

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING

December 18, 2016

WELCOME: Darren Dent
SONG LEADER: Don Barnett
OPENING PRAYER: Gene Blair
LORD'S TABLE: Spencer Cromwell
Kevin Blair
ASSIST: Mike Brewer
Jackie Horton
Brandon Beck
Pete Hines
CLOSING PRAYER: Rod Wilson
GREETERS: Tim & Laura Blake
Michael & Susan Cole
CARDS: Nick DeValle
Austin Gilbow
VISITOR GIFT/ Edie Singleton
HOSTESSES: Annie Blair
SCRIPTURE READER: Zac Gordey
Psalm 84:10-12

SUNDAY EVENING

December 18, 2016

SONG LEADER: Don Barnett
OPENING PRAYER: Michael Gilbow
LORD'S TABLE: Eli Leonard
Matthew Dent
CLOSING PRAYER: Tom Barkley

WEDNESDAY EVENING

December 21, 2016

SONG LEADER: Kevin Lovell
OPENING PRAYER: Gary Bradford
DEVOTIONAL: Glen Elliott
CLOSING PRAYER: Wyatt Brewer

****Please contact Mike Wolff
if you are unable to serve.***

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

BIBLE CLASS 9:30 a.m.
WORSHIP 10:30 a.m.
EVENING 5:00 p.m.
LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

BIBLE CLASS 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY:

LADIES BIBLE CLASS 10:00 a.m.

Elders:

Gene Blair 501-499-5868 Darren Dent 501-581-3052
Gary Bradford 501-626-3232 Rod Wilson 501-328-7888

Deacons:

Kevin Barley 501-472-4852 Mike Brewer 501-472-7692
(ushers) (youth)
Michael Cole 815-622-1874 Jarrod DeValle 501-470-8710
(benevolence, pantry) (education & teachers)

Michael Gilbow 501-208-2909
(nursing home, fellowship room set up)

Mike Wolff 501-472-8912
(building & grounds)

Ministers:

Glen Elliott 501-314-9999
Spencer Cromwell 731-438-1206

GREENBRIER CHURCH OF CHRIST

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December 18, 2016

PROTECTORS OR PROCLAIMERS?

Very familiar to us is Paul's affirmation of the power of the gospel. He expressed his ardent desire to preach the gospel to those who were at Rome, explaining, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Rm. 1:16). James agrees, saying that, when the implanted word is humbly received, it has the power to save souls (Jas. 1:21). We believe this intellectually but, sometimes, our willingness to allow God to work through His powerful word is hindered by our desire to protect others from the force of the gospel.

Influenced as we are by the overly tolerant and non-judgmental philosophies of the world, we are driven to protect those in religious error from being exposed to the convicting power of the truth. God's word "is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Hb. 4:12). While we must "preach the truth in love" (Eph. 4:15), there is no Bible precedent for withholding truth for the sake of avoiding personal offense? When we shield people from the penetrating power of God's word, we are walking on dangerous ground. Who are we to withhold the soul-saving power of the gospel when it is within our power to enlighten souls? There is great value in teaching the gospel in a logical, orderly fashion. Some matters are better approached after laying a proper foundation. But this is part of the teaching process—a process which includes difficult moments of self-reflection and conviction of wrong-doing. No one is converted to Christ without risking personal offense. Driven by a spirit that seeks first not to offend, we may soon find ourselves preaching a message void of the power to save sinners.

The lost are best served by those who simply trust in God's power to save. We are planters and waterers; but God is the One who causes the growth (1 Cor. 3:6-7). In the Parable of the Seed, Jesus says, "The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil; and he goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts and grows—how, he himself does not know" (Mk. 4:26-29). We do not know how the seed grows. Therefore, it is not our place to protect people from the truth but to preach the gospel and allow God to give the increase. Otherwise, we may find ourselves doing very little preaching and a whole lot of protecting. It is only by preaching and teaching the gospel that souls be given opportunity to accept or reject the salvation which is available in Christ Jesus.

--Glen Elliott--

THURSDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE CLASS

*Please join our class
Thursday, January 5th
at 10am. We will
begin a new book*

A Glimpse Into God's Heart.
*Also, after our first class of the
new year we will go out to eat.
We hope you will make a
commitment to join
our class this year!*



VISITOR BAGS

for December 25th

Linda Harness & Donna Allensworth

OUR RECORD DECEMBER 11, 2016

SUNDAY CLASS:	134
SUNDAY WORSHIP:	187
SUNDAY PM:	194
WEDNESDAY (14th):	140
BUDGET:	\$5,400
OFFERING:	\$5,175
YTD average:	\$5,633
YTD ahead/behind:	\$11,658

NEWS & NOTES

PRAYER REQUESTS

*Becky Gossett's knee surgery went well and she is home. Please also pray for Bob and Becky's son, Scott. He was burned on Wednesday and was taken to Children's Hospital.

*Glen Elliott's heart ablation procedure went well last week. Keep him in your prayers as he recovers.

*Prayers are requested for a coworker of Tiffany Hillman - Matt. He lost his mother in a car accident recently.

*Continue to keep Vic Byrd; Eric McNulty's friend, Steve; Gina Ratliff's mom, Betty; Doni McInturff; Robin Linn's dad, Michael; Susan Ward; and Gaylon Lewallen in your prayers.

**The last Sunday of the month is next
Sunday, the 25th. Remember we
will have our regular morning service
with a 1pm afternoon service -
no 5pm service.**

BIRTHDAYS		
Nick DeValle	12/18	
Jonathan Rawls	12/19	
Phillip Short	12/20	
Ryeland Lovell	12/23	
Amy Drewry	12/24	
ANNIVERSARYS		
Merrell & Patsy Story	12/22	
Larry & Susan Ward	12/23	

THANK YOU NOTES

*Please go by the bulletin board
to see thank you notes from
Ratis Yeager & Steven Ashcraft*

Widows/Single Women's Luncheon

in the home of Linda Harness

December 31st at 1pm

Please see signup sheet
on the bulletin board



REMOVING ROAD BLOCKS

ACTS 13:47

YOUTH OUTREACH UNIVERSITY

January 13th - 15th

* **Teens** sign up in class (cost \$25)
* **Members** we need help housing
teens from Mountain Home church of
Christ. Please see the bulletin board
if you can help!!

FOOD COMMITTEE for December

Please contact

Gina Ratliff or Dana Short
581-1948 472-4740



"I Simply Remember my Favorite Things" -

Julie Andrews had it right you know. When the going got tough and things were scary, when the dog bites and the bee stings and the storms of life rolled in...

"I simply remember my favorite things, and then I don't feel so bad..."

Gratitude is a little bit like that. It's an intentional decision to recognize and acknowledge the blessings in our life - big and small - and giving thanks and worship to God.

Paul puts it this way in Philippians 4:6-7 **"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."**

Thankfulness and prayer, gratitude and faith in God, brings peace because we're not looking at the storm around us but at the One who can calm the storm. Gratitude and faith brings peace because we are intentionally acknowledging in our minds and hearts and emotions that God is exactly who He says He is and that He is able to deliver and overcome.

Intentional gratefulness keeps our eyes looking up at our Father - the giver of all good things, the one who cares for us, the one who loves us and demonstrates His love in so many ways. As Christians we have so many reasons to be thankful. We have been saved, rescued, redeemed, called, chosen, forgiven, loved. God's love is lavish and everlasting. We will spend eternity in His presence. We have access to the most Holy Place, the throne room of God because of Jesus. He knows how many hairs we have on our head and has a plan and a purpose for our lives. "When I remember my favorite things... then I don't feel so bad!". - Spencer Cromwell