



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.us](http://www.nacoc.us)

October 27, 2020

## “BUSY” IS NOT A BADGE

BY: Phillip Strong

Many years ago, a friend kept trying to get me to camp out on the river and fish for a couple of days with him. As much as I wanted to take him up on the offer, I kept putting him off because I was “just too busy right now.” In his jovial, teasing manner, he finally replied, “A man that is *too busy* to fish is just *too busy!*” I went and we had a great time. Since then I’ve adapted his statement somewhat, “A man (or woman) that is *too busy* to serve the Lord is just *too busy!*” And yet, that is exactly where far too many of us find ourselves now- “too busy” for God.

Unfortunately, many of us not only suffer from this self-inflicted malady, we seem to enjoy and relish in it. We treat “too busy” as some sort of *badge of honor*- as if it provides evidence of our importance. Work can’t do without me. My family needs me. My civic club or school-support group depends on me. My social network of friends can’t recreate without me (and I need the “escape” because I’m “so busy” otherwise). And yet, many of us still manage to convince ourselves, and perhaps even say to others, “God comes first in my life.” Really? When He and His only get the *left-overs* of our time, energy, commitment, emotions, and enthusiasm? When it comes to God and our relationship to Him and His, “busy” or its relative “just too busy” is not a *badge of honor*. Instead, it signifies much less honorable issues like a lack of commitment, priority, dedication, love, and zeal.

Neither is “busy” an acceptable *badge of excuse*. Being “just too busy” does not exempt us from responsibilities and duties owed to God, His church (cooperatively), His people (individually), or His purpose. None of us can legitimately wave a “Busy Badge” before God and be excused from the services of His church, service to His church, or service with His church to His cause. Even those depicted before Christ in judgment *claimed* to have been “busy” with *deeds done in His name*, cf. [Matthew 7:22](#), and yet were denied entrance to heaven. What do you think will be our fate, when standing before the Righteous Judge, if our defense is that we were “just too busy” to assemble with the saints to worship Him, study our Bibles, encourage fellow Christians, and reach out to the lost with the gospel? Please consider carefully a few related passages...

“*And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength,*” [Mark 12:30](#). “*But seek first His kingdom, and His righteousness; and all these things (food, shelter, clothing, from [vv.25ff](#), PCS) will be added to you,*” [Matthew 6:33](#). “*If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth,*” [Colossians 3:1-2](#).

Our society has become inundated with “busy” people- folks that are “just too busy” for the Lord, His church, and His cause. Don’t be one of them! You (and we) can do better! You can *love God* with your all! You can make *His kingdom* and *His righteousness* first in your life! You can *set your mind* on *spiritual* and *heavenly* rather than *earthly* and *temporal* things! How so?

1. Make a decision that *no thing* and *no one* will be allowed to come before God and His interests. As much as is physically possible, work, family, and social or recreational activities will not be allowed to come before Him, or between you and Him.

2. Set aside time each day (before the day’s other activities begin, and/or after they conclude if nothing else) to be *with God* in prayer and in study of His word. You must make time to *communicate with God* in prayer, and allow Him to *communicate with you* through His word.

3. Determine to be with God’s people every time they assemble to worship Him or study His word. You’ll need this support, and they need it from you.

4. Stick to it, and don’t back up or back down. Consistency and endurance are keys to breaking the “just too busy” habit.

Jesus Christ wants to save your soul. God wants to have a spiritually healthy relationship with you. The Holy Spirit wants to guide you through life by the Word. But They will not do so if you’re “just too busy” to make Them THE priority of your life.

## THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2020

**Announcements:** Greg Clayton  
**Sound Room:** Phillip Young  
**Usher:** Dane Coggin

**Lead Singing:** Sun. A.M.: (1st) ~ Mark Jennings;  
 (8th) ~ Phillip Young; (15th) ~ Richard Jennings  
 (22nd) Mark Jennings; (29th) ~ Phillip Young

**Sunday Prayers:**

Nov. 01:  
 A.M. Shane Crofts  
 Ronnie Griggs  
 P.M.  
 Nov. 08:  
 A.M. Jason Jennings  
 Clay Jennings  
 P.M.  
 Nov. 15:  
 A.M. Paul Ormon  
 Perry Jones  
 P.M.  
 Nov. 22:  
 A.M. Thomas Wall  
 Alvin Parks  
 P.M.  
 Nov. 29:  
 A.M. Olen Clark  
 Randy Wall  
 P.M.

**Lord's Supper:**

**Head:** 1st ~ Tim Dye; 8th ~ Mark Jennings; 15th ~ Terry Stubblefield;  
 22nd ~ Phil Young; 29th ~ Richard Jennings

**Scripture Reading:**

Nov. 01 — Dean Dillard  
 Nov. 08 — Caleb Jennings  
 Nov. 15 — Hunter Jennings  
 Nov. 22 — Mason Simmons  
 Nov. 29 — Brian Carpenter

**Wednesday Prayers:**

Nov. 04 — Joe Owen; Matt Jennings  
 Nov. 11 — Harold Russell; Richard Adams  
 Nov. 18 — Kevin Simmons; Roger Clayton  
 Nov. 25 — Steve Todd; Dillon Clayton

**Usher:**

Nov. 01 — Kurt Clayton  
 Nov. 08 — Mark Jennings  
 Nov. 15 — Jason Jennings  
 Nov. 22 — Randy Wall  
 Nov. 29 — Roger Clayton

**Lock:**

Nov. 01 — Kurt Clayton  
 Nov. 08 — Mark Jennings  
 Nov. 15 — Jason Jennings  
 Nov. 22 — Harold Russell  
 Nov. 29 — Dan Cobb

**Security:**

Nov. 01 — Jason Jennings  
 Nov. 08 — Randy Wall  
 Nov. 15 — Dan Cobb  
 Nov. 22 — Richard Adams  
 Nov. 29 — Mark Jennings

\* If you are unable to carry out your assignment please let  
*Randy Wall* know before service time!



## COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS!



### Weakest Moments

At Your Weakest Moment...that's when Satan will tempt you to sin. Our adversary is no fool. He's not going to waste time and effort by working against your strengths. He will attack you when you are the weakest and where you are most vulnerable.

Here's an example: Someone has had harsh words to say about you. They have assumed the worst, impugned your motives, jumped to false conclusions, spread rumor and innuendo about you. How will you react? You are angry, hurt, insulted, and disgusted. The strong temptation is to strike back, to get even, and to put this person "in his place". But, you must not submit to the temptation. God's word says, *"Never pay back evil for evil to anyone... Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good"* (Rom. 12:17, 21). It's hard to follow this instruction at the moment, because you are weak and vulnerable. But this course of action is best - the Lord says so, and our own experience bears this out.

During such times of weakness and vulnerability, we should pray as David did, *"Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice deeds of wickedness with men who do iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies"* (Ps. 141:3, 4).

We must know and understand that our adversary will never quit. *"He is like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour."* (1 Peter 5:8) The key word there is *"seeking,"* you won't bump into the devil by accident. He is after you and will come after you when you're weak, and downtrodden. When we let our guard down or just quit for the day or a week, that's when we are vulnerable because he will certainly come after us.

We've been warned that Satan has many *"devices"* (2 Cor. 2:11). Chief among these is his ability to detect our weaknesses and attack us there. Please realize that you must work hardest during your weakest moments, because that is when Satan is at work against you.

By Eric; via ~ Tyngsboro Church of Christ

# YOU TUBE ~ LIVE STREAMING ~ Sun. @ 9:30; Wed. @ 6:30

## PRAYER LIST



**Tim Dye** is scheduled to have elbow surgery Wed. Oct. 28th.

**Troy Robertson** fell this past Sat. and needed several stitches in his forehead.

**Madison Hardy**, five year old from New Albany has been diagnosed with cancer on her spine. She is receiving treatments at St. Jude.

**Ricky Adams**, father of *Richard Adams*, is scheduled for back surgery Oct. 29th.

**David Holmes**, neighbor of *Kevin & Stephanie Simmons* has been diagnosed with bladder cancer.

**Bill & Helen DePriest** are now living at Dogwood Plantation Senior Living. The address is 250 Fairfield Drive, New Albany, MS

### Continue to Remember:

Chris Bradley, Kathy Clayton, Shelly Clayton, Shane Crotts, Helen DePriest, Amanda Dye, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmett, Brandon Jones, Bill & Grace Lyon, Bailer Mayer, Ronnie Miller, Olivia Pounders, Jerry Robbins, Gwyn Russell, Lake Tremble, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson

### Shut-Ins:

Bill & Helen DePriest, J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Nancy Petrowski,

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Price Senter, J.D. Stroud

### Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Andy Dye, Luke Goff, Chase Seals

## What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17)
2. Believe the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16)
3. Repent of Sins (Acts 3:19)
4. Confess Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37)
5. Be Baptized for the Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38)
6. Be Faithful (Revelation 2:10)

## I've Learned...

"I slept and I dreamed that life is all joy. I woke and I saw that life is all service. I served and I saw that service is joy."— Kahlil Gibran



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- October 27..... Mark Jennings
- October 28..... Peyton Coggin
- October 29..... Phil Young
- October 31..... Steve Todd
- November 03..... Paul Ormon
- November 06..... Janice Griffin

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- October 27..... Jason & Amy Jennings
- November 03..... Bill & Grace Lyon



## TIME CHANGE

Daylight Savings Time ends Sun. Nov. 1st. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed Sat. night Oct. 31st. See everyone for Sunday School at 9:30 next Sunday!



## TRUNK OR TREAT



Trunk or Treat will be held Sat. night beginning at 5:00pm at *Phil Young's* tractor shed. Hot dogs and Chili are on the menu. Please sign the list in the foyer by Wed. night, Oct. 28th.

## YOUTH NEWS

- ◇ There will be a 'spend the night party' for the youth at the home of *Shaler and Madison Grigsby* Friday night Oct. 30th. Please let Shaler know if you will be coming.
- ◇ 'Trunk or Treat' is scheduled for Sat. night Oct. 31st, at *Phil Young's* tractor shed at 5pm. Hot dogs and chili are on the menu. If you have any questions please see *Mark and Alyce Jennings*. Please sign the list in the foyer by Wed. night if you plan to come.

## AREA EVENTS

- There will be a Gospel Meeting at the Gloster St. congregation in Tupelo Nov. 1-4, with guest speaker *Jimmy Clark* of Athens AL.
- Area Wide (Youth) Organizational meeting is set for Nov. 1, at 2:00pm at the Mayfield congregation. Masks!

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.us>

Email: [nacoc15s@gmail.com](mailto:nacoc15s@gmail.com)

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October 27, 2020

Volume 42

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....9:30  
 Morning Worship.....10:30  
 Evening Worship.....  
 Wednesday Bible Study....6:30

## MINISTER

Shaler Grigsby....Youth/ Assoc.  
 .....256-263-9137  
 Office ..... 534-4649

## ELDERS

Greg Clayton.....252-9762  
 Tim Dye.....316-2527  
 Richard Jennings .....316-1305  
 Troy Robertson .....316-3163  
 Phil Young.....316-2059

## DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....316-6420  
 Roger Clayton ..... 538-8195  
 Shane Crotts.....266-0195  
 Jason Jennings..... 801-3260  
 Mark Jennings....731-609-3309  
 Randy Wall ..... 316-9255

## TO SERVE

Communion.....Tim Dye  
 Scripture.....Dean Dillard  
 A.M. Prayer.....Shane Crotts  
 Closing.....Ronnie Griggs  
 P.M. Prayer.....  
 Closing.....  
 Wed.4th....../J. Owen /Matt J.  
 Lock.....Kurt Clayton  
 Usher .....Kurt Clayton  
 Security .....Jason Jennings

## OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....80  
 Sunday A.M.....103  
 Sunday P.M.....  
 Wednesday.....NA  
 Contribution.....NA  
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

## PANTRY ITEMS

Jello



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## FULL -TIME WITH JESUS

A married couple was driving down the road. The wife turned to the husband and said, "What's happened with us?" "What do you mean?" the husband asked. She said, "We're not like we used to be." "How did we used to be?" the husband asked. "We were closer. More connected. We held hands all the time. In fact, here's a perfect example right now. Remember when we'd get in the car, and we'd sit right next to each other, with me there in the middle." The husband turned to her and said, "Who moved?"

This story illustrates an important Biblical principle that we must always remember. If you are not as close to God as you used to be, you are the one who moved. He did not move. When Jesus calls us to follow Him it involves more than an occasional visit or a part-time activity. If you want to get back to where you used to be, you need to move in His direction. Along the same lines, if you want to be closer to God than you've ever been before, if you want to reach a new level in your relationship with Him, all you need to do is move in His direction. It may be helpful to be reminded that there are no problems that God cannot solve if you will place Jesus at the center of your life.

~ Clark Tatum ~

