

MORE IMPORTANT BUSINESS**Romans 14:17*****For the Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking; but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.***

The people in Rome were having a big discussion about what followers of Jesus could eat. The “weak brother” believed he could only eat vegetables and there was the “one who has faith that he may eat all things” (Romans 14:2).

The answer was simple “accept the one who is weak in the faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgement on his opinions” (v. 1). That covers the matter very well. Accept one another; don’t judge each other in regard to such matters.

Continuing that thought, Romans 14:13 says “Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather determine this – not to put an obstacle or a stumbling block in a brother’s way.” In other words, don’t cause someone to sin.

In the final analysis, the Bible said “there are some things more important than meat.” “The Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

Romans 14:17 is God’s way of saying “don’t get all worked up over things that have nothing to do with the Kingdom of God. We need to learn that. Some folks who claim to be Christians get all worked up over things that have nothing to do with the Kingdom; things like the color of coffee cups, etc. The Kingdom of God is not about such trivial things. It is about “righteousness, and joy, and peace in the Holy Spirit.” May we never allow the trivial to distract us from Kingdom business.

--**Ron Harper**--

If The Church Had Sponsors

Galatians 1:1-5

Professional athletes, television stations, radio stations, the Olympics, and nonprofit organizations are all examples of groups that have sponsorships to support their various activities. A sponsor's job is to provide money or a product that will aid in the work of the activity or organization being sponsored. In return, the company usually receives advertising or some other form of compensation in which they believe they will be benefited. For example, Verizon Wireless sponsors the NFL. The League receives money from Verizon and Verizon receives its own commercial spots as well as its own "red zone report." Each organization is benefited.

So I couldn't help but think what if the church has corporate sponsors? Allow me to briefly share my thoughts:

Cheerios—the official sponsor of mothers with young children

Macy's—provider of the official Sunday morning suit

KFC—because every congregation needs fried chicken

Google—the official sponsor of the "What does that word mean?" question

Apple Inc.—There's an App for that, the official sponsor of Bible School

However, we often fail to realize our true, number one, highest contributing sponsor. That is Jesus Christ. He paid the ultimate sacrifice and he only asks for a little in return (Matthew 26-28). Jesus paid what no one else could afford. He paid with his own blood—all of it. His gift is our way of receiving salvation. He is our one and only true sponsor.

But sponsorships have a mutual agreement for the benefit of both parties. So what could we do to repay the debt? Well, we can't pay it in full, but we can abide by the terms and conditions Jesus calls us to obey. We can be baptized and receive salvation (Acts 2:38). We can live for him every day of our lives (Romans 12:1-2). We can bring others to him (Matthew 28:16-20). We owe our sponsor. Let's show him we appreciate what he gave.

Joshua Houston

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SICK

Mary Jo Rogers, Roberta Alsup, Mabel Robertson

TAKING TREATMENTS

Lois Arnold, Carolyn Thomas, Janneil Brown
Rosalie Phifer

SHUT INS

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Clyde & Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Imogene Bozeman, Selma Boyd, Larry & Geri Melton, Betty Shoemaker, Rosalie Phifer, Janneil Brown, Gerald Wiseman, Ron Bowersock, Mary Jo Rogers, Melba Young, Nancy Hatton, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Janie Harper

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*, Opal Jones*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Sue Reeves*, Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton*

MORNING POINTE: (Brentwood) Betty Shoemaker

STONES RIVER MANOR: Edna Vance*, Virgie Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*, Laura Wiser*, Lillian Whitworth, Louise McKnight*, Martha DeVore

MILITARY

Please keep **Tony Berry** in your prayers, while he is stationed in California at Camp Pendleton.

The Visitor

NEWS & NOTES

Stones River Manor is collecting items for their Santa Store. Please donate new items; all donations are to be turned in by December 3rd to the Manor. A list of donation items is on the counter.

Shut-in boxes – A sign-up list for our shut-ins and a suggested gift list is on the counter. Please prepare and deliver your box by December 19th. If unable to deliver your box, please contact Larry Benson.

In preparation for the **2016 Membership Directory**, please check your information for any corrections or additions. The directory copy is on the counter.

THANK YOU CARDS

We have received Thank You cards from:

*Regenia Grissom

*The Wilbanks Family



November 22, 2015

Salem Creek church of Christ
P.O. Box 332067
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Phone: (615) 893-7532
(615) 893-8212

Offices located at:
2611 B Salem Creek Drive
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

Email:
office@salemcreekcoc.org

We're on the web!
www.mdcoc.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Currently meeting at
Middle Tennessee Christian School
100 E. MTCS Rd.
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Sunday | |
| Morning Worship | 8:30 am |
| Bible Classes | 9:45 am |
| Evening Worship | 5:30 pm |
| Wednesday | |
| Morning Bible Class | 10:00 am |
| Evening Bible Classes | 6:30 pm |

ELDERS

B.K. Ham
Jim Hatfield
Jon Holland
Andy Mitchell
Randall Phifer
Fred Rogers
Keith Short

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Larry Benson | Andy Melton |
| Michael Bowman | Brian Melton |
| Craig Buckner | Alan Pepper |
| Bob Hoover | Wendell Wilson |

FOR THE RECORD

November 15, 2015

| | | |
|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday | AM worship | 160 |
| | Bible classes | 137 |
| | PM worship | 139 |
| | Contribution | \$4,988.75 |

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Wednesday | PM Bible classes | 107 |
| Wednesday | AM Ladies Class (Sept-May) | 15 |

GREETERS

Please be at the door 15
minutes prior to services!



November 22

Steve & Martha Hill
Keith & Margaret Short

November 29

Louise Smithson
Robert & Mary Ann McKnight

To Our Honored Guests...

We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back to Middle Tennessee Christian School while our new building is under construction.

We were honored by your presence!