

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
JULY 16, 2023

PRAYERS: The **Houses** have another court date July 24-26; let us keep them in our prayers.

SICK: **Shelly Cates** will have hip replacement surgery on Tuesday; the surgery will be outpatient. **Cody Hadley** continues to suffer with kidney stones. **Karen Tuttle** will have an appointment Tuesday regarding a hole on her heart. **Bill Lord**, son-in-law of the **Houses**, had a seizure last weekend; he has been diagnosed as epileptic. **Audrey Vick**, daughter of **Allene Baldwin**, has been experiencing health difficulties. **Vickie Wilson**, daughter of **Syble Embrey**, has been fighting a kidney stone which was to have been blasted on Friday.

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; **Addliae 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**' 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**' 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**' 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**' 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**' 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

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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

(Continued from last week) The key words of the book are "king" (used twenty times), "kingdom" (fifty-six times), and "fulfil" or "fulfilled" (used eighteen times between the two forms) which all support the purpose of the book. Another word, "verily" (Greek ἀμύην) is found thirty times in the book; it is the word from which the English *amen* has come and signifies the truthfulness or surety of a matter. The key phrases "it is written" is found nine times, again pointing to the purpose of the book; a similar expression, "have ye not/never read" is found an additional six times. The key verse of the book shows what the Jews had willingly missed; Matthew 28:18 reads, "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Numerous key passages include Matthew 1:18-25 (on Jesus' prophesied and miraculous birth); Matthew 5:2-12 (the famed "beatitudes"); Matthew 6:9-13 (the model prayer--sometimes incorrectly called "the Lord's prayer" which better applies to John 17); Matthew 11:28-30 (Jesus' invitation); and Matthew 16:21-26 (which implies the soul's true value). The key chapters of the book include Matthew 13 (Jesus' kingdom parables); Matthew 24 (contrasting the warning and events of A.D. 70 with the wholly different Second Coming); and Matthew 26-28 (containing the trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus).

The key lessons of the book are manifold; while here are a great number, many more could be included! First, Jesus is worthy to receive worship (Mat. 2:2,11; 14:33); second, Jesus did the Father's Will (Mat. 3:15; 6:10; cf. Luke 22:42) and so pleased Him (Mat. 3:17); third, God's Word should be utilized in battling temptation (Mat. 4:4,7,10); fourth, one's influence must be good and evident (Mat. 5:13-16); fifth, those acting to be seen of men will only have reward in this life (Mat. 6:1-6,16-18); sixth, ones who will not forgive will not be forgiven (Mat. 6:14,15); seventh, few will be saved (Mat. 7:13,14); eighth, those who would be blessed by God must do His Will (Mat. 7:21; 12:50); ninth, one must confess Christ, not deny Him (Mat. 10:32,33); tenth, one must replace wickedness with righteousness (Mat. 12:43-45); eleventh, spiritual family is more important than physical family (Mat. 12:47-50; cf. 10:35-37); twelfth, Jesus was greater than Moses and Elijah as was His system greater than the law and the prophets (Mat. 17:1-5); thirteenth, children are not born sinful, but innocent, and must be emulated by those who would be righteous (Mat. 18:1-6); fourteenth, God's children must always be prepared and willing to forgive (Mat. 18:21,22; 19:14); fifteenth, marriage is for life (Mat. 19:1-9); sixteenth, one must be prepared and willing to sacrifice all for Christ (Mat. 19:16-24); seventeenth, even Jesus could not save those who do not want to be saved (Mat. 23:37); and, eighteenth, no signs will precede the Second Coming (Mat. 24:36-51)--therefore, one must ever be ready (Mat. 25:1-13).

As a final note, there is some debate over whether Matthew was written in Hebrew or Greek; in reality, though, it is of no consequence, for the Holy Spirit has known both languages and it truly was He who penned this account [as, indeed, He did all of Scripture (2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Pet. 1:21)].

"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 was Barnabas' nephew?

Last week's question: Who signed the decree that none could ask anything of God for thirty days?

Last week's answer: Darius (Daniel 6:7-9)

SERMONS: A.M.: *Savion Rayson will preach this morning.*

P.M.: *The Beginning of Our Confidence: Chapter 8: Becoming Familiar with the Book*

DAILY BIBLE READING (July 17-23):

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

Isaiah 31-33 34-36 37-39 40-42 43-45 46-48 49-51

READ SCRIPTURE (JULY): Gavin Arrington (Please see Savion)

(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*

PEWS FOR YOUTH DAY: We will have many visitors this weekend; you might want to temporarily carry home any items which you normally keep on the pews.

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):

Tonight (July 16)

Youth Devotional after evening services.

July 22

Youth day here at Independence. Flyers are in the foyer. Thanks to all of those who have been working so hard and to those who have donated to make it a success!

July 23-27

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

The Southaven Church of Christ will host their **Power Lectures** on *Answering the Error*.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are honored to have you with us today!