

	MORNING	EVENING
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Sam Houston	Sam Houston
SONG LEADER	Scott Colvin	Scott Colvin
SPEAKER	Danny Rader	Danny Rader
OPENING PRAYER	Shane Smith	George Hackworth
CLOSING PRAYER	Brent Seale	Bobby Dalton
LORD'S SUPPER (Preside)	James Allison	James Allison
(Serve)	Randy Smith	Randy Smith
	Joe Stovall	
	Johnny Holman	
	Johnny Smith	

Those who are to serve, please meet in the office ten minutes prior to worship.

**MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS**

PREPARE COMMUNION	Susan & Ashlin Cobb
FELLOWSHIP DINNER	Food Group 3
CLOSE BUILDING	Dan Cobb
LORD'S SUPPER TO SHUT-INS	Group 1
GREETER TEAM	Becky McCoy & Dot McDonald
ELDER TO CONTACT	James Seale 256-912-2016

Four women got into a terrible argument. After much yelling, screaming, and pulling of hair, one of them called out, "I'm on my way to the sheriff's office to report you."  
 The other three wanted to get there first. The result was that all four rushed into the sheriff's office, each trying to be first to relate her complaints. Charges and counter charges filled the air.  
 Finally the sheriff called for order. When quiet had been restored, he showed the wisdom of Solomon when he announced, "All right, ladies, I'll hear one at a time. The oldest can speak first."  
 Case closed!

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A

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# Bridgeport

Church of Christ

SERVICE TIMES

[www.bridgeportcoc.org](http://www.bridgeportcoc.org)

256-495-2407

Sunday School 10:00 am Sunday Evening 6:00 pm  
 Sunday Worship 11:00 am Wednesday 7:00 pm

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MINISTERS Danny Rader 495-9578 John O'Neal 495-3010

## Daddy, Can I Come Home?

Several years ago, I met a life-long friend walking down the road. We stopped for a couple moments and exchanged greetings. I asked her how she and her husband were doing (they had married three months earlier). Her response startled me. She said, "Steve, we're not together any more. I wasn't happy, so I called my dad and asked him if I could come home, so that's where I'm living now."

Compare this account with the following account of a young woman who had only been married for a few short months. Sobbing, this newlywed phoned her father and said, "Daddy, I'm not happy. Can I come home?" to which her wise father responded, "Honey. You know I love you, but you are home."

The father in the second scenario wisely understood what many people don't understand today: In marriage, there is a "leaving" of father and mother and a "cleaving" to one's own spouse (Matt. 19:5).

True love doesn't aid and abet a person in escaping responsibility, but rather stands beside them and supports them in facing and overcoming difficulties.

Lord, give us more fathers with such wisdom and may the rest of us heed their wise counsel!

~Steve Higginbotham  
 ~Bulletin Digest

**ELDERS**

James Allison

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James Seale

256-912-2016

Randy Smith

256-495-3655

**DEACONS**

Dan Cobb

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Kevin Foshee

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Johnny Holman

423-309-1492

Sam Houston

256-495-9530

Clayton Seale

256-608-8209

Shane Smith

256-703-1012

Charlie

Summers

256-495-3411

# An Inside-Out Transformation

Christians are being transformed into Christ's likeness (2 Cor. 3:18). God is trying to press His people into a Christ-shaped mold. But this transformation isn't an easy process, partly because the world is trying to press us into its own mold. In order to be transformed into the image of Christ we must resist being conformed to this world. Paul writes, "[D]o not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect" (Rom. 12:2, NASB).

How is this transformation possible? Where does this transformation begin? This transformation is possible only if it begins in the heart. Paul says that we are transformed by the renewal of our minds. This transformation is an inside-out transformation. Too often we focus on changing our actions, instead of our attitudes. That's exactly what many of the Pharisees did. They were overly concerned with externals while their hearts were deteriorating. Since they focused solely on external righteousness to the neglect of their hearts, they became like cups that are clean on the outside but filthy inside. They were like pretty caskets full of dead people's bones. They looked good on the outside, but their hearts were hollow (Matt. 23:25-28).

When Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi, he realized that their problems with regard to unity were merely symptoms of a deeper problem. Paul addresses the real problem when he offers the following solution to them: "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 2:5, NKJV). Transformation begins

in the mind and then extends to our mannerisms. It begins in the heart and then extends to our habits. It begins in our attitudes and then extends to our actions.

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## THE STORMS OF LIFE

At some point in life most of us face many types of health, financial, family or other serious problem. Recently, it seems that "storm clouds" have encircled many due to lost jobs, poor health and the economic situation in our country. It would be quite easy to begin counting our problems instead of our blessings.

Life is precious. It was given each of us by God. He understands that we face difficulties in this short sojourn on earth. Yet, trials and sufferings are a part of life itself, brought on by the sin in the world since Adam and Eve.

Tragedies may come, jobs may be lost, diseases may rack our bodies, or business losses may cause financial disasters. There may be times when we feel we are all alone and overcome by life's difficulties. God did not promise to take away our troubles. But, He did promise that the Lord would never leave nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5). When trials surround us, He offers comfort and hope through His Word (Romans 15:4). He gives us peace through Christ (John 16:4; Philippians 4:7). If we are in Christ then nothing can separate us from God's love (Romans 8:35-39).

When the storms of life comes our way, let us call to mind the words of the apostle Peter, "casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

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Owingsville, KY

# ON THE HOME FRONT

## SHUT-IN PRAYER LIST

Cookie Walker—at home  
Beth Headrick—at home  
Mary Smith—Cumberland Rehab

## CANCER PATIENTS

Arthur "Cookie" Walker, Karen Tittle, Deborah Smith, Kim Cromer, Charlotte Bolen, Marilyn Tant, Pamela Wheeler, Dana Edwards, David Poe, Randall York, Wayne Guess, Kenneth Condra and Ray Guess.

## SICK LIST

Fred Wayne Matthews—to see the doctor on 10/25 concerning his heart  
Dustin Davis—infection in his bones  
Tater Phillips—weak after chemo  
Sonny Inglis—doing well after surgery  
Sherwood Whitcher—being transferred to Huntsville Hospital, pneumonia  
Jean Davis—Vanderbilt Hospital  
Sonny Smith—heart surgery

## NEWS AND NOTES

~PLEASE PICK UP YOUR DISHES!!!  
~There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for all who plan to attend CYC this year.  
~Two more inmates were baptized at Pikeville Correctional Complex.  
~The next Bible Devotional will be on Nov. 3rd at Randy and Kathy's home. The study will be on 2 Samuel.

FEED YOUR FAITH, AND  
YOUR DOUBTS WILL  
STARVE TO DEATH!

## BAPTISM

On Thursday, October 19th, Jackson Davis was baptized into Christ. Please keep Jackson in your prayers.

## The Facial Anatomy of a Soul Winner

I was thinking the other day about all the sayings I used to hear concerning parts of our heads that were meant to keep us alert and going in life. We have all heard them from time to time in our lives: from parents, teachers, and coaches. But I was also thinking of how they can apply to our trying to reach others with the message of Christ. Note, for example:

Keep your thinking cap on.  
Keep your eyes on the ball.  
Keep your ears open.  
Keep your nose to the grindstone.  
Keep a stiff upper lip.  
Keep on smiling.  
Keep your chin up.

In other words, we need to keep thinking of ways to reach people, keep focused on the goal, keep listening for opportunities, keep after it, keep courageous, keep optimistic, and keep staying proud of who we are as a Christian. It is only then that we will be able to face others with the message of hope and influence others toward Christ. Christian, what does your face look like?

~Bulletin Digest