

## PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

### SUNDAY MORNING

December 24, 2017

WELCOME: Rod Wilson  
SONG LEADER: Don Barnett  
OPENING PRAYER: Kevin Lovell  
LORD'S TABLE: Mike Wolff  
Nathan Woody  
ASSIST: Marty Leonard  
Tim Blake  
Nathan Lovell  
Jerry Garrett  
CLOSING PRAYER: Valdy Eichmann  
GREETERS: Rick & Kathy Camp  
Aubrey & Donna Allensworth  
CARDS: Benjamin Thomason  
Tate Stacks  
VISITOR GIFT/ Beverly Woody  
HOSTESSES: Cindy Wilson  
SCRIPTURE READER: Eli Leonard  
Psalm 18:1-3

### SUNDAY EVENING

December 24, 2017

SONG LEADER: Kevin Lovell  
OPENING PRAYER: Tom Dryden  
LORD'S TABLE: Randy Gordey  
Zac Gordey  
CLOSING PRAYER: Brian Drewry

### WEDNESDAY EVENING

December 27, 2017

SONG LEADER: Jared Mahan  
OPENING PRAYER: Greg Bradford  
DEVOTIONAL: Mike Brewer  
CLOSING PRAYER: Gene Blair

***\*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:

Mike Brewer 501-472-7692  
(youth, devos for Wednesday & nursing home)

Michael Cole 815-622-1874  
(benevolence/pantry, technology)

Jarrod DeValle 501-470-8710  
(education & teachers)

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

#### Ministers:

Glen Elliott 501-314-9999

## **GREENBRIER CHURCH OF CHRIST**

12 Wilson Farm Rd.  
Greenbrier, AR 72058

# *Greenbrier church of Christ*

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## THE JOY OF GIVING

Though often extolled as the most joyous season of all, this time of year leaves many feeling sadly depressed. For some, it is because of the inevitable let down after festivities wind to a close and guests pack up and drive away. For others, the season is accompanied by remembrances of loved ones with whom we have parted company. In spite of this, there are good things about this season which should be carried with us throughout the year.

First, we should be reminded of the fact that the deeper, more abiding joy is in giving rather than receiving. This is indicated by our Lord when He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). A selfish, spoiled-brat attitude is not conducive to living a happy, productive life. As children of God, we have the unique privilege of viewing all things in their most positive light. As the beloved apostle reminds us, "all things work together for good" for "those who love God" and are "called according to His purpose" (Rm. 8:28). This important piece of information enables us to "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, [and] give thanks in all circumstances..." (1 Th. 5:18).

The reason we can "Rejoice in the Lord always" (Ph. 4:4) is because of an altered state of mind. Instead of growing into a state of discontent because of the things we do not have in our possession; we decide, instead, to focus on the many things we have received from the Giver of every good and perfect gift (Jas. 1:17; Acts 13:17; Mt. 5:45). Aside from such temporal blessings, there are innumerable spiritual blessings found in Christ Jesus our Lord (Eph. 1:3). Even when things do not appear to be going our way and anxious thoughts arise in our hearts, we can turn it over to Him because He cares for us (1 Pet. 5:7). In the midst of darkening shadows, Paul tells us to "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God" (Ph. 4:6). The subsequent result of incomprehensible peace is a blessing the world can neither give nor take from us (Jn. 14:27).

Such being the case, the focus of our thinking and the predominant pattern of our life should be on giving rather than receiving. St. Francis of Assisi is attributed to having said, "It is in giving that we receive." This takes us full circle to what the Lord Himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). A heart changed forever by the gift of Calvary (Jn. 3:16) ought always to be looking for opportunities to give. Like the first-century Macedonians, we should long for the blessing of participating in the support of those in need (2 Cor. 8:1-4). How can one explain such unselfish joy in the midst of abject poverty? The Scripture explains that "they first gave themselves to the Lord" (vs. 5). In the act of giving, we open ourselves to wonderful, unending possibilities for joy and fulfillment in this life and in the age to come.

--Glen Elliott--

## CARE GROUPS:

Care Group 2 (Dent) -  
Saturday, December 30th in the  
Leonard's home- see signup sheet

## LADIES CLASS

Thursday morning ladies  
Bible class begins a new  
study on January 4th.  
Hope to see you then!

This side of eternity we  
see only a fraction  
of the picture

### OUR RECORD

DECEMBER 17, 2017

SUNDAY CLASS:	123
SUNDAY WORSHIP:	160
SUNDAY PM:	79
WEDNESDAY (20th):	102
BUDGET:	\$5,400
OFFERING:	\$4,821
YTD average:	\$5,277
YTD ahead/behind:	-\$6,249

# NEWS & NOTES

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- \*Jim Burkett had bladder surgery on Thursday.
- \*Kevin Barley will have neck surgery on December 26th.
- \*Remember Jim Sutterfield, Verple Baker, Charles Reynolds, and Joe Dillard in your prayers.
- \*Continue to keep Jason Elliott; Ratis Yeager; Herb Tatum's sister, Colleen Byrd; Junior Adams; Peggy Braden's daughter, Terri Massa; Mike Wolff's mother, Doris; Laura Blake's mother, Barbara McManus; and Terri Shoemaker in your prayers.
- \*Remember Jeanne Haithcote who is in the Greenbrier Nursing Home.

## BIRTHDAYS

Amy Drewry	12/24
Mary Tubbs	12/27
Claire Drewry	12/28
Heather Mahan	12/28
Bea Eichmann	12/29
Floyma Sutterfield	12/29
Emma Leonard	12/30

## ANNIVERSARYS


Glen & Colleen Elliott	12/30
Richard & Burnadean Murray	12/30

## REMEMBER:

On December 24th and 31st we will  
have regular morning services with  
a 1pm service each Sunday -  
no potluck either Sunday

There will be NO bulletin  
next week

## WEDDING



We are all invited  
to the wedding of  
Linda Harness  
&  
Ron McInturff  
January 13th  
at 2pm at our building with a reception  
to follow - no gifts please

## Youth Outreach University

January 12-14th

at Robinson & Center  
Church of Christ  
Cost is \$25  
Theme: Love Out Loud

Bring on  
the  
NEW YEAR!

New Year's Eve party with  
games and finger foods  
beginning at 6:30 in the  
fellowship room. Also, we  
will have a reestablish  
house warming party for  
Tonya Force at this time

## Ladies Preparing Communion Trays

December 24th - Dona Dixon  
December 31st - Linda Drewry/  
Cyndi Moore  
January 7th - Jennifer Dunn  
January 14th - Bea Eichmann

## VISITOR BAGS

for December 31st  
Kathey Peterson & Kathy Camp

## FOOD COMMITTEE for December

Please contact:  
Gina Ratliff 581-1948  
Dana Short 472-4740