

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING

September 27, 2020

WELCOME: Gene Blair
SONG LEADER: Jeff Jones
OPENING PRAYER: Gene Blair
LORD'S TABLE: Robert Hayes

ASSIST:

CLOSING PRAYER: Matthew Dent
GREETERS: **no greeters at this time**
CARDS: no card pickup at this time
VISITOR GIFT/ **no visitors**
HOSTESSES: **bags at this time**
SCRIPTURE READER:
NURSING HOME: no services

SUNDAY EVENING

September 27, 2020

SONG LEADER:
OPENING PRAYER:
LORD'S TABLE:

CLOSING PRAYER:

WEDNESDAY EVENING

September 30, 2020

SONG LEADER:
OPENING PRAYER:
DEVOTIONAL:
CLOSING PRAYER:

***Please contact Gene Blair,
if you are unable to serve.**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

BIBLE CLASS (cancelled) 9:30 a.m.
WORSHIP (in person & online) 10:30 a.m.
EVENING (online only) 5:00 p.m.
LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

BIBLE STUDY (online only) 7:00 p.m.

1st & 3rd TUESDAYS:

SENIORS MINISTRY CLASS 10:30 a.m.
**cancelled until further notice*

THURSDAY:

LADIES BIBLE CLASS 10:00 a.m.
**cancelled until further notice*

2nd Thursday of each month:

PANTRY OPEN from noon - 1:30 p.m.

Minister:

Glen Elliott 501-314-9999

Church Office:

501-679-3647

GREENBRIER CHURCH OF CHRIST

12 Wilson Farm Road
Greenbrier, AR 72058

Greenbrier Bulletin

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September 27, 2020

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EXPIRATION DATE

In a place where “first come—first serve” is a frequently-overlooked principle, I discovered cans of soup, vegetables, and other assorted items which had long since passed their expiration dates. These were cans continually pushed to the rear by new arrivals. They looked perfectly normal, except for that expiration date stamped on the bottom. I wondered out loud if they might still be of use, but was quickly corrected of that misguided notion.

Few things are as common place or as tragic as missed opportunities. Visions of expiration dates come to mind as we hear Paul say, “So then while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith” (Gal. 6:10). “While we have opportunity” suggests that today’s opportunities may no longer be available tomorrow. Opportunities have expiration dates. Jesus said, “We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work” (Jn. 9:4).

Doors once open to the gospel can suddenly slam shut, leaving us alone with our feelings of regret. On the other hand, taking advantage of the opportunities God provides produces great rejoicing. Upon returning to Antioch following their first missionary journey, Paul and Barnabas reported all the “things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles” (Acts 14:27).

Paul’s life was marked by his earnest desire to take advantage of opportunities placed before him through the providence of God. Even in the midst of conflict, Paul wrote to the church at Corinth explaining his decision to remain in Ephesus. He said, “a wide door for effective service has opened to me...” (1 Cor. 16:9). When we feel shut in and isolated because of restrictions placed upon us because of the pandemic, we should consider the fact that, when Paul wrote the Colossian brethren from a Roman prison, His primary concern was not for his physical or emotional well-being but that his brethren should pray that God would “open up...a door for the word...” (Col. 4:3).

According to Solomon, the whole of life is to “fear God and keep His commandments” (Eccl. 12:13). In many respects, life is one gigantic opportunity to fulfill that purpose. Like sojourners, we are marching along life’s path either taking advantage of opportunities or shoving them to the back until they are no longer viable. As a commendation from the Lord, “Well done” is an expression that will never grace our ears if good intentions are not followed by effective service.

(con’t inside)

Prayer Requests

- *Debbie Freeman is home recovering from surgery.
- *Jim Burkett had an additional surgery on Thursday and is in ICU.
- *Melba Sharp is home—keep her in your prayers. She came forward last Sunday asking for prayers.
- *Junior Adams fell, broke his hip, and had surgery on the 19th. He is now next door at the rehab center.
- *Continue to keep Linda McInturff; Kristie Brewer’s dad, Wayne; Ratis Yeager; Marilyn Watson; Marilyn Koone; Helen Swindle’s sister, Shirley; Dorothy Tatum, and Ted & Barbara Knight in your prayers.

Expiration Date (con’t)

Each day brings opportunity. Each day draws us nearer to our eternal destiny (Rm. 13:11). For each one of us, it is “appointed...to die once and after this comes judgment” (Heb. 9:27). Likewise, for each of us, there is an expiration date known only in the mind of God. Our times are in His hands (Ps. 31:15), so teach us, Lord, to “number our days” (Ps. 90:12).

--Glen Elliott--

Annual Target Shoot ‘n’ Eat

October 10th
at Rod Wilson’s shop
for men only from 2pm - ?
Eat at 5pm—beef brisket
and all the trimmings

September 20, 2020

SUNDAY CLASS:	
SUNDAY WORSHIP:	75
SUNDAY PM:	
WEDNESDAY (23rd):	32
BUDGET:	\$5,400
OFFERING:	\$3,888

BIRTHDAYS:

(September 27th - October 10th)

Livy McNulty	10/01
Brian Swindle	10/5
Lavonne Duncan	10/5
Linda Black	10/6
Glen Elliott	10/6

ANNIVERSARIES:

Larry & Linda Ward	9/29
Austin & Sarah Ford	10/5

Finishing Strong...

How strong will you finish the race? There are 3,237 people mentioned in the Bible. We are only given the details in the lives of about 100 of them. Of the 100, only about 30% of them finished well. Due to COVID, Alisa & I have 3 friends that ‘finished their race’ in recent weeks; & these passing’s have reminded me of my own mortality & the passage in 2 Timothy 4:6-7 where it states, “For I am now ready to be offered, & the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.”

Paul was about to finish his race when he wrote those words. He was one that started off poorly, as he was responsible for the persecution of the early church. He made the most of his later years with his missionary journeys that saw the church expand all across Europe. And though he endured great persecution during this time, he didn’t give up; and we know he did this by focusing on the goal.

If you haven’t been running your best, now is as good a time as any to get back on track. In Philippians 3:13-14 it states, “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” Forget the past, and focus on the goal that is ahead.

We can finish strong if we do the exact same things: focusing on the goal and forgetting the past. And the best part is that not only are we running this race with our brothers & sisters in Christ, more importantly, we have God on our side.

How are you going to finish your race?

-Jeff Jones

Pick up a summary of the men’s business meeting from September 20th on the table in the foyer.

BIBLE QUIZ

James 2:10-13

1. “For whoever shall keep the ___ law, and yet stumble in one point, he is ___ of all.”
2. “For He who said, ‘Do not commit ___,’ also said, ‘Do not ___.’”
3. By what law will we be judged?
4. Will you be shown mercy if you do not show mercy yourself?
5. “___ triumphs over judgment.”

*last week’s answers: poor, rich, heirs; true; noble; royal law; false