

THOSE TO SERVE December 29, 2019

Worship Leader: Tim Spain
 Lord's Supper: Jff Nicks, Jerry Ross, Virgil Griffin, Mike McCage, Tyler Kendall, Frank Roberson, Carter Milam
 Scripture Reading: Jamie Clark
 Closing Prayer: Keith Connor
 Power Point: Tim Spain
 Greeters (side): Jeff & Sissy Nicks
 (back): Greg & Renee Ferguson

DAILY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

December 22 Hebrews 11-13
 December 23 2 Timothy 1-4
 December 24 2 Peter 1-3; Jude
 December 25 1 John 1-5
 December 26 2 John; 3 John
 December 27 Revelation 1-5
 December 28 Revelation 6-11

YOUNG ADULT CLASS

A "young"adult class will be led on Sunday morning by Landen McCage. It will be in the coffee room next to the nursery. All are welcome to participate.

CHRISTMAS IN KUWAIT

In case you didn't see it on Facebook...Our friend Theresa Bumpus, who has been away working overseas with infrequent visits home, is celebrating Christmas with a nativity scene that may just be the only one to ever grace the country of KUWAIT. ➔



SETTING GOALS

No doubt you have been encouraged to set goals. We call them New Year's Resolutions when we turn the annual calendar to a new year. Sometimes we call the objectives. Modern terminology uses the terms metrics and deliverables.

Goal setting is a worthwhile thing to do. A sense of accomplishment is experienced and enjoyed when goals are achieved. When we deliver the objectives we determine are important, we call it success.

There is, however, something that is either forgotten or unrecognized. What we acquire in achieving of our goals in many instances is not as important as what we become in the process.

As Christians we have the goal of reaching heaven. That is certainly a worthy goal. However, what the Bible calls sanctification is essential to reaching our objective. Sanctification is the process of becoming like Jesus which Scripture teaches is God's goal for us. (cf. Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18)

Yes, we need to keep our eyes on the prize. But keep in mind the words of Earle Nightingale, "We are at our very best, and we are happiest, when we are fully engaged in work we enjoy on the journey toward the goal we've established for ourselves. It gives meaning to our time off and comfort to our sleep. It makes everything else in life so wonderful, so worthwhile."

In short, as we travel along the narrow way to our ultimate goal, take time to enjoy the trip. That will make the journey a much more pleasant journey. *- Ron*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25
 We will not have services on Christmas day, which falls on Wednesday this year.

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------|------------------------------|------------------|
| December 22, 2019 | 1:00 pm | Chimes for Charity — sorting | Troy Bus Garage |
| December 23, 2019 | 1:00 pm | Chimes for Charity – packing | Troy Bus Garage |
| March 6-7, 2020 | | Women of Hope Weekend | Murfreesboro |
| June 20-26, 2020 | | Youth Mission Trip | City of Children |



P.O. Box 216
Troy, TN 38260
Church: 536-4611
Ron (cell): 731-796-5752



THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK
Sunday, December 22, 2019

Worship Leader: Tim Spain
Lord's Supper: Jimmy Smith
Scripture Reading: Tyler Bolton
Sermon: Ron Newberry
Closing Prayer: Jeff Nicks
Elder Available After Worship: Greg Ferguson
Children's Church: none



◆ Attended Nursery: Nancy Spain
Nursery Next Week: Christy Henson
Greeters (side): Jim & Susan Robertson
(back): Jerry & Tammy Ross

PRAYER LIST

OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Mary Johnson, Vernelle Sellers, Vallie Burden, Anita Nicks, Aaron Tittle.

◆ **OUR COMMUNITY:** Yates Graham, Scott Albright, Hudson Hayes, Debbie Jordan, Mary Heppler, Debbie Bowling, Evelyn Williams, Carl Ivey, Michelle Cook (Brian Clark's boss), Shawn Weaks, Jean McCullough

OUR RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Erica Albritton, Alan Jones, William Gardner, Hazel Williams, Terry Grady, Louis Woods (cousin of Aaron Tittle), Adam & Jennifer Cooley, Katie Harris, Clinton Battles, Jason Elliott; Kimberly & Giovanni Rodriguez, Tresa Mudd (Autumn Garrigus's mom), Dwight Baggett, Philis Wilkinson (Amy Hawkins' mom), Bob Yates, Thomas Aker, Brenda Green

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY: Jay Thomas, Thomas Booker, Chris Mays, Rebecca Gooch, Claire Lloyd, Brady Moore, Dakota McCord, Matt Hester, Clayton Fowler, Brady Moore, Chris Floyd, Eb McCage

◆ **MISSIONS WE SUPPORT:** Baja California, City of Children, China, Guyana, Zambia.

TROY Church of CHRIST

FAMILY NEWS

December 22, 2019



We are rapidly coming to the close of 2019. If you haven't already, you will soon be contemplating events that will transpire in 2020. If your calendar is like mine, there are already a number of things assigned to dates in the coming year – regular doctor and dentist appointments, birthdays, vacations, anniversaries, etc. There will be many more events to be scheduled as the year goes by and some things on the calendar now will have to be canceled or rescheduled.

Before we think too far into the future, it would be wise to reflect on the past year. How did 2019 go for you? No doubt some negative things arose that were totally unexpected – illness, surgery, financial shortfalls, etc. And there were some surprises that were positive – you got a promotion or raise, you had a child or grandchild, a member of your family became a Christian, etc.

If you reflect long enough, you likely will recall some things you did that you were not proud of. You said some things that you wish you could take back. You did something that you would like to do over. You created unnecessary hostility with a friend. You misjudged another's motives. You misunderstood and held a grudge.

The good news is when you think things are broken beyond repair, ill conceived and hopeless, poorly constructed you are not helpless nor hopeless. There is a carpenter I know who can take your busted project and turn it into something special.

Bob Russell, retired pastor of the Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY, recalled that when he was 11 or 12, he wanted to build his brother John a toy wheelbarrow for Christmas. He got some old broom handles, a wheel off a wagon, and some old wood. Bob said he put together the most awful looking contraption you can imagine.

One week before Christmas, Bob's grandpa came to visit. The older man was a carpenter, and he asked his grandson if he could take a look at the wheelbarrow and help him make it better.

Remembering the story years later, Bob says his grandfather didn't laugh at his work, and wasn't critical. He simply said, "Let's see what we can do...."

At that point, the carpenter took apart the shoddy childish work, cut the boards to uniform length, added some pieces, sanded it down, added an axle, and then helped his grandson paint the gift. When it was finished, it was a first-rate wheelbarrow.

"I gave it to my brother on Christmas Day," said Bob, "and the first thing my brother said was, 'There's no way YOU made this!'"

Isn't that a lot like what we do with our lives? Sure, we do the best we can, but eventually, all we've got is a mess. But when the Master Carpenter begins to work in us, something amazing happens. We're so transformed, people who know us well might say, "There's no way YOU did that on your own!"

Turning everything we have – including and especially ourselves – over to Jesus is the wisest thing we can ever do at the end of this year and the beginning of the next. Turning over our possessions, our future, our families, our talents, our dreams, our desires, our personalities ... and especially ... all those broken-down wheelbarrows filled with sin that we've been pushing around for years is the smartest thing we will ever do. Then listen for people to say, "No way YOU did that!" And they would be right!

Jenny and I wish for you the best Christmas ever. We appreciate all your love and support this and every year we've been at Troy. Praise God for all we have done together with the help of the Master Carpenter.
- Ron

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:30 am — Bible Study
10:30 am — Worship
6:00 pm — Small Group Discussions

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

6:30 pm — Bible Study

Worship Service Dec. 22, 2019

Welcome

997 "O Come All Ye Faithful"
995 "It Came upon a Midnight Clear"
1028 "O Holy Night"

Shepherd's Prayer

"O Come O Come Emmanuel"

Communion

Contribution

1003 "Silent Night"

Christmas Story

5107 "In Christ Alone"

Family News

1012 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Closing Prayer

