



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

July 27, 2021

The “Uncomfortable” Position

Tim Dooley

The questions are often asked by the concerned and faithful among us regarding the state of the church today. Why is the church not growing? Why are so many Christians falling away? Why is it that so many preachers, elders, and whole congregations are digressing? Why is it that some are taking extreme positions and causing so much division?

While talking to a friend recently concerning the things we often see and deal with, I told him that the problem was simple. We, for far too long, have allowed society to influence the church for evil and have failed to be the influence, *“the city set on a hill”* (Matthew 5:14-16), that Jesus told us to be. Our conclusion was that in order for the church to move forward we must first go back; back to the basics, the first principles, so that we might be able to go on to maturity.

Is there something we can put our fingers on that would serve as the basis for our resurgence? Is there a central point we can focus on to achieve our purpose? I was sure that there was. I was sure that as had gone society and so the church, there had to be a theme. But what was it? Then it hit me. I guess it was something I knew all along, something the faithful have said for years. It is not new, but it is a fundamental truth that we seem to have forgotten or simply ignored. I think it was best stated with regard to society by Benjamin Franklin who said, “anyone who cares about the poor should help them feel uncomfortable in their poverty.” That’s it! Those who feel comfortable with being poor will do nothing to change their situation. We have a society that is made to feel comfortable; everyone has to feel good about themselves. Nobody is allowed to have his or her fragile ego bruised. And sadly, this attitude has permeated the church.

The attitude of so many is that we need feel good preaching, dynamic speakers, and we should be made to feel good about ourselves. Don’t make me uncomfortable. I had a brother tell me once after a morning service, “Boy, you sure have a way of making a guy feel guilty when he doesn’t have anything to feel guilty of.” What?! A sister once told me, “I feel worse after worship than I did before I got here!” Amazing isn’t it?

The ONLY way we are going to get folks to recognize sin in their lives and do anything about it is to make them feel uncomfortable in their sin. The only way for the church to grow is to make folks uncomfortable. Why do so few actually come forward at the invitation of Christ? It is because they are comfortable with their lives.

Did Christ’s teaching make folks uncomfortable? Consider the woman at the well (John 4) and the woman taken in adultery (John 8); were they made to feel uncomfortable? What of those mentioned in John 6:66 who, *“went back, and walked no more with him.”* Were they made to feel uncomfortable? Was Peter uncomfortable when Christ looked upon him? Certainly he was since the next verse says he *“went out, and wept bitterly”* (Luke 22:61-62).

We have other examples: On the Day of Pentecost the people were, *“pricked in their heart”* (Acts 2:37). In Acts 7 the men were so uncomfortable with Stephen’s preaching they *“were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth”* (vs. 54) and then *“cast him out of the city, and stoned him”* (vs. 58). Paul made Felix so uncomfortable that he *“trembled”* (Acts 24:25).

Paul told Timothy, *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine”* (2 Timothy 4:2). Friends, this is what we need to do today. Stop making people feel comfortable in their sin and complacent with their lives. Obedience and faithfulness to Christ, not flowers, bunnies, and rainbows, will bring to our hearts, *“the peace of God, which passes all understanding”* (Philippians 4:7). Be Faithful!

THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2021

Announcements ~ Clint Stroupe

Sound Room ~ Kurt Clayton

Lead Usher ~ Brian Carpenter

Lord's Supper

Aug 01 ~ T. Stubblefield
 Aug 08 ~ Randy Wall
 Aug 15 ~ Greg Clayton
 Aug 22 ~ Andy Clemmer
 Aug 29 ~ Dane Coggin

Scripture Reading

Aug 01 ~ James Carter
 Aug 08 ~ Ruston Adams
 Aug 15 ~ Jackson Coggin
 Aug 22 ~ Dean Dillard
 Aug 29 ~ Clayton Hill

Wed. Night Lead Singing

Aug 04 ~ Clay Jennings
 Aug 11 ~ Hunter Jennings
 Aug 18 ~ Mike Brown
 Aug 25 ~ Thomas Wall

Greeters

Aug 01 ~ R & C Wall
 Aug 08 ~ K & S Clayton
 Aug 15 ~ J & A Jennings
 Aug 22 ~ M & A Jennings
 Aug 29 ~ R & K Jennings

Lock

Aug 01 ~ Matt Jennings
 Aug 08 ~ Mark Jennings
 Aug 15 ~ Jason Jennings
 Aug 22 ~ Dan Cobb
 Aug 29 ~ Kurt Clayton

Usher

Aug 01 ~ Shane Crotts
 Aug 08 ~ Mark Jennings
 Aug 15 ~ Jason Jennings
 Aug 22 ~ Randy Wall
 Aug 29 ~ Kevin Simmons

Sunday Prayers

Aug 01
 A.M. Phillip Young
 Mason Simmons
 P.M. Dillon Clayton
 David Clayton
 Aug 08
 A.M. Richard Adams
 Thomas Wall
 P.M. Shaler Grigsby
 Roger Clayton
 Aug 15
 A.M. Bill Botts
 Phil Young
 P.M. Mark Jennings
 Shane Crotts
 Aug 22
 A.M. Tim Dye
 Ricky Adams
 P.M. Richard Jennings
 Clay Jennings
 Aug 29
 A.M. Perry Jones
 Martin Crotts
 P.M. Joe Owen
 Hunter Jennings

Sunday Lead Singing

Aug 01
 A.M. Richard Jennings
 P.M. Mark Jennings
 Aug 08
 A.M. Phillip Young
 P.M. Richard Jennings
 Aug 15
 A.M. Andy Brown
 P.M. Phillip Young
 Aug 22
 A.M. Shaler Grigsby
 P.M. Andy Brown
 Aug 29
 A.M. Mark Jennings
 P.M. Shaler Grigsby

Wednesday Prayers

Aug 04 ~ Mike Brown; Olen Clark
 Aug 11 ~ Paul Ormon; Owen Clayton
 Aug 18 ~ Tim Dooley; Ronnie Griggs
 Aug 25 ~ Alvin Parks; Matt Jennings

Host Youth Devo: Brian & Shelby Carpenter

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

EXPLORE OUR BOOK RACK

The Apologetics Press book rack in the foyer has been replenished and has new titles. Stop by and take a look.

THINK ABOUT IT...

- ⇒ If you don't have time to pray and read scripture, you are busier than God intended you to be.
- ⇒ Can you ever remember a time when you regretted having said a kind word?
- ⇒ If you continually give, you will continually have.
- ⇒ What we love, we shall grow to resemble.
- ⇒ There are four things that you can never recover: the stone after the throw; the word after spoken; the occasion after it is missed; the time after it is gone.

YOU TUBE ~ LIVE STREAMING ~ Sun. @ 9:30; 1:15 Wed. @ 6:30



PRAYER LIST

Steve Hill has been diagnosed with Covid.

Clay Jennings has been diagnosed with Covid.

Halei Leahey has been diagnosed with Covid.

Susie Roberson, mother of *Steve Hill*, was to begin physical therapy on Monday. However, she was diagnosed with Covid on Monday and has been moved to the Covid floor at NMMC.

Arelus Dye, father of *Tim Dye*, is scheduled for outpatient back surgery August 6th. He has also been diagnosed with Bell's Palsy.

April Pounders has a tentative surgery date of August 9th. She is awaiting results of genetic testing.

Mike Whitaker, brother-in-law of *Ricky Adams* is under hospice care at NMMC.

Continue to Remember:

Ricky Adams, Lynda Ball, Mitchel Barton, Kathy Clayton, Larry Cobb, Shane Crotts, Prebble Foster, Eleta Grimmett, Madison Hardy, John Haynes, Patrick Holmes, Caleb Jennings, Jason Jennings, Luke Jennings, Michele Kimsey, Sue Marques, Myra Martin, Scott Owen, Anderson Parks, April Pounders, Olivia Pounders, Joe Reed, Novene Robertson, Joanna Ross, Harold Russell, Benny Scaife, Billy Stroupe, Bobby Sweat, Bella Taylor, Ansley Thompson, Tommie Whiteside, Donald Wilson Family, Sarah Grace Wise

Shut-Ins:

Helen DePriest, Kathy Dye, J. L. Eaton, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe & Benita Garner, Nancy Petrowski

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joe Downs, Lucille Gibson, Bill Lyon

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley, Chase Seals

CARE GROUP NEWS

- Care Group #1 will make School Care Packages next week. Any non-perishable items you would like to donate need to be placed in Room 12 by Wednesday, July 28th.
- Care Group #2 will meet August 15th at the fellowship building after the morning service. Lunch will be potluck.

I've Learned

One thing you can give and still keep is your word.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- July 27. Dixie White
- August 01. Dane Coggin
- August 05. Martin Crotts
- August 06. Ricky Adams
- August 06. Joe Owen

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- July 27. Austin & Kelsey Petrowski

CHURCH CALENDAR

- **July 28** Items due for School Care Packages
- **July 28** NAYPE after services
- **July 30** Back-to-School Bash for all youth and parents at the fellowship building
- **July 30** Defend the Faith and lock-in for grades 7th-12th following the Back-to-School Bash
- **August 01** First Sunday Fellowship Meal
- **August 15** Care Group #2 meeting
- **August 28-29** Widowhood Workshop
- **September 19-20** Church directory pictures

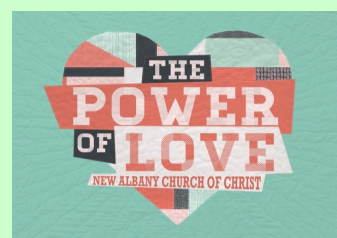
INTOUCH UPDATES

- **Mark and Alyce Jennings** address: 1649 State Road 30 West, Myrtle, MS 38650
- **Mike & Janice Brown** telephone numbers: Mike (931) 994-1803 Janice (931) 994-8382

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Collett Cross for being named President of Pilot International! Collett was installed as President at Pilot International's annual convention in Atlanta, Georgia on July 10th.

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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School..... 9:30
 Morning Worship.....10:30
 Pew Packers/Afternoon Worship
1:15
 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.....662-252-9762
 Tim Dye.....662-316-2527
 Richard Jennings .662-316-1305
 Troy Robertson 662-316-3163
 Phil Young.....662-316-2059

DEACONS

Kurt Clayton.....662-316-6420
 Shane Crotts.....662-266-0195
 Jason Jennings.....662-801-3260
 Mark Jennings.....731-609-3309
 Kevin Simmons.. 662-512-8451
 Randy Wall.....662-316-9255

TO SERVE

Communion.....T. Stubblefield
 Scripture.....James Carter
 A.M. Prayer.....Phillip Young
 Closing.....Mason Simmons
 P.M. Prayer.....Dillon Clayton
 Closing.....David Clayton
 Lock.....Matt Jennings
 UsherShane Crotts
 SecurityRichard Adams
 Wed Open 4th.....Mike Brown
 Wed Close 4th.....Olen Clark

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....129
 Sunday A.M..... 157
 Sunday P.M.....96
 Wednesday.....76
 Contribution.....\$4,811.00
 Budget.....\$4,219.62

THE INFORMER

July 27, 2021

Volume 30

Teacher's Prayer

*Dear Father, hear me as I pray,
 For every child I teach today,
 That each small face may be to me
 A cherished photograph of Thee.*

*With patient sweetness let me guide
 Each precious soul with love and pride,
 That when I make a record sheet
 No space may be left incomplete.*

*Then grant me grace, each mind to give
 A clear-marked rule by which to live.
 And then, dear Father, I beseech
 That I may keep the rule I teach.*

~ Author Unknown

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)



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