

## Those to Serve

### Wednesday Evening, September 25, 2024

Announcements .....Jon Kennedy  
 Lead Singing .....Gary Byers  
 First Prayer .....Teddy Bodiford  
 Read Scripture.....Jack Gill  
 Dismissal Prayer.....Will Durham

### Sunday Morning, September 29, 2024

Announcements .....Jon Kennedy  
 Lead Singing .....Gary Byers  
 First Prayer.....Chuck Risener  
 Read Scripture .....Hunter Sheehan  
 Preside at Table .....Ben Hall  
 Serve Congregation .....  
 Serve Congregation .....  
 Serve Congregation .....  
 Dismissal Prayer .....Phil Webster  
 Nursery Attendant .....Lasha Hobbs

### Sunday Evening, September 29, 2024

Announcements .....Jon Kennedy  
 Lead Singing .....Youth Boys  
 First Prayer .....Boys  
 Read Scripture .....Boys  
 Preside at Table .....Ben Hall  
 Dismissal Prayer .....Boys

### “Key Men” for September

Sunday AM (Open).....Hunter Sheehan  
 Sunday AM (Close) .....Brad Leslie  
 Sunday PM (Open).....Bryan Porterfield  
 Sunday PM (Close).....Ronny Cornelius  
 Wednesday PM (Open).....Abe Jeter  
 Wednesday PM (Close).....Danny Lucas

## Coming Events

Theo church of Christ will have their Homecoming on October 6 with Brad Dillingham preaching. Rogers Springs church of Christ will have their annual Homecoming October 6 beginning at 10 am. The **9th Annual World Evangelism Seminar** hosted by the Memphis School Of Preaching at the Forest Hill congregation will be October 11-12. Check the foyer board for more information. Remember to visit our website: [middletoncoc.org](http://middletoncoc.org) where you can also view our weekly bulletin.

### Family Matters

**Gerald Mills** is home and doing some better but could still use our prayers.

### Community Matters

Keep Colbey Childress, Mildred Bates, Lisa Dukes, Joann James, Jerry/Sylvia Childers, Rhonda Carver, Ann Pierce, Foy Norwood, Billy Sue Bradford, Carolyn Hendricks, Tristan Braswell, John Neely, Jeff Kennemore in your prayers.

### Prayer List

April McKelvey, Royce Jones, David/Edith Craft, Annie Riggs, Lynn Donaldson, Bill Craft, Gerald/Gail Mills, Marge Yopp, Jan Webster, Don McAlpin, Jim Maxwell, Donna Shepherd, Elaine Capshaw, David Pulse.

*Remember our service men & women in your prayers.  
 Remember all our missionaries in your prayers.*

### Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Sunday, Sep.29.....Numbers 1-2  
 Monday, Sep. 30.....1 Chron. 28-29  
 Tuesday, Oct. 1 .....2 Kings 19-21  
 Wednesday, Oct. 2 .....Isaiah 1-5  
 Thursday, Oct. 3.....Amos 1-4  
 Friday, Oct. 4 .....John 1-2  
 Saturday, Oct. 5.....Hebrews 11-13

## Shut-ins

David Craft, Room 111, Christian Care Center, 10160 US-64, Bolivar, TN 38008.  
 Paige Gillon, 45 Southwest Lane, Middleton, TN 38052.  
 Benny Thornton, 310 CR 125, Walnut, MS 38683.

### What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Word of God- Romans 10:17.
2. Believe the Word of God- Mark 16:16.
3. Repent of sins- Acts 17:30-31.
4. Confess Christ- Romans 10:9-10.
5. Be Baptized to wash away sins - Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:20-21; Mark 16:16.
6. Be Faithful unto death- Rev. 2:10.

### JEFF’S JOTTINGS

**October 6** will be our monthly Singing Night and Fellowship Meal to honor our October Birthdays & Anniversaries.

We have received the list from **PineVale Children’s Home**. The items this year are laundry pods (no liquids), bottles of juices (bottles not juice boxes) and microwave popcorn. If you want to give money to Bobo & Pat they will buy in bulk. Pick up is the week of Oct 21st.

**Monday’s For The Master** meets again October 7. We meet at 6:45 pm in the annex and we will have coffee and donuts. At 7pm we will make our visits. If you know of anyone needing a visit let Gilbert or Jeff know.

**The Ladies Class** meets each Tuesday in the annex at 10 am. All ladies are invited!

**Our Question & Answer Box** is on the wall in the foyer. Please put your questions in any time and we will answer them on the fourth

## Fall Lectureship Series

2024

**Theme: “Soldiers Of Christ”**

**September 4- Recruiting Faithful Soldiers (Joey Barkley)**

**September 11- Basic Training For Battle (Brian Jackson)**

**September 18- The Soldiers Equipment (Jake Schotter)**

**September 25- The Enemy: Satan (Darrin Stapleton)**

**October 2- The Commander In Chief: Jesus Christ (Donnie DeBord)**

*All services are on Wednesday’s at 7pm.  
 Everyone is Invited!*

*“You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier,”  
**2 Timothy 2:3-4.***

*“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places,”  
**Ephesians 6:10-12.***

## **Guide, Guard and Direct Our Paths**

It is remarkable how often we use the same phrases as we pray. There is nothing wrong with repetition, as long as it is not vain repetition (Matt. 6:7).

Over the years I have heard others pray that the preacher might “have a happy recollection of the things he has studied.”

I heard it for years but was unable to know what a happy recollection was. I sometimes wondered if the person praying those words knew what he was saying.

Another phrase I heard as a youth (it often preceded the words about asking all this in the name of Jesus) was that God would “guide, guard and direct our paths.”

It is very possible that those who said these words thought God would whisper in their ears or give them “holy hunches” about whether to turn left or right at the next intersection.

We do need to rely on God to direct our paths but not in the way many think. One passage which helped me to understand how God “guides, guards and directs us” is found in the book of Proverbs.

It appears that Solomon literally has his children in mind as he writes this book. The phrase “my son” is found 21 times in this book. It is found 15 times in the first seven chapters. The wise king is trying to impart wisdom to his son.

In chapter six, he tells his son to remember his father’s commandments and his mother’s law. He uses the words “lead” and “keep to” in the way many once prayed using the words “guide, guard and direct.” “When you roam, they will lead you; when you sleep, they will keep you... for the commandment is a lamp and the law a light” (Prov. 6:22-23).

Think of how these words about listening to the father apply to us listening to our Father. We ask our Father to guide, guard and direct us, and His commandments become a lamp and a law to direct our paths.

Now note one other admonition Solomon gave his son regarding his teachings. “Bind them continually upon your heart; tie them around your neck.” The father’s words can never guide, guard and direct the son if the son does not remember. Wherever the son went, he took his father’s words with him to lead him in the right way.

Isn’t this a beautiful picture of how God can guide us and lead us in the paths of righteousness. “The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple...the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes” (Psa. 19:7-8). So, as you ask God to help you walk close to Him, realize that when we bind His words on our hearts and tie them around our neck these very words become a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Letting Him guide, guard and direct demands Bible study.

*-Dan Jenkins*