

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

OCTOBER 27, 2024

SYMPATHY: Mary Sue Harris, longtime neighbor of Sonny Stewart, passed away this past week. Her service will be this afternoon in Tennessee. Bill Bogan, uncle of Heather Bailey, passed away this past week as well.

SICK: Shelly Cates, Henry Cook, the Houses (including Ruth House), Carson Kinney, Sheila Massey, Mary Ray, and Mary West have all been struggling with their health recently. Grayson Hadley had his visit to the allergist this past week and has an important dental appointment on Thursday.

PROTRACTED: Brandi Beavers—fibromyalgia; 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; Shelby Cooper—facing mitral valve prolapse surgery between eight months and two years from now; Janet Daniel (sister of Melinda Haas)—lupus; Martha Clayton (Tabatha Clayton's mother-in-law)—congestive heart failure; Ella Cobb, granddaughter of the Houses—seizures; Elizabeth Ferguson (wife of former preacher here)—dementia; Jimmy Ferguson (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; Melinda Haas—Lyme's Disease; Cody Hadley—Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; 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; Betty Mayes (mother of Brittany Buchanan)—aneurisms and kidney problems; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Shelby Peyton—knee; Mary Ray—dizziness; Brett Rutherford (Dan Cates' friend)—MS; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray); Anthony Stacks (nephew-in-law of Allene Baldwin and Syble Embrey)—strokes and Alzheimers, respectively; and Jerry Worthington (neighbor of the Hounshells)—physical and emotional difficulties.

CANCER: Alicia Busby (from the community); Roger Chambers (dear friend of the congregation)—lung; Tish Clarke (wife of the MSOP director)—melanoma; Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Pablo Horna (missionary)—carcinoma; David Jones (Shelly Cates' father)—leukemia; 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; Priscilla Patterson (mother of a friend of Dan Cates)—breast; Tommy Pierce (the Browns' friend); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; Laykan Rutherford (cousin of Shelly Cates); Sonny Stewart—bladder; and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: Orelia Ferguson (home), Ruth House (Lawayne House's mother who is at home), Ray and Ruth Reynolds (under hospice care; these are the parents of Sheila Massey and Mary West) and Karen Tuttle's two uncles who are both in hospice care in Indiana.

SERVING: Cameron Hadley (Marines), now stationed locally; and Jason House (Marines). 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

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)

Chris Cook (318-558-0458; christophercook308@gmail.com)

Tony Solaita (808-208-3814; tsolaita39@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 (Chris Cook)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

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

Jason Moore (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

GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCH, Part 5

Daniel F. Cates

(Continued from last week) **The Standard of the Church**

There is no need to have anything other than the Bible. It is that which contains "all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3). It is that by which men may be approved unto God (2 Timothy 2:15). It is that which is to be preached by the faithful evangelist (2 Timothy 4:2). It is that by which man will be judged (John 12:48). This does not mean that we cannot be educated and edified by the works of man, but it does mean that we can have as an **authority** in religion anything other than God's Word. Inasmuch as other works are in accord with His Word, they may be profitable; however, when they begin to take the place of His Word, they must be rejected!

The Elders of the Church

Here is where the writer wishes to focus his efforts: In an understanding of who and what elders are. What are they called? What makes them worthy of the eldership? What do they do?

Elders are referred to in the Bible in various ways. They are bishops (Titus 1:7), or superintendents. They are elders (Titus 1:5; 1 Peter 5:1), by reason of age. They are overseers (Acts 20:28). **They** are pastors (Ephesians 4:11; Acts 20:28), or shepherds. They are presbyters (1 Timothy 4:14).

What are their qualifications? They must be sound in doctrine (Titus 1:9) and able to answer attacks against the Truth (Titus 1:9). They must be vigilant (1 Timothy 3:2) or watchful, and must be able to teach or instructive (1 Timothy 3:2). They must be above reproach or blame (Titus 1:6; 1 Timothy 3:2). They must be sober, grave, self-controlled (Titus 1:8; 1 Timothy 3:2). Elders must, with reference to justice, be just (Titus 1:8). Like all Christians, they must be holy, righteous, of good behavior (Titus 1:8; 1 Timothy 3:2). As ones who are called to rule, they must be temperate or patient (Titus 1:8; 1 Timothy 3:3). Before they can rule the Lord's house, they must have shown that they rule well their own homes (1 Timothy 3:4). They are to be married to one wife (Titus 1:6; 1 Timothy 3:2)--which, if nothing else did, would prohibit women' serving in the role. Their children are to be faithful, obedient ones (Titus 1:6; 1 Timothy 3:4). They are to love hospitality (Titus 1:8; 1 Timothy 3:2) and good men (Titus 1:8). They must be, and will if they truly meet these requirements, respected by non-Christians (1 Timothy 3:7). *(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: Whom did the scribes say would come before the Messiah?

Last week's question: Who were Joseph's sons?

Last week's answer: Manasseh and Ephraim (Genesis 46:20)

SERMONS: A.M.: "*Tell Me the Story of Jesus,*" Part 17: "Hear Ye Him" (Matthew 17:1-13)

P.M.: *As in a Foreign Land,* Part 3: Genesis

DAILY BIBLE READING (October 28-November 3):

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

Luke 1-3 4-6 7-9 10-13 14-17 18-21 22-24

READ SCRIPTURE (OCTOBER): Cody Hadley (Matthew 17:4,5)

(NOVEMBER): Tony Solaita

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

(NOVEMBER): Dylan Cooper

ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (OCTOBER): Mario Arrington and Carson Kinney

(NOVEMBER): Gavin Arrington and Conor Cates

CLEAN BUILDING (OCTOBER): Tabatha Clayton

(NOVEMBER): Melinda Haas and April Kinney

PREPARE COMMUNION (OCTOBER): Suzanne Brown and Katie Brown

(NOVEMBER): Maggie Cooper, Shelby Cooper, and Reese Kinney

UPCOMING SUNDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE:

October 27 Dan Cates **November 3** Chris Cook

November 10 Tony Solaita **November 17** Carson Kinney

UPCOMING SUNDAY NIGHT AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT SINGING ROTATION:

Sun: **October 27** Dylan Cooper **November 3** Cameron Hadley

Wed: **October 30** Tony Solaita **November 6** Keegan Arrington

PANTRY NEEDS: Canned goods.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Shelly Cates November 9 Tabatha Clayton November 11

Mario Arrington November 23 Karen Tuttle November 23

Mark Peyton November 25

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Today

Trunk or Treat after the evening service.

Saturday (November 2)

Singing Night at *Looxahoma* at 6:00 P.M.

WELCOME VISITORS!