

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
DECEMBER 27, 2020

SICK/TEMPORARY: Shelly Cates will have her epidural block on Wednesday. Marie Crockett is recovering from a recent fall. Sonny Stewart will have his second cataract surgery tomorrow. Crystal Brown, niece of Paul and Suzanne Brown, has had to have five surgeries over the past ten days or so due to flesh-eating bacteria; she has been in ICU at Methodist Germantown.

PROTRACTED: Janice Bailey—Alzheimers; Scooter Birmingham (friend of Destiny Clayton); Brian Brown (Paul Brown's nephew)—epilepsy; Shelly Cates—fibromyalgia; Gladys Marie Elrod (Mary Ray's son-in-law's mother)—congestive heart failure; Addliae Farrow (Tabatha Clayton's great niece)—heart; Bubba Farrow (Emma Farrow's son)—Alzheimer's; Jimmy Ferguson (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; 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; Sheila Massey—Bell's palsy; Easton McCullough (Grayson Hadley's best friend)—Bell's Palsy; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Shelby Peyton—knee; Robert Rawson (preacher at Crockett)—diabetes; Ray Reynold's (Sheila Massey and Mary West's dad)—memory trouble; Brett Rutherford (Dan Cates' friend)—MS; Tammy Turner (a preacher's wife whom we support)—dementia; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray).

CANCER: Clifton Angel (preacher at Coldwater)—thyroid; Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Alicia Busby (from the community); Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Brenda Davis (a grandmother of Edra and Ryan Farrow); Tom Gordon (Cody Hadley's grandfather); Nathan Jones (the Hounshells' neighbors' 16 year old family member)—brain; 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; Tommy Pierce (the Browns' friend); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; Tiffany Taylor (the Browns' friend); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: Marie Crockett (home), Emma Farrow (in a care facility in Sardis), Orelia Ferguson (home), and Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is at home in Pensacola, FL).

SERVING: Dylan and Maggie Cooper (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, Hawaii), Jacob Petrowski (grandson of former members here—Marines, soon to be let out). 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 (I 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)

Evangelist: Dan Cates (662-560-8045; dsmccates@yahoo.com)

Missions [the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]

Independence Mission Fund (next: tbd)

Memphis School of Preaching (Jonathan Jenkins)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Panama) [Overseeing funds]

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

THE ADVANTAGES OF CONTENTMENT

Tyler King

Now, more than any other time of the year, there is a great temptation to “want.” This is the time of the year that companies capitalize on the holidays by way of snazzy commercials, year-end deals, and specials that only Santa Claus could endorse. By looking at the greatest and latest, we fall into a state of discontentment, and pursue the desires of the world.

If there’s anyone who could work on being more content, it’s me. I have a very difficult time passing by great deals. I am easy prey for big-time companies, and I’d be willing to bet there are others who struggle with this as well. Paul would encourage the young preacher about the blessing and advantage of contentment. Maybe Paul knew, as a minister, you won’t have the most luxurious life; yet that doesn’t mean you can’t have a blessed life. Here are some advantages of being content:

You will have less temptation (1 Timothy 6:9) Where does the pursuit of monetary possessions stop? It seems like every month there is some new great product that we can’t picture living life without. Being content won’t make you immune to temptation, but being discontent will certainly open the door for temptation.

You are more likely to avoid self-destruction (1 Timothy 6:9) By being content with your current possessions, you can allow yourself to focus on more important matters. Paul encouraged Timothy constantly to focus on the spiritual, rather than the physical (cf. 1Tim. 4:8).

You will be more focused on God (1 Timothy 6:10) Paul uses strong vocabulary in 6:10. He starts by saying the *love* of money is the root of all kinds of evils. The basic meaning of that “love” is one that carries with it the idea of “befriending.” Sometimes we place money on such a pedestal that we’d do anything for it. We become its slave, rather than subjecting it to our power. Paul also notes how we can fall victim to “craving” or “desiring” money, to the point we wander from the faith. By not being so caught up in what we don’t have, we thank God for what we do have.

You will find a more joyous pursuit (1 Timothy 6:11) The pursuit of money is not the pursuit of happiness. Ultimately, money is just a numerical value that dictates various opportunities in life. It’s not salvation, it’s not a ticket to eternal life, and it’s not always guaranteed in this life. It can let us down, drive us to despair, and leave us abandoned. As a substitute, Paul suggests that Timothy pursues (a) righteousness, (b) godliness, (c) faith, (d) love, (e) steadfastness, and (f) gentleness. These things will help you grasp eternal life with a much tighter grip.

So what’s the solution to discontentment? I’m a firm believer in giving what we’ve

been blessed with. By helping others who are in a financial bind, we can receive joy. While we can purchase things in the store or online that provide momentary enjoyment, it is not to be compared with the joy that comes from knowing we played a vital role in someone’s life.

Money itself is not evil, but the “love” of it can lead us down a dark journey we never intended on traveling. It’s not a sin to have nice things in this life, but we should certainly be mindful of how many treasures we are storing up in the life to come (Matthew 6:19).

“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: Who said, “Silver and gold have I none”?

Last week’s question: Emmaus was "about threescore furlongs" from what town?

Last week’s answer: Jerusalem (*Luke 24:13*)

SERMONS: “Silver and Gold” (*1 Peter 1:18*)

"All the Counsel of God": The Church

DAILY BIBLE READING (December 28-January 3):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Revelation	10-12	13-15	16-18	19-22			
Genesis					1,2	3-5	6-9

SCRIPTURE READING (DECEMBER): Cody Hadley (Hebrews 4:14-16)

(*JANUARY*): Carl Hounshell

PRESIDE LORD’S SUPPER MORNING (DECEMBER): Thomas Massey

(*JANUARY*): Dan Cates

ASSIST LORD’S SUPPER (DECEMBER): Ray Stanford and Mark Peyton

(*JANUARY*): Conor Cates and Cody Hadley

CLEAN BUILDING (DECEMBER): The Masseys

(*JANUARY*): Suzanne and Katie Brown

PREPARE COMMUNION (DECEMBER): Kaylie Hadley

(*JANUARY*): Tabatha Clayton

PANTRY NEEDS: Imperishables.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Syble Embrey	January 4	Levi Howell	January 9
Shelby Peyton	January 20	Karter Shamblin	January 30

UPCOMING EVENTS (For particular details, check the bulletin board for flyers):

June 6-9, 2021

Gospel meeting with Brian Stewart.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are honored to have you with us today. Please take a few minutes and fill out an attendance card for us so that we can have a record of your attendance. Once you have filled out a card, please hand it to one of the members, or lay it onto the pew.