

White Oak Weekly Word

Volume 1, Issue 26

First Century Christianity for the 21st Century

September 26, 2021



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ASSEMBLY TIMES:

SUNDAY:

Bible Study: 9:30 A. M.
Worship: 10:30 A. M.
& 1:30 P. M.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Study: 7:00 P. M.

MINISTER: Rick Owens

SONG LEADERS:

Carl Puryear, Joe Weir,
Zach Rauchle, and
Jeff Weaver

Come study the word of God with us.

Call for an appointment for a
personal Bible study.



Due to multiple Covid-19 illnesses and exposures within the congregation at present, a decision has been made to cancel worship services at White Oak this Sunday only. Any further service cancellations will be announced on a week-to-week basis dependent upon current conditions. We hope to be worshipping together again very soon.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Rick Owens

Luke recorded, *“the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” (Acts 2:47)*. To which church was Luke referring? As we study the scripture, it becomes clear there is only one church spoken of in the New Testament; the one Jesus said He would build. He declared that intention after the good confession made by Peter, *“And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Mt. 16:16-18)*.

However, the word “church” is used in two senses in the Bible. There is the universal church, which consists of all those who have obeyed the gospel plan of salvation. Then there are local churches or congregations of believers who work together in a location to fulfill the Lord’s commands.

First, the universal church is the church Jesus promised to build (Mt. 16:13-19) and had many names by which it was called. It was simply called the church (Acts 8:1), the church of God (Acts 20:28), the church of the living God (1 Tim. 3:15), the church of the firstborn (Heb. 12:23), the churches of the saints (1 Cor. 14:33), the churches of Christ (Rom. 16:16), and the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23, Col. 1:18). Membership into the one church comes with great privileges. Those who have been added to the Lord’s church are saved (Eph. 5:23), and enjoy spiritual blessings only found in Christ (Eph. 1:3). However, not only does the church offer great privileges, it also requires great responsibility. Members of the church of Christ are obligated to remain faithful and loyal to Christ, the Head of the church (Jn. 15:1-8; Eph. 1:19-23). In addition, we are to carry out the duties with which God has blessed us (Eph. 4:15-16), we must be willing to assist the church in the areas where our

talents lie (Rom. 12:4-8), and we are obligated to love the brethren in every place of the world (1 Pet. 2:17).

One becomes a member of the universal church by being added to it by God (Acts 2:47). That happens through the process of studying the Gospel, understanding what God has instructed the hearer to do, and allowing faith to manifest itself in the life of the believer (Rom. 10:17). That faith will cause one to have the desire to repent of past sins and dedicate himself to Christ (Acts 2:38), he will make the good confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Acts 8:37), then he will be immersed in water for the forgiveness of sins (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16).

The second sense in which the word “church” is used in the New Testament is the local congregation of the Lord’s people, and in his writings, Paul named several local congregations. He spoke of the church of the Laodiceans (Col. 4:16), the church of the Thessalonians (1 Thess. 1:1), the churches of the Gentiles (Rom. 16:4), the churches of Galatia (1 Cor. 16:1), the churches of Macedonia (2 Cor. 8:1), the churches of Judaea (Gal. 1:22), and the seven churches in Asia (1 Cor. 16:9; cf. Rev. 1-3). Are we to assume Paul was talking about different and distinct churches? Of course not, he was talking about the different congregations of the Lord’s church throughout the world.

In His wisdom, God understood the work of the church had to be carried out in every part of the world, and that could only happen when smaller groups of people in the areas they lived came together to form local congregations. Notice the privileges associated with the membership we have with the local congregation. We rely upon each other as spiritual family members (Mk. 10:28-30; 1 Tim. 5:1-2), we gain strength from the more mature Christians of the congregation (Rom. 15:1; Gal. 6:1), we receive mutual comfort from those of like precious faith (2 Cor. 1:3-5), and we benefit from the prayers of our brethren (Js. 5:14-16).

Just as there are responsibilities associated with membership of the universal church, there are obligations which must be fulfilled in the local congregation. We are to bear one another’s burdens (Gal. 6:2), we are to exhort each other (Heb. 3:12-14), we are to assemble together for corporate worship (Acts 20:7; Heb. 10:23-25), we are to care for each other (1 Thess. 5:11-15), and we are to withdraw from those who walk disorderly (2 Thess. 3:6-15).

One question which needs to be asked is, “Is it necessary to ‘place membership’ with a local congregation?” If one is to fulfill his obligations to Jesus, there is no other way to do it than by committing himself to a local group of Christians. Also, it is not possible to be in subjection to those who have the “rule over” us if we have not placed our membership with an individual congregation (Heb. 13:7). Authority in the church does not extend past the local level, and in order to submit, we must be members of a local congregation. The leadership of the local congregation is tasked with watching over the souls of the local members (Heb. 13:7), and that is not possible unless there are members attached to that location.

If we are going to labor successfully, we must do it at the local level under the oversight of faithful elders, or men when elders have not been appointed. There is only one church of the New Testament, but there are many local congregations of the Lord’s people throughout the world, and if we desire to grow the church, it must be done at the local level. The hard work and dedication required to grow the church is only available when each Christian places his or her membership with a local congregation, and then engages wholeheartedly in the work there.



COATS FOR KIDS COLLECTION!

White Oak is collecting coats for children at both Red Bank and East Brainerd Elementary Schools through mid-October. Boy’s and girl’s coats, both new and gently used, will be accepted in sizes from 5 to 14. If you would prefer to give a donation, please see Sandra Henderson or Mary Ruth Payne.

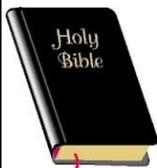
REMEMBER IN PRAYER!

- ◆ Mary Cay Blue, who is recovering from foot surgery and was able to be at services Sunday morning
- ◆ Waymon Brown, who is recovering from a mild heart attack and now has Covid-19
- ◆ Wade Jackson, who is currently at Life Care of Red Bank, but will be going home soon
- ◆ Jewell McAdams, who is recovering from surgery to remove a kidney
- ◆ Allie Weaver, who is recovering from a torn ligament in her foot/ankle
- ◆ Blaiklyn Owens, Holly Shull, and Betty Weaver who have all tested positive for Covid-19
- ◆ White Oak members Jane & Sam Coffelt, Jimmie Dockery, Mary Goldston, Barbara Kilgore, and June Sims who all have ongoing health issues
- ◆ White Oak's shut-ins: Shirley Crownover, Barbara Northcut, Judy Parker, and Marion Randolph
- ◆ Barbara Barclay, sister of Nellie Haithcock, who is having serious health issues
- ◆ Sue Beeler, aunt of Nicole Owens, who is under hospice care
- ◆ Glenda Blair, former White Oak member, who is being treated for A-fib by a cardiologist
- ◆ Family of Patrick Cagle, former White Oak member, who passed away on Sept. 19th
- ◆ Freeman Cooper, former White Oak member, who is now receiving treatments for cancer
- ◆ Brooks Dalton, child of friends of Andrea Weaver and Julie Wood, who has cystic fibrosis
- ◆ Emma Davenport, great-granddaughter of Joe Weir, who has scleroderma
- ◆ Carol Dodd, good friend of Cindy Haynes, who is receiving treatments for cancer
- ◆ Micheal Douglas, Sr., husband of Ruby Douglas, who has ongoing health issues, but is not doing well at this time
- ◆ Judy Jackson, friend of Jeff Weaver, who is receiving treatments for cancer
- ◆ Duane Lee, friend of Waymon Brown, who has ongoing health issues
- ◆ Clinton Miller, father of Cindy Haynes, who is being monitored for an aortic aneurysm and low kidney function, and has been treated for anemia with iron and cauterization of some abdominal blood vessels
- ◆ Donald Orr, father of Teresa Weaver (Betty Weaver's sister-in-law), who is critically ill at this time and in need of prayers
- ◆ Foster Owens, former White Oak member, who is in Memorial Hospital being treated for several health issues
- ◆ Krista Owens, daughter of former White Oak members Foster & Ann Owens, who is suffering from chronic severe anemia
- ◆ Hudson Pickett, great nephew of Carl Puryear, who has ongoing health issues
- ◆ Kevin Plemons, grandson of the late J. C. Watkins, who is receiving treatments for cancer
- ◆ Judy Poe, sister of Martin Roberson, who is in Life Care of Collegedale and not doing well
- ◆ Mystye Schoenekase, friend of Julie Weaver, who is recovering at home from a double brain aneurysm
- ◆ Jerry Shepard, son-in-law of Barbara Northcut, who is receiving treatments for cancer
- ◆ Essie Tinker, grandmother of Andrea Weaver, who is having serious heart health issues
- ◆ Paul Weaver, son of Betty Weaver and brother of Julie Wood and Jeff Weaver, who is having health issues
- ◆ Also remember Delores Barrett, Joyce Goodwin, Bill Greer, Roy Headrick, Walter Hillis, Sharee Watkins, Mason Weaver, those serving in the military, and faithful missionaries the world over



Daily Bible Reading Schedule

- Sept. 1: Ezk. 17-19
- Sept. 2: Ezk. 20-21
- Sept. 3: Ezk. 22-23
- Sept. 4: Ezk. 24-26
- Sept. 5: Ezk. 27-28
- Sept. 6: Ezk. 29-31
- Sept. 7: Ezk. 32-33
- Sept. 8: Ezk. 34-36
- Sept. 9: Ezk. 37-38
- Sept. 10: Ezk. 39-40
- Sept. 11: Ezk. 41-43
- Sept. 12: Ezk. 44-45
- Sept. 13: Ezk. 46-48
- Sept. 14: Dan. 1-2
- Sept. 15: Dan. 3-4
- Sept. 16: Dan. 5-6
- Sept. 17: Dan. 7-8
- Sept. 18: Dan. 9-10
- Sept. 19: Dan. 11-12
- Sept. 20: Hosea 1-7
- Sept. 21: Hosea 8-14
- Sept. 22: Joel 1-3
- Sept. 23: Amos 1-5
- Sept. 24: Amos 6-9
Obadiah
- Sept. 25: Jonah 1-4
Micah 1-2
- Sept. 26: Micah 3-7
- Sept. 27: Nahum/Hab.
- Sept. 28: Zeph./Hag.
- Sept. 29: Zech. 1-6
- Sept. 30: Zech. 7-10



DID YOU KNOW ?



The digital bulletin is available via email or online at the White Oak website:

www.whiteoakchurchofchrist.org

HEAR SERMONS ONLINE

White Oak sermons are available online at:

<https://wococ.sermon.net>

also, at I-tunes:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/white-oak-church-of-christ/id413729334>

and on a link from our website.

Sermon CDs are available upon request.

GOSPEL MEDIA

—INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL HOUR—

Sunday, 8:30 P. M.; M-F, 7:15 P. M.
103.3 WLMR FM, Chattanooga, TN
www.internationalgospelhour.com

—PROGRAMS TO WATCH—

The Gospel of Christ

Sunday, 7:00 A. M., WTVC, Ch. 9.2,
Fox (Comcast 11 & EPB 7)

Fabric of Family

Sunday, 7:00 A. M., WFLI-TV, Ch. 53
(Comcast & EPB 6)

Good News Today

Sunday, 7:30 A. M., WFLI-TV, Ch. 53
(Comcast & EPB 6)



and on
GBN—EPB Ch. 152:
various times

Also, on the web at www.gnttv.org

In Search of the Lord's Way

Sunday, 8:00 A. M., WDEF Ch. 12
(Comcast 13 & EPB 12)

The Everlasting Gospel

Sunday, 11:00 A. M., MyNetwork TV,
WFLI-DT2 53.2, Chattanooga, TN
(Comcast 226, EPB 8, Charter 2)
Friday, 11:30 P. M., The CW Network,
Ch. 53.1, Chattanooga, TN
(Comcast 6 & EPB 6)

International Gospel Hour

Tuesday and Saturday, 6:30 P. M.
GBN—EPB Ch. 152

Counterpoint

with Mike Hixson and B. J. Clarke
Tuesday, 7:00 P. M.
CTN, Cleveland, TN
(Comcast 210)

Arise to Truth

www.arisetotruth.com and airs live
Tuesdays & Thursdays at 2:00 P. M.



Preaching the Gospel

GBN—EPB Ch. 152:
various times



Sunday, September 19, 2021:

A. M. Bible Class 25
A. M. Worship 34
P. M. Worship 19

Assignments

SEPTEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

If you are unable to serve, please call Jeff Weaver at 423-838-1032.

NO SERVICES THIS SUNDAY!

Leading Prayer for Wed., Sept. 29th:

First Prayer: Jeff Weaver
Closing Prayer: Ron Payne

Announcements: Ron Payne

Lord's Table South Side:

Jeff Weaver

Lord's Table North Side:

Charles Knight

Lord's Table, Sunday P. M. Service:

Jeff Weaver and Charles Knight



On The Calendar!

Aug. 23—Nov. 16: Chattanooga School of Preaching and Biblical Studies at Green's Lake Rd. in Chattanooga and Union Grove in Cleveland; see flyer on the bulletin board for class schedule.

Oct. 10-14: Gospel Meeting at Lafayette, GA with Aaron Pope; see flyer on the bulletin board for times of services.

Oct. 23rd: Ladies' Day at Union Grove in Cleveland, TN with Sheila Butt, 9:00 A. M.—12:00 P. M. with lunch to follow.

Nov. 6th: 19th Annual Lectureship at Dayton, TN, with Cliff Goodwin, Phil Sanders, and Alan Highers, 9:00 A. M.—12:30 P. M. with lunch to follow.