

# Church of Christ

# Florence

December 4, 2016

## Elders

*Robert Budy*  
home (859) 525-7396  
*Art Green*  
cell (859) 743-3290

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact one of the elders.

## Deacons

*Jesse Black*  
*Matthew Hallmark*  
*Wyatt Robbins*

## Minister

Bruce House  
cell (270)570-0830

## Schedule of Services

Bible Class 9:30 am  
Worship 10:30 am  
Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Class 7:00 pm

## Contact Information

1141 Boone Aire Rd.  
Florence, KY 41042

(859) 283-2355  
www.florencecc.org  
churchoffice@florencecc.org

### FROM THE ELDERS

Due to safety concerns  
The church doors will be locked  
10 minutes after the beginning of service.

Someone will be stationed in the foyer  
to allow admittance to latecomers.

## Comfort for the Depressed

by Johnny Felker

In II Corinthians 1, Paul discusses what must have been one of the lowest points in his life, a time filled with deep feelings of anxiety and despair. He reports that in Asia he was "burdened excessively, beyond... strength" so that he "despaired even of life", having the "sentence of death" within himself (II Corinthians 1:8-9). He spoke of how he had "no rest" for his spirit, how he was "afflicted on every side", "conflicts without, fears within" (II Corinthians 7:5). Have you ever felt this way? Have you known this kind of pressure? As Paul reflected upon his sufferings he made several observations that will help each of us when we go through similar times of suffering.

Suffering causes us to trust in God rather than ourselves. "For indeed we have the sentence of death within ourselves in order that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead" (II Corinthians 1:9). How powerfully suffering reminds us of our human weakness! Our inability to remove suffering points to the need to trust in God. How hard it is for us to learn that lesson! Often we have to be put flat of our back before we start looking up!

Suffering prompts us to pray. Paul had learned what a great help prayer was in suffering. He reminded the Corinthians that deliverance from his afflictions could be found through their prayers (II Corinthians 1:11). In chapter 12, when he spoke of his thorn in the flesh he mentions how he prayed repeatedly to the Lord. And so we are encouraged to do: "Is any among you suffering? Let him pray!" (James 5:13).

God has the power to deliver us from suffering. In contrast to man's weakness Paul describes God as one who can "raise the dead" (II Corinthians 1:9). He who can raise one from death can also deliver one from it. In this assurance Paul affirmed that God had not only delivered him in the past but would do so in the future in keeping with his will (II Corinthians 1:10-11)!

(continued on page 2)

*The Church you read about in the Bible*

(continued from page 1)

God has the power to strengthen us while suffering! Not all God's comfort comes through the removal of that which makes us suffer. When Paul prayed for relief from his "thorn" (II Corinthians 12) God said, "My grace is sufficient for you" (II Corinthians 12:9). To know that we are Christians, that we have the hope of heaven, that we live in his favor provides sufficient strength to endure for Christ's sake whatever may be our lot in life. "For momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison..." (II Corinthians 4:17).

Our sufferings make it possible for us to comfort others in their afflictions. Paul hoped to comfort others in their afflictions just God had comforted him (II Corinthians 1:4). What a great attitude he had! Rather than complain about his problems, he rejoiced that they provided him with the power and compassion to help others who faced similar circumstances. Who can be a better comforter to the suffering than the one who has experienced suffering and overcame it?

From the day Paul rose from baptism to serve Christ (Acts 9:18; 22:16), he learned as Jesus had foretold "how many things he must suffer for my name's sake." And yet in them all, Paul kept the faith. Throughout his life, he demonstrated unswerving commitment to Christ and patient hope of living with him someday. All of us can have that same hope -- that whatever life may bring, God will be there to help us remain faithful and to deliver us to world where pain does not exist. Be comforted by this promise.



#### Centurions of Scripture

We would like to challenge the entire congregation to memorize 100 scriptures. Our youth do this as a part of the Lads to Leaders program. We ask that you do this with your family. We will be putting two scriptures in the bulletin each week.

This week's scriptures to memorize are:

Psalms 119: 69-70

69. The proud have forged a lie against me,

But I will keep Your precepts with my whole heart.

70. Their heart is as fat as grease,

But I delight in Your law.

## Collecting For Those In Need

### **The Emergency Shelter of NKY items needed:**

(Men's Shelter)

- **SOCKS**
- Men's Jeans
- Men's Sweatshirts
- Men's and Women's Sweatpants
- Underwear (New)

*There is a sign-up sheet for those interested in helping at the shelter.*

### **Benevolence Pantry items needed:**

- Canned Goods
- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Meat
- Milk
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Ramen Noodles
- Juice Packs
- Baby Formula & Food

### Shelter Meal

Our next meal for the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter is December 10th. Your generosity in this endeavor is greatly appreciated. There is a sign-up sheet located in the hallway.

### MEETING

Elders, Deacons, Coordinators, and Preacher Meet

**TODAY @ 4:30**

### Senior Christmas Party

December 7th @ 11:30 am

At Nancy Delauder's home

Please bring a side dish.

### Adult Holiday Event

December 9th @ 6:00 pm

\$15 gift limit

Men bring a man's gift. Women bring a woman's gift.

### Christmas Benevolence

The Christmas lists are up on the Benevolence board in the hall. Please look through the cut outs and choose one to help. The family name is on the back and you need to sign your name by that child's name in that family. Please bring unwrapped gifts to the building by December 18th.

**To ensure accuracy of announcements and prayer requests please fill out a gold or blue form and turn in to the office by Wednesday.**

## *Prayer List*

RJ Morrison, son of Nita Mayfield's friend, pneumonia  
Tom Garland, Diana Green's brother in law, bypass surgery  
Jim Gilpan, friend of Clint Green, heart attack

### **June Pugh**

**Oswaldo Bonaga**, friend of Vicky Robinson, health issues

**Alexis Aiken**, Joyce Bewley's Great Granddaughter,

**Nancy Noojin**, Karen Brown's cousin, health issues

**Bowen Becker**, Bob Becker's grandson, heart problems

### **Stacie Grindstaff**

**Peggy Harber**, Bob Warmack's cousin, on life support

**Cindy Walker** health issues

**Grant County Schools** facing lawsuit for having Bibles in the schools and student led prayer.

### **Our Elders**

### **Our Nation's Leaders**

### **Our Military Personnel**

### **Our Police, Emergency and Healthcare Personnel**

### **The Churches of Christ around the world**

### **All those traveling**

### **The Emergency Shelter**

### **The Creation Museum and Ark Encounter**

### **Those who have lost loved ones**

**George Lang Family**

**Jack Wagner Family**

### **Those with cancer and their families**

|                  |                 |                      |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Oswaldo Bonaga   | Dennis Blundell | Margie Koons         |
| Randy Williams   | Desirae Wilson  | Janice Gallagher     |
| Gary Burke       | Dwight Lowerg   | Kay Shinck           |
| Jim Kennedy      | Layla Adkins    | Jim McCarthy         |
| Kristen Shaw     | Ayden Egan      | Donnice Palmer       |
| Donna Farrar     | Peggy Davis     | Mike Lohman          |
| Lorraine Starr   | Gwen Miller     | Lindy Blankenbuehler |
| Tammy Palmer     | Chad Fischer    | Buddy Webb           |
| Ashley Pike      | Debbie Hellman  | Lois Stroub          |
| Theresa Falukner | Nancy Lambert   | Ruth Phelps          |
| Mike Lowe        | Steve Dobson    | Serena               |

Cale Thomas

### **Our shut-ins and those caring for them**

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| Joyce Tingle   | Chuck Gambil  |
| Eveline Lanham | Dessie Hacker |

*"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer" 1 Peter 3:12*

Please check the prayer list and let me know of any updates.  
Thank you.-Nita

## Serving in AM Worship

|  | <b>December 4</b> | <b>December 11</b> |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| Announcements                                    | Bill Morgan       | Bill Morgan        |
| Opening Prayer                                   | JD Martin         | Matthew Hallmark   |
| Song Leader                                      | Randy Johnson     | Jesse Black        |
| Communion  | Carl Power        | Jerry Gorman       |
| Serve  | Mark Walker       | Mark Walker        |
| Serve  | Nathan Bowling    | Nathan Bowling     |
| Serve  | Dan Brown         | Dan Brown          |
| Serve  | Wyatt Robbins     | Wyatt Robbins      |
| Serve  | Steve Thomas      | Steve Thomas       |
| Serve  | Clint Green       | Clint Green        |
| Scripture Reading<br><i>2 Corinthians 1: 3-4</i> | Kyle Strasser     | Wyatt Robbins      |
| Sermon<br><i>The God of All Comfort</i>          | Bruce House       | Bruce House        |
| Closing Prayer                                   | Mark Walker       | Bobby Lemay        |

## Serving in PM Worship

|                |               |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Announcements  | Art Green     | Art Green    |
| Opening Prayer | Jesse Black   | Art Green    |
| Song Leader    | Randy Johnson | Jesse Black  |
| Communion      | Carl Power    | Jerry Gorman |
| Sermon         | Bruce House   | Carl Power   |
| Closing Prayer | Kyle Strasser | Dan Brown    |

## Wednesday

**December 7**

**December 14**

|                |              |              |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Song Leader    | Jerry Gorman | Jesse Black  |
| Invitation     | Bruce House  | Jerry Gorman |
| Closing Prayer | Dave Moster  | Dan Brown    |
| Announcements  | Art Green    | Art Green    |

## Communion Prep

|          |                       |
|----------|-----------------------|
| December | Dan Brown             |
| January  | Communion Prep needed |

*Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men. Ephesians 6:7*

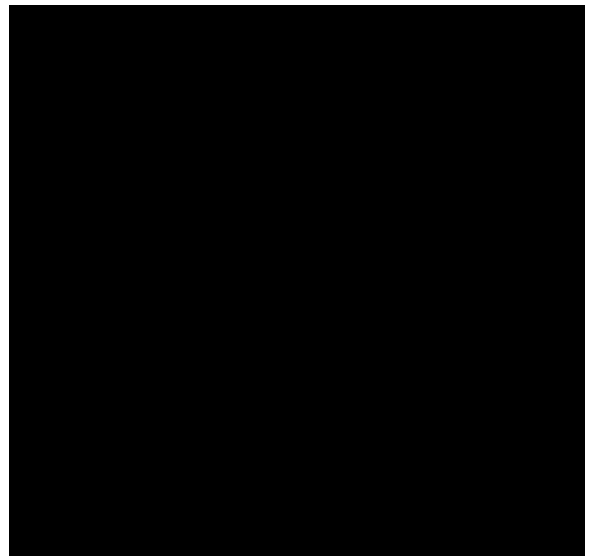
## Greeters

|          |                        |
|----------|------------------------|
| December | <b>Greeters Needed</b> |
| January  | <b>Greeters Needed</b> |



## Mark Your Calendar

|     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Dec | 4  | Elders, Deacons,<br>Coordinators & Preacher Meeting |
| Dec | 4  | Men's Prayer Session                                |
| Dec | 7  | Senior Christmas Party                              |
| Dec | 9  | Adult Holiday Event                                 |
| Dec | 10 | Shelter Meal  |
| Dec | 10 | Lads to Leaders Group Scrapbook                     |
| Dec | 11 | Lads to Leaders Team A                              |
| Dec | 16 | Bible Bowl Meeting                                  |
| Dec | 17 | Children's Holiday Event                            |
| Dec | 18 | Lads to Leaders Team B                              |



## Deacons

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Jesse Black      | <i>Children's Education/<br/>Fellowships</i> |
| Matthew Hallmark | <i>Building Maintenance</i>                  |
| Wyatt Robbins    | <i>Youth and as needed</i>                   |

## Coordinators

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Jerry Gorman | <i>Prime Timers</i>                     |
| Dave Moster  | <i>Worship Service/<br/>Duty Roster</i> |

STAMP

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