friend of **Dan Cates**)—thyroid; **Alicia Busby** (from the community); **Tish Clarke** (wife of the MSOP director)—melanoma; **Gary Darnell** (**Ella Darnell's** son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; **Pablo Horna** (missionary)—carcinoma; **Nathan Jones** (the **Hounshells's** neighbor's son)—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's** friend); **Ruby Reynolds** (**Sheila Massey's** mother); **John Riley** (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; **Laykan Rutherford** (cousin of **Shelly Cates**); and **Tabby Waters** (**Tabatha Clayton's** sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: **Orelia Ferguson** (home), **Annette Cates** (**Dan Cates's** mother who is in a care center in Pensacola, FL), **Lorraine Hounshell** (home), **Ruth House** (**Lawayne House's** mother who is at home), **Edward Watkins** (brother of **Shelby Peyton's** sister-in-law who is under hospice care).

SERVING: **Cameron Hadley** (**Grayson Hadley's** dad—Marines, stateside before long). 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 (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

Independence Church of Christ
8543 Highway 305
Coldwater, MS 38618

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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)
Savion Rayson (903-742-1187; savionrayson1@gmail.com)*

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

Kakinada, India [Providing Bibles and Overseeing Funds]

Memphis School of Preaching

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Tri-Cities School of Preaching (David B. Jones)

Jamie Long (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Warm Heart Missions (Roger Chambers)

Pablo Horna (Panama) [Overseeing funds]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

School of Biblical Studies (Jos, Nigeria)

Save Asian Souls (Providing physical and spiritual aid)

Other one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

Daniel F. Cates

Part XL: Matthew

"Gift of God" would well describe the One Whose life is the subject of the first New Testament book. "Gift of God" would well describe that first book itself and, really, all of Scripture. "Gift of God" would well describe the salvation accomplished by Jesus Christ and recorded in Scripture! "Gift of God" is actually a reasonable translation of the Hebrew name from which "Matthew" comes. How appropriate that one named "Gift of God" should write of God's wonderful gifts (John 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:3,4; et al) in his Gospel account! The first four books of the New Testament are each of the same sort: Gospel accounts; these are books focusing upon the coming, ministry, and sacrifice of Jesus the Messiah (cf 1 Cor. 15:1-4). "Gospel" [Greek *euangelion* (εὐαγγέλιον)] is a combination of the Greek words for "good" and "message"; sometimes, the combination is simplified to "Good News"--what a gift this Good News is!

The first Gospel account is attributed to the apostle Matthew; numerous early "Christians" (called by some, "church fathers"), like Papias and Irenaeus and Origen, are to be thanked for crediting Matthew, since Matthew is not identified as the author inside the book. Matthew, also called Levi the son of Alphaeus (compare Matthew 9:9 with Mark 2:14 and Luke 5:27), was a tax collector from Capernaum (Mat. 9:9) who became one of Jesus' apostles (Mat. 10:2-4).

It is reasonable to believe that Matthew likely wrote his account of Jesus' life from Judea in the A.D. 40s for a couple of reasons: first, why would he delay in writing such an account [the expression is "strike while the iron is hot"]; second, many of the early church writers and others have said it was the first book written in the New Testament. Bearing in mind that the first assumption and the testimony of others could be wrong; it appears that at least some time had passed since the crucifixion (Mat. 27:8; 28:15) and it is certain that Matthew was at least written before A.D. 70 which was prophetically portrayed as yet future (Mat. 24:4-35).

Each of the Gospel accounts was written for a different purpose, and the audiences largely dictated the purposes. Matthew was written to Jews who should have appreciated that Jesus was their Kinsman (Mat. 1:1-18) and their prophesied King, the Messiah (Mat. 21:4,5; 16:16). Unfortunately, they generally had failed to accept Him as such! (*To be continued next week*)

"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 signed the decree that none could ask anything of God for thirty days?

Last week's question: What messenger was prophesied in Malachi 3:1?

Last week's answer: John (Matthew 11:7,10)

SERMONS: A.M.: *God Keeps His Promises* (Titus 1:2)

P.M.: *The Beginning of Our Confidence*: Chapter 7: Tools for Study

DAILY BIBLE READING (July 10-16):

Mon. Tues. Wed. Thur. Fri. Sat. Sun.

Isaiah 10-12 13-15 16-18 19-21 22-24 25-27 28-30

READ SCRIPTURE (JULY): Gavin Arrington (1 Timothy 4:8)

(AUGUST): *Mario Arrington*

PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (JULY): Lawayne House

(AUGUST): *Dylan Cooper*

ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (JULY): Paul Brown and Wesley Haas

(AUGUST): *Sonny Stewart and Conor Cates*

CLEAN BUILDING (JULY): Melinda Haas and April Kinney

(AUGUST): *Suzanne Brown and Katie Brown*

PREPARE COMMUNION (JULY): Tabatha Clayton

(AUGUST): *Kim Arrington*

PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK THE DIRECTORY: Katie and Suzanne Brown are updating the directory, please double check that your information is correct.

PANTRY NEEDS: Canned goods.

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

This week (July 12-14)

Vacation Bible School at Nesbit on the theme *God's Tools*.

Next Sunday (July 16)

Youth Devotional after evening services.

July 22

Youth day here at Independence. Flyers are in the foyer.

July 23-27

The Crockett Church of Christ will hold their **Gospel meeting** which will have various speakers.

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. Once you have filled out a card, please hand it to one of the members., or lay it onto the pew.