



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

November 24, 2020

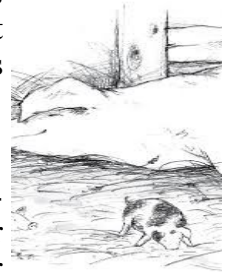
## Are You the Farmer's Runt?

By Tim Dooley

*"The farmer had refused to consider the church because of all the hypocrites in it. One day the preacher went to buy a pig from the farmer. He asked for the runt as his pig of choice. The farmer reluctantly sold the runt but was appalled as the preacher told him, 'I'm telling all my friends this is the kind of pigs you raise!'"*

I read this from an Internet post by a fellow preacher and it made me laugh. As is so often the case though, the truth of this humorous story is really sad. Sure, the church has its hypocrites just like the litter has its runt. And certainly, we don't like it when folks cast wide, sweeping judgment on the many because of the few "runts" in the litter. And it is absolutely right to point this truth out.

However, consider this ...the runt of the litter had no choice in the matter, but the hypocrite does. God's Word is filled with warnings and condemnation of hypocrites and their duplicitous ways. Jesus' condemnation of the Pharisees (Matthew 23) was not for their legalism but for their hypocrisy.



In the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7) Jesus warned us concerning the act of pointing out the faults of others when we ourselves need to take a long look into the mirror of our own lives. This may be in the way we are living, the words we are speaking, or our attitude about others and ourselves. Yes, we must point out sin and error but remember what Paul by inspiration said in Galatians 6:1, "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one *in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.*"

Be certain too that none of us are immune from such hypocrisy. Not the preacher, not the elders or deacons, the Bible Class teacher, not even the most faithful brother and sister warming a pew every time the door is open. Romans 12:3 says, "*For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.*"

Paul told Timothy, "*Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity*" (1 Timothy 4:12). We shouldn't give anyone good reason to look down upon us or the Lord's church!

The fact is there is little difference between the hypocrite in the church and the farmer's runt. Except that the hypocrite has a choice in the matter. Are you the farmer's runt? You don't have to be, and your soul's eternal destination hangs in the balance. You don't have to be perfect...but you do have to be obedient (Hebrews 5:8-9) and be faithful (Revelation 2:10).

## THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2020

**Announcements:** Tim Dye  
**Sound Room:** Dan Cobb  
**Usher:** Brian Carpenter

**Lead Singing:** Sun. A.M.:  
 (6th) ~ Richard Jennings; (13th) ~ Mark Jennings;  
 (20th) ~ Phillip Young; (27th) Richard Jennings

**Lord's Supper:**

**Head:** 6th ~ Richard Adams; 13th ~ Olen Clark; 20th ~ Greg Clayton;  
 27th ~ Kurt Clayton

**Scripture Reading:**

Dec. 06 — Owen Clayton  
 Dec. 13 — Clay Jennings  
 Dec. 20 — Matt Jennings  
 Dec. 27 — Mason Simmons

**Wednesday Prayers:**

Dec. 02 — Roger Clayton; Hunter Jennings  
 Dec. 09 — Jason Jennings; Caleb Jennings  
 Dec. 16 — Perry Jones; Ronnie Griggs  
 Dec. 23 — Mark Jennings; Owen Clayton  
 Dec. 30 — Paul Ormon; Kevin Simmons

**Usher:**

Dec. 06 — Roger Clayton  
 Dec. 13 — Kurt Clayton  
 Dec. 20 — Shane Crotts  
 Dec. 27 — Jason Jennings

**Lock:**

Dec. 06 — Richard Jennings  
 Dec. 13 — Kurt Clayton  
 Dec. 20 — Shane Crotts  
 Dec. 27 — Jason Jennings

**Security:**

Dec. 06 — Matt Jennings  
 Dec. 13 — Randy Wall  
 Dec. 20 — Richard Adams  
 Nov. 27 — Phillip Young

**Host Youth Devo:** Shaler & Madison Grigsby

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

**Sunday Prayers:**

Dec. 06:  
 A.M. David Clayton  
 Ruston Adams  
 P.M.  
 Dec. 13:  
 A.M. Dillon Clayton  
 Larry Cobb  
 P.M.  
 Dec. 20:  
 A.M. Joe Owen  
 Dane Coggin  
 P.M.  
 Dec. 27:  
 A.M. Harold Russell  
 Shane Crotts  
 P.M.



### Thanksgiving

The earliest documented Thanksgiving in America was in Plymouth Colony under Gov. William Bradford on July 30, 1623, in which “they set apart a solemn day of humiliation, to seek the Lord by humble and fervent prayer.”

During the Revolution, having thwarted Benedict Arnold’s plot, the Continental Congress proclaimed on October 18, 1780: “It is therefore recommended to the several states...a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, that all the people may assemble on that day to celebrate the praises of our Divine Benefactor; to confess our unworthiness of the least of his favors, and to offer our fervent supplications to the God of all grace...to cause the knowledge of Christianity to spread over all the earth.”

When the war was won, Massachusetts Governor, John Hancock, proclaimed December 11, 1783 “to be religiously observed as a Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer, that all the People may then assemble to celebrate...that he hath been pleased to continue to us the Light of the Blessed Gospel...to cause pure Religion and Virtue to flourish...and to fill the World with his glory.”

America’s new President, George Washington, proclaimed a day of Thanksgiving on October 3, 1789, “that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions...to promote the knowledge and practice of the true religion and virtue.”

Later, President Abraham Lincoln established the first annual day of Thanksgiving for the last Thursday of November 1863, stating: “No human counsel hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the most high God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy...It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people.”

Thankfulness exists because God exists. Such an expression could never have evolved by chance from non-living matter. Granted, there are many who refuse to give God thanks, even though he continues to lavish blessings upon them; but, God will settle all accounts eventually. Meanwhile, giving thanks is an immanently biblical concept. “For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving” (1 Timothy 4:4). When we sit down to a feast this Thanksgiving (or any day), let’s remember the source of all blessings. “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights” (James 1:17)

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

## PRAYER LIST



**Alfred Jones Jr.**, brother of *Perry Jones* was admitted to the hospital Sun. with a bladder infection and pneumonia.

**Tevin Jones & Tajl Hendrix**, *Perry Jones'* son, and fiancé both have Covid 19.

**Nancy Petrowski**, daughter of *Deloris Crowe*, has pneumonia, but not Covid 19.

**Paul, Lori, & Olivia Blansett**, family of *Larry & Janice Cobb*, have Covid 19.

**Josh Moore**, brother-in-law of *April Pounders*, is out of the hospital but continues to have issues due to Covid 19.

**Joe Reed**, is having problems with his legs and not able to get around well.

**Ronnie Miller**, father of *Amanda Coggin*, remains in the hospital having a difficult time with his breathing. He is scheduled to see a cardiologist.

### Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Chris Bradley, Kathy Clayton, Shelly Clayton, Shane Crotts, Amanda Dye, Tim & Kathy Dye, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmitt, Madison Hardy, Andrea Hill, David Holmes, Ronnie Miller, Olivia Pounders, Lake Tremble, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson, Donnie Wilson, Sarah Grace Wise

### Shut-Ins:

J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Bill & Grace Lyon, Nancy Petrowski,

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Bill & Helen DePriest, Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Price Senter, J.D. Stroud

### Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Luke Goff, Chase Seals



### I've Learned...

There is always something to be thankful for.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



November 28. .... Jerry Grimmitt

November 29. .... Sissy Bullock

November 29. .... Amy Martin

December 02. .... Dillon Clayton

December 03. .... Lakisha Harris



## MEN'S BREAKFAST/PLANNING

Men's breakfast/planning session will be held Sat. Dec. 5th, at 7:00am. Plans will be discussed for the upcoming year. Precautions will be taken to social distance at this meeting. All men that are able are asked to attend. Please sign the list in the foyer by Sun. the 29th.



## NEW MINISTER

*Tim Dooley*, along with his wife *Colleen* will be with us beginning Dec. 6th. We look forward to their working with us and becoming a part of the New Albany church family!

## CARE GROUPS

- The Care Groups will be once again be collecting food and snack items to be sent home with children in our county who are in need. There will be a table set up in the foyer for these items. If you have any questions see *Shane Crotts*.
- Items for the residents at New Albany Health & Rehab on Glenfield Rd. need to be wrapped with the ornament number on the packages, and left in room 12, by Dec. 13th. If you have any questions see *Shane Crotts*.

## YOUTUBE CHANNEL

We have a YouTube channel and if you have not subscribed to it yet, please do so. This will give you access to all our videos. There are two ways to get to our YouTube channel. First go to [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtxulLTTbbhJCop9y\\_vKbTA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtxulLTTbbhJCop9y_vKbTA), or you can search "New Albany church of Christ Youtube" and click the subscribe button.

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

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

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November 24, 2020

Volume 45

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

## MINISTERS

Tim Dooley.....859-486-4215  
 Shaler Grigsby...Youth/ Assoc.  
 .....256-263-9137  
 Office.....662-534-4649

## 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...Richard Jennings  
 Scripture.....Mason Simmons  
 A.M. Prayer.....Olen Clark  
 Closing.....Alvin Parks  
 P.M. Prayer.....  
 Closing.....  
 Wed 02th.....Roger C./ Hunter J.  
 Lock.....Dan Cobb  
 Usher .....Roger Clayton  
 Security .....Mark Jennings

## OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....81  
 Sunday A.M.....92  
 Sunday P.M.....  
 Wednesday.....62  
 Contribution.....NA  
 Budget.....\$4,095.92

## PANTRY ITEMS

Canned Milk



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 New Albany, Mississippi 38652  
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 148, New Albany, MS 38652

## Depression Due to a Crisis of Faith

David's crisis of faith came when, frustrated by unrelenting persecution from King Saul and uncertainty about his future, he decided to flee to the king of Gath in the land of the Philistines ( I Samuel 27:1). There is no indication that David prayed about this decision, or that he discussed it with Abithar the priest. He was discouraged with life and depressed about what the future held in store.

How much like David we can become! When things are not going the way we hoped, when we meet with failure, when dreams are dashed, it is easy to succumb to depression due to a crisis of faith. What can we do to prevent such from happening, or how can we deal with it when it comes our way?

First, be aware that weak faith will produce spiritual depression. The real problem we face is not the unfulfilled hope but faith that is not reinforced. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world (I John 5:4).

Second, cast our anxieties to God. When we pray we are assured that He cares for us ( I Peter 5:7).

Third, we need to fill our hearts with God's Word. Reading the Bible and thinking about what we are reading, will help us put our fears into focus and remind us that though we stumble, we will not fall, for the Lord will uphold us (Psalms 37:24).

Fourth, wait patiently for God to act. The psalmist said "Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord" (Psalms 27:14).

Finally, be productive in the midst for despair or fear. Good things attempted will lift the spirit and make life worth living. Tell yourself that reaching out to help others, or sharing the gospel, or inviting others to church, will make the day a better day for yourself and others too.

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