

Those to Serve

Wednesday Evening, August 5, 2026

Announcements	Rickey Tigner
Lead Singing	Colin Middleton
First Prayer	Jack Gill
Read Scripture.....	Jack Daniel
Dismissal Prayer.....	Sawyer Tigner

Sunday Morning, August 9, 2026

Announcements.....	Rickey Tigner
Lead Singing.....	Colin Middleton
First Prayer.....	Eddie Carter
Read Scripture.....	Jackie Cox
Preside at Table	Gary Gill
Serve Congregation.....	
Serve Congregation.....	
Serve Congregation.....	
Serve Congregation.....	
Dismissal Prayer.....	Rickey Tigner
Nursery Attendant.....	Angela Scott

Sunday Evening, August 9, 2026

Announcements.....	Rickey Tigner
Lead Singing.....	Colin Middleton
First Prayer.....	Dick Shelton
Read Scripture.....	Jack Gill
Preside at Table	Gary Gill
Dismissal Prayer.....	Tyson Hobbs

“Key Men” for August

Sunday AM (Open).....	Brad Leslie
Sunday AM (Close)	Clint Scott
Sunday PM (Open).....	Craig Harris
Sunday PM (Close)	Ben Hall
Wednesday PM (Open)	Don McAlpin
Wednesday PM (Close).....	Jim Maxwell

Coming Events

The Ripley, MS church of Christ will host a **Ladies Day** this Saturday, August 8. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Remember to visit our website: middletoncoc.org where you can also view our weekly bulletin.

Family Matters

We extend our sympathy to Elizabeth Kirk in the passing of her sister, Helen Coffman. Her funeral is this Friday, August 7 at Shackelford Middleton.
Linda McAlpin is still in Cornerstone Rehab & Healthcare Center, room B10, but hopes to be home this week.

Community Matters

Keep Stephen Thompson, Rhonda Carver, JoAnn James, Brenda Smalley, Bill Barkley, Maven Vaughn, Ralph Donaldson, Bonna Munn, Bonnie Callahan, Karl Warren in your prayers.

Prayer List

Betsy Lucas, Kathy Pulse, Gail Mills, Elaine Capshaw, Melinda Russell, Donna Shepherd, Joyce Shelby, Jan Webster, Mica Shelly, Bill Craft, Jerry McCord, Cathy Black, Jim Maxwell, Jeff Scott, Betty & Paige Gillon.

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

For The Record

Mid-Week Bible Study.....	81
Sunday School.....	90
Sunday Morning Worship.....	137
Sunday Evening Worship.....	92

Prayerfully consider your part in the above record

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Sunday, August 9.....	Jeremiah 7-9
Monday, August 10.....	Jeremiah 10-12
Tuesday, August 11.....	Jeremiah 13-15
Wednesday, August 12.....	Jeremiah 16-18
Thursday, August 13	Jeremiah 19-22
Friday, August 14.....	Jeremiah 23-25
Saturday, August 15.....	Jeremiah 26-27

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.

The **children’s Bible Classes** have started a new curriculum. We would love to see all our young people here for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes!

The **Pew Packers class** meets each Sunday evening at 5:45 pm. This is for children ages newborn through sixth grade.

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

Pantry Item Of The Week: beef stew. You can bring other items whenever you like.

Remember to put your Bible questions in our **Question & Answer Box** in the lobby or you can put in any **sermon ideas** you may have!

“Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many,” Mark 10:43-45.

Are You a Religious Person or a Christian?

Sincerity may make a person religious. Having a good moral character may make a person religious. Going to church may make a person religious. However, alone these traits are not sufficient to make a one a Christian; they are lacking something.

First, the Bible teaches that sincerity is not enough (Matt. 7:21). Second, the Bible teaches that even a good man might lack something, like Cornelius (Acts 10). Also, Jesus rebuked the lukewarm church of La-odecia (Rev. 3:14) for their indifference, which would be their downfall. Just being religious does not make a person a Christian. Only the Gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to make a Christian (Rom. 1:16).

Today, we see many people who seem religious, but if we examine closely, there are identifying marks of a Christian that will be evident. The scriptures teach we must be obedient unto Christ (Heb. 5:8,9), we must obey the truth (1 Pet. 1:22), we must obey the Gospel (2 Thes. 1:7-9), and we must be faithful even unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Obedying the Gospel, the truth, and Jesus, according to Scriptures, means that we must believe that Jesus is the Christ (John 8:24), we must be willing to confess our faith in Christ (Matt. 10:32,33; Rom. 10:10), we must be willing to make a change of life, which is seen in repentance (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30),

and we must then be willing to be baptized (immersed) in water for the remission of our sins (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21). At this point, the person is saved by the power of the Gospel, the blood of Christ washes away the sin and the Lord adds those to His church (Acts 2:47).

In the Scriptures, we see several different responses of people who heard the Gospel preached. In Acts 7, Stephen preached the Gospel of Christ and they stoned him to death, because they were angered at what was preached. Likely, Stephen thought what the apostle Paul would later write, “Am I become your enemy because I tell you the truth” (Gal. 4:16). In Luke 18:18-28, we find a man who had it all and had kept the Old Law faithfully, yet he lacked something. Christ told him what he should do, but he went away sad. In Acts 2, the apostle Peter preached the Gospel of Christ with a multitude of people present, they were pricked in their hearts and asked “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Realizing they were lost, they were glad to hear this Gospel and the offering of salvation.

How will you respond to the Gospel? Will those who preach the truth become your enemy or your best friend? The difference in a religious person and a Christian is in obedience to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Become a Christian today by obedience to His Gospel.

-Wayne Rogers

“Devised in His Own Heart”

Jeroboam was a devious and divisive character in the Old Testament, perhaps best known for dividing the nation of Israel and becoming the first king of the northern kingdom. Among his first acts as king were major changes that he made to the worship of the Lord.

Go and read about these in 1 Kings 12:25- 33.

These changes came about when “Jeroboam said in his heart...” (12:26). The verses that follow detail changes that HE made to the object, location, time, manner and leaders of the worship. All of these changes were enacted as he “devised in his own heart” (12:33).

As you read these nine verses, it is hard not to ask the question, “Who gave him the right to make such changes to the worship?” The answer is that no one gave him such a right. He just did what “his heart” desired, and it was an abomination unto God.

What does that tell us about our worship today? We have no right to change what God has prescribed! Let us truly “worship in spirit and truth” (John 4:24).