

**PRIVILEGED TO SERVE**  
**WEEK OF SUNDAY February 16, 2025**

Announcements	Jondan Rothfus
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**SUNDAY DOOR GREETERS**

North Side	Derek / Angie Crawford
South Side	Jondan/ Stacie Rothfus

**SUNDAY DOOR MONITOR**

Gary Robinson	Ricky Davis
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**MORNING WORSHIP**

Adult Bible Class Prayer	Ron Brown
Song Leader	Jay Whitson
First Prayer	Todd Webb
Sermon	John Chowning
Lord's Table	Jonothan Whitson
Closing Prayer	Ricky Davis

**Evening Worship**

Song Leader	Joel Knight
First Prayer	Adam Swallows
Scripture	Levi Swallows
Sermon	John Chowning
Prayers	Payne Davis/Enoch Knight
Lord's Table	Todd Webb
Closing Prayer	Allen Cantrell

**Wednesday February 19, 2025**

Song Leader	Bobby Rothfus
Scripture Reading	Enoch Knight
Devotional Talk	Allen Cantrell
Closing Prayer	Levi Whitson

**Wednesday Door Monitor**

Jere Whitson
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Jere Whitson is responsible for worship assignments. If you are going to be absent or need to request changes, please contact him.

Gospel Broadcast Supported

Preaching the Gospel, Sunday 7:30 A.M. – Ch. 11

**Important News:**

**2025 THEME**

**Jesus Built His Church**

**Matthew 16:16-19**

**Verse 18 : And I say 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.**

**THIS WEEK'S TEXTS**

**AM class-Titus 1:6-16**

**AM sermon– Colossians 1:13-14**

**PM sermon– Ephesians 1:22-2:7**

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**SUNDAY**

Bible Study .....9:00 AM

Morning Worship.....10:00 A.M.

Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study.....7:00 P.M.



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It Is Written



readthewordtoday.com

**Volume XLVI Thur. February 20, 2025 Number 7**

**Church Attendance**

**Dub McClish**

There is surely more to being faithful to the Lord of heaven and earth than “church attendance,” but can one be faithful to Him without it? Is it necessary (to please God, to grow spiritually, to be saved) for one to assemble faithfully with the saints? If the New Testament teaches anything, it answers “Yes!” We are obviously not speaking of the sick and shut-ins and others who are hindered beyond their control, but those who are able to come. We aren’t merely asking if the preacher or elders care, but does God care?

Consider the following:

*Lord's Day assembly.* Saints are commanded to partake of the Lord's Supper to remember Christ (1 Cor. 11:24). The apostolic example (Acts 20:7) and uninspired early church history confirm that the church ate the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week. To provide the money needed to do the work of the church, the saints were commanded to give of their money every first day of the week (1 Cor. 16:1-2). These things were to be

done “everywhere in every church” (1 Cor. 4:17). To *willfully* miss the Lord’s Day assembly is to disregard these commands.

*Other assemblies.* What about Sunday evening, Sunday morning Bible class, or Wednesday night? Are such meetings Scriptural or unscriptural? Various meetings besides Sunday were held in the early church with apostolic approval (Acts 2:46, 4:23, 12:12, etc.). It is certain that such additional meetings for study, worship, and fellowship (gospel meeting series, Vacation Bible Schools, workshops, etc.) greatly strengthen those who attend them and do untold good. In spite of Scriptural precedent and practical need for these meetings, some will weakly cling to the “Lord’s Supper only” approach to church attendance.

*A direct command.* As clearly as the New Testament teaches not to commit adultery, not to steal, or not to murder, it teaches “not forsaking our own assembling together” (Heb. 10:25). To forsake is not the same as merely being absent. The sick man will be absent without forsaking the assembly if he would have been there except for sickness. To forsake is to abandon for something deemed more important. It is mere speculation to limit this command only to the Lord’s Day assembly. Whenever there is a meeting of the saints at which we could be exhorted to pure living, we ought to be there. Moreover, we ought to want to be there!

*Miscellaneous principles.* Lovers of God have always cherished worship and study opportunities (Ps. 42:1-4, 84:1-2, 10; Mat. 5:6). Can one “seek first the kingdom” (Mat. 6:33) while forsaking its assemblies? Does God care where we are when the saints meet?

*Gospel Advocate*  
*March 18, 1982*

**Where Did God Come From?**  
**Eric Lyons**

The question “Where did God come from?” assumes that God had a cause. However, by definition, an eternal spirit (“the everlasting God”) cannot logically have a cause. Asking “Where did God come from?” is like asking, “When did eternity start?” By definition, eternity never began. Eternity is without beginning and end. By definition, so is God.

From what we observe in nature, matter and energy are neither created nor destroyed. Scientists refer to this observed fact as the First Law of Thermodynamics. Evolutionists allege that the universe began with the explosion of a tiny ball of matter thirteen to fourteen billion years ago, yet they have never provided a reasonable explanation for the cause of this supposed original ball of matter. The fact is, a logical, naturalistic explanation for the origin of the “original” ball of matter that supposedly led to the universe does not exist. It cannot exist so long as the First Law of Thermodynamics is true.

Since the physical universe exists, and yet it could not have created itself, then the universe is either eternal or something or someone outside of the universe must have created it. Relatively few scientists propose that the universe is eternal. In fact, there would be no point in attempting to explain the “beginning” of the universe (with a Big Bang, for example) if scientists believed it has always existed. What’s more, the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which states that matter and energy become less usable over time, has led most scientists to conclude that the universe has not always existed; that is, it is not eternal.

The Laws of Thermodynamics and the Law of Causality do not apply to God because these scientific laws--like all scientific laws--apply only to what we find and study in nature. By definition, God is not natural; thus, God is not subject to the laws of nature.

If matter is not eternal and cannot create itself, then the only logical conclusion is that something or someone outside of nature (who is supernatural) caused the material universe and everything in it. Christians call this someone “the eternal God” because He is “from everlasting to everlasting” (Ps. 90:2).

**IMPORTANT NEWS**

-Please mark your calendars for the upcoming events :

- VBS : June 16th– 20th, 2025
- Gospel Meeting with Speaker Kerry Duke: September 28th-October 3rd, 2025
- Sons of Algood Fall Lectureship :  
Sunday, November 16th, 2025

*Please note these dates are also posted on the bulletin board.*

-Please make note the changes to the elders and deacons’ phone numbers now being attached to an extension when calling the building’s main phone line.

-Reminder: The bible class on "Studying Sin Seriously" will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 25th in the multipurpose room. The first lesson will be on The Origin of Sin. Everyone is invited.

-Good news from Africa : In the month of January, there was 476 baptisms, 3 restorations, and 13 congregations started.

**ILLNESSES**

**Thelma Brown**, has been diagnosed with a frontal lobe tumor on her brain. Please continue to pray for her health.

**PANTRY ITEM:**  
*Canned Tuna*

**EXTENDED ILLNESS**

Bonnie Stockton, Carol Meadows, Junior and Lou Bryant, Sue Ing, Mike and Lucy Mitchell, and Bill and Betty Barnes.

<b>PHONE</b>	
<b>(931) 537-6221</b>	
<b><u>ELDERS</u></b>	<b><u>Deacons Cont’d</u></b>
<b>Bobby Rothfus</b>	<b>Joel Knight</b>
Ext. 701	Ext. 803
<b>Gary Loftis</b>	<b>Jondan Rothfus</b>
Ext. 702	Ext. 804
<b>Derek Crawford</b>	<b>Todd Webb</b>
Ext. 703	Ext. 805
<b><u>PREACHER</u></b>	<b>Jay Whitson</b>
<b>John Chowning</b>	Ext. 806
Ext. 700	<b>Jere Whitson</b>
<b><u>Deacons</u></b>	Ext. 807
<b>Ron Brown</b>	<b>Jonothan</b>
Ext. 801	<b>Whitson</b>
<b>Ricky Davis</b>	Ext. 808
Ext. 802	