



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

December 29, 2020

## The Time Is Now

By Tim Dooley



Sir Walter Scott once said, *“To always be intending to live a new life, but never find time to set about it - this is as if a man should put off eating and drinking from one day to another till he be starved and destroyed.”* Many are starving and destroying themselves spiritually: looking for a “convenient season” (Acts 24:25) to “call upon the Lord” (Romans 10:13) and to begin eating the “Bread of Life” (John 6:51). Then one day they wake up and realize it’s too late. The door has been closed as in the parable of the Ten Wise and Ten Foolish Virgins (Matthew 25:1–13). Indeed, *“The road to hell is paved with good intentions.”*

In Ecclesiastes 3:1 we read, *“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”* But when it comes to being obedient and faithful to God...*the time is now!* When Jesus called His disciples they did not linger, but “immediately” left their old lives to follow Him (Matthew 4:22; 9:9). When Jesus called Zacchaeus to come down out of the tree *“he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully”* (Luke 19:6).

In Luke 14:16–24 Jesus tells of a man who had prepared a great supper and had invited his friends to come. But they all began to make excuses why they could not; *“I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it,” “I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them,” “I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.”* The question I must ask myself is, *“How long will I continue to make excuses for not doing what I need to do?”*

How long will I continue to make excuses for...

1. Not attending all the worship services, Bible Studies and fellowships of the church (Hebrews 10:25; Matthew 6:33; James 4:17)?
2. Not giving back to God as he has prospered me: joyfully and cheerfully (Acts 20:35; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:7)?
3. Not loving my brothers and sisters in Christ and speaking kindly toward them (John 13:35; Romans 12:10)?
4. Not putting away childish things and humbling myself (Philippians 2:3–4; 1 Peter 5:5–6)?
5. Not confessing my faults, repenting of my sins and asking for the prayers of the church (James 5:16; Acts 8:18–24).
6. Not obeying the gospel and becoming a Christian (Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3–6)?

*“And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed”* (Romans 13:11). *“For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation”* (2 Corinthians 6:2). The time is now! Obey Him, and be faithful.

## THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2021

**Announcements:** Steve Todd  
**Sound Room:** Paul Ormon  
**Usher:** Dean Dillard

**Lead Singing:** Sun. A.M.: 3rd ~ Mark Jennings;  
 10th ~ Phillip Young; 17th ~ Richard Jennings;  
 24th ~ Mark Jennings ; 31st ~ Phillip Young

### Sunday Prayers:

Jan. 03:  
 A.M. Phil Young  
 Mason Simmons  
 P.M.  
 Jan. 10:  
 A.M. Richard Adams  
 Olen Clark  
 P.M.  
 Jan. 17:  
 A.M. Greg Clayton  
 Larry Cobb  
 P.M.  
 Jan. 24:  
 A.M. Kurt Clayton  
 Owen Clayton  
 P.M.  
 Jan. 31:  
 A.M. Roger Clayton  
 Caleb Jennings  
 P.M.

### Lord's Supper:

**Head:** 3rd ~ Kevin Simmons; 10th ~ Terry Stubblefield;  
 17th ~ Randy Wall ; 24th ~ Tim Dye; 31st ~ Shaler Grigsby

### Scripture Reading:

Jan. 03 — Thomas Wall  
 Jan. 10 — Brian Carpenter  
 Jan. 17 — James Carter  
 Jan. 24 — Jackson Coggin  
 Jan. 31 — Clayton Hill

### Wednesday Prayers:

Jan. 06 — Phillip Young; Ruston Adams  
 Jan. 13 — Dillon Clayton; Ronnie Griggs  
 Jan. 20 — Dane Coggin; Harold Russell  
 Jan. 27 — Shane Crofts; Jason Jennings

### Usher:

Jan. 03 — Mark Jennings  
 Jan. 10 — Randy Wall  
 Jan. 17 — Roger Clayton  
 Jan. 24 — Kurt Clayton  
 Jan. 31 — Shane Crofts

### Lock:

Jan. 03 — Mark Jennings  
 Jan. 10 — Jason Jennings  
 Jan. 17 — Steve Todd  
 Jan. 24 — Kurt Clayton  
 Jan. 31 — Matt Jennings

### Security:

Jan. 03 — Greg Clayton  
 Jan. 10 — Dan Cobb  
 Jan. 17 — Jason Jennings  
 Jan. 24 — Dane Coggin  
 Jan. 31 — Mark Jennings

**Host Youth Devo:** OPEN

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

## New Year's Checklist

With the start of the new year there will be plenty of planning, evaluating, resolving, and promising. Much of this will center on worthwhile and needed changes in things that pertain to our physical life. We'll commit to diets, exercise routines, strict financial budgets, and other goals that are aimed at improving various areas of our existence. Why not spend some time doing the same thing about our spiritual performance? May we suggest the following checklist?:

**A. Pray:** Commit yourself to prayer every day, and several times each day. And think about more that a few brief moments before meals and at bedtime. Devote yourself to some serious time in prayer. Pray for those who are sick and hurting, but don't forget to pray for the church, the elders and deacons, the lost, those who are struggling spiritually, those who are laboring in hard places, and the work of the kingdom in every place.

**B. Study:** We all need constant exposure to the Word of God. It is our guide in every aspect of our lives. Be determined to read your Bible every day. Additionally, you can find a variety of articles in bulletins, on the internet, and in various publications. There are worthwhile books on a host of subjects available. A word of caution is in order: be careful about things written by men. While there is much to be gained from human sources, there is always the danger of false teaching. Carefully compare what you read to the truth of His Word.

**C. Worship:** It is hard to imagine a more worthwhile goal than committing to attend every service of the local congregation. Times of Bible study and worship are a great encouragement and blessing. When you miss these, you miss something good, AND your presence is missed by others. Be here!

**D. Teach:** We all know many people who are lost in sin. Teach them! Invite someone to services. Set up a class. Look for chances to discuss spiritual things. You can do it!

**E. Live a pure life:** Do not fail to keep yourself morally pure. You, of course, must do this to be right with God. But you should remember that others are looking at your example. Let's have a great new year in His service!

- by Greg Gwin

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

## PRAYER LIST



**Grace Lyon**, is scheduled for a heart procedure at the Tupelo Hospital Dec. 30. Please continue to also pray for *Bill*.

**Danny Sanders**, uncle of *Alyce Jennings* is in Jackson Madison Hospital in TN, struggling with covid. He has been placed on a ventilator.

**Ansley Thompson**, student from Ingomar was diagnosed with a brain tumor and is being treated at St. Jude.


**Ronnie Miller**, father of *Amanda Coggin* is in the Tupelo Hospital with breathing problems. He will go to rehab once released from the hospital.


**Harold Russell** is slowly improving from his recent back surgery.

**Sue Marques** is now at home slowly improving. She is undergoing therapy from home. Please pray for *Bobby* as well.

**Greg & Lynn Harrison** are recovering from covid.

### Sympathy:

 We express our sympathy to the family of **Price Senter** who passed away Tues. Dec. 23rd. Funeral services were held in Marietta, MS. Price was a member of the New Albany congregation for many years.

 We extend of sympathy to the family of **Jim Dickerson** who passed away Dec. 24th. Arrangements are not known at this time.

### Continue to Remember:

Chris Bradley, Kathy Clayton, Shelly Clayton, Shane Crotts, Earnestine Dye, Kathy Dye, Prebble Foster, Don Golden, Ron Griggs, Eleta Grimmitt, Madison Hardy, Debra Harville, Andrea Hill, David Holmes, Alfred Jones, Gloria Jones, Ronnie Miller, Nancy Petrowski, Olivia Pounders, Joe Reed, Lake Tremble, Terri Turner, Charles Ulmer, William Wilson family, Dixie White, 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, J.D. Stroud

### Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Luke Goff, Chase Seals

## I've Learned

If you smile when no one else is around, you really mean it.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



December 30. . . . . Melissa Conquest  
December 30. . . . . Emily Gann  
December 30. . . . . Terry Stubblefield  
January 04. . . . . Kevin Simmons  
January 05. . . . . Linda Ashmore  
January 06. . . . . Yolanda Stubblefield  
January 07. . . . . Kathy Dye



## RESPONSE

Perry Jones responded to the invitation Sunday, asking for prayers of the church and encouragement to live a faithful life. Please continue to pray for Perry that his health will improve and encourage him along the way.

## YOUTH NEWS

- December 31: A New Year's Party for 7th grade and up will be held at Brian & Shelby Carpenter's new home, beginning at 7:30. Please eat before you come. The girls are asked to bring drinks and the boys chips. The party will end when the New Year begins. If you have any questions see Shaler.
- January 8: High School night for 9th grade and up. More details later.

## HAVE YOU OILED YOUR BIBLE?

Fred W. Cropp, President of the American Bible Society, once received a letter asking, "What do you recommend for keeping the leather of Bibles from getting stiff, cracking, and peeling?"

His reply was, "There is one oil that is especially good for the treatment of leather on Bibles. It will ensure your Bible stays in good condition. It is not sold but may be found in the palm of the human hand."

Have you been "oiling your Bible" lately? Reading just four chapters a day will complete the entire Bible in a year; one chapter a day will complete the New Testament in two hundred and sixty days; three chapters a day will finish the New Testament four times a year; nine chapters will complete it once a month.

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

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

# THE INFORMER

December 29, 2020

Volume 49

## 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....Kevin Simmons  
Scripture.....Thomas Wall  
A.M. Prayer.....Phil Young  
Closing.....Mason Simmons  
P.M. Prayer.....  
Closing.....  
Wed 13rd....Phillip Y./ Ruston A.  
Lock.....Mark Jennings  
Usher .....Mark Jennings  
Security .....Greg Clayton

## OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....82  
Sunday A.M.....96  
Sunday P.M.....  
Wednesday.....74  
Contribution.....NA  
Budget.....\$4,095.92

## PANTRY ITEMS



Boxed Meals

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)  
Church of Christ  
511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148  
New Albany, Mississippi 38652  
(662)534-4649

Periodical  
Postage Paid  
New Albany, MS

POSTMASTER: Send address changes  
(Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box  
148, New Albany, MS 38652

## New Year's Prayer

Lord, make 2021 a very happy year for all of us individually here at New Albany.

Not by shielding us from sorrow and pain, but by strengthening us to bear it if it comes.

Not by taking hardship from us, but by taking all cowardice and fear from our hearts as we meet hardships.

Not by making our paths easy, but by making us sturdy enough to tread any path.

Not by granting unbroken sunshine, but by keeping our faces bright even in the shadows.

Not by making our lives always pleasant, but by showing us where others and your cause need us most and by making us zealous to be there and to help...

We pray also Lord you will bless us as a local congregation, Not with great numbers of people who come looking for entertaining activities and services . . .

But with abundant opportunities to teach your word and do your work here in this area in all sincerity and truth.

Nor do we pray that you will make our name great as a local church, but that through us your great name will be magnified.

Father, make our year a happy one! — In Jesus' Name, Amen!

copied & edited; via Bulletin Fodder