

REPENT

Acts 2:38

Peter said to them, repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 is just one of a number of passages that commands repentance. Peter promised his audience forgiveness of sins if they would repent and be baptized. In Acts 8, in a different situation, a Christian sinned by trying to purchase the gift of God with money. Peter told Simon to “repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you” (Acts 8:22).

Repent means to change your mind or heart. It results in a change of direction. In both of these two biblical cases, people were involved in sin. In the first case, people who had never been saved were told to turn away from sin and unite with Christ in baptism. The second case involved a man who had been baptized but had slipped back into sin. He did not need to be baptized again but he did need to repent of his wickedness and pray for forgiveness.

The great thing about repentance is that, through it, God offers us a chance to turn away from sin. Sin separates us from God and destroys our lives. But it doesn't have to be the end of the story. God is more than willing to forgive us provided we are willing to turn away from sin. Through His grace, we are able to have a new life. That's about as positive as it gets.

--Ron Harper--

Rain, Rain Go Away

“The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep.” Genesis 7:17-20

I guess you could say we were creative when we chose the name for our family farm. When we had horses, our farm name was Houston Stables. When we moved to raising show cattle, our farm named changed to Houston Show Cattle. We then expanded to hogs, chickens, and cattle, thus the name changed again to Houston Livestock. With all those name changes, I must admit, I am tempted to change the name again. After all the rain this week, this time I would call it “Muddy Acres Farm.”

The rain we have received over the past few weeks has certainly been a blessing. The state of Tennessee’s water table is still below where it should be, so any amount of rain is needed. The problem is that rain causes mud and mud gets my tractor stuck. It’s difficult to feed cattle in knee-deep mud.

Even though it is easy to complain about the rain, it is nothing in comparison to the flood of Noah. Even though the Earth was destroyed and only a few (in the grand scheme of the whole world) living beings were saved, let’s look at the goodness of God in this story.

First, rain brings a renewal. God used the flood to wipe out the evil that existed in the world. The world was so corrupt that God regretted making the world in the first place. However, God saw the righteousness of Noah and chose to save him and his family. After the flood, there was the chance for a new beginning.

Second, the destruction of the world by water instigated God’s promise that he would never again destroy the world in such a way. The sign of this promise can be seen in the rainbow every time it rains.

Lastly, just as the rain provided a clean slate for the world, God uses water as the avenue for our clean slate in baptism. As we are buried with Christ in baptism, we are raised having a clean slate as if our sins never happened. Rain, rain, it’s okay if you stay.

NEWS & NOTES

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Ken & Barbara McPeak, Selma Boyd, Pat Davidson, Odell Grissom, Sue Reeves, Ernestine Taylor, Carolyn Thomas, Laura Wiser, Nell Jernigan, Narene Davidson, Mary Williams, Shirley Bibb, Glenda Stiles

SHUT INS:

Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Oleta Bullard, Houston Henry, Dan Stephens, Richard Jones, Wayne Mobbs, Carolyn Thomas, Mabel Robertson, Louis Wilson, Melba & Jeanie Young

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

***MEMBERS**

NHC: Lizzie Bush, Sue Reeves*, Ernestine Taylor*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Laura Wiser*, Virgie Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*, Lillian Whitworth

SMYRNA: Geri Melton*

WOODBURY: Jeweldean Hall*

TN VETERAN'S HOME: Edna Vance*

Please keep **Vance Benson**, son of Larry and Nancy Benson in prayers. He is battling cancer.

Congratulations to **Jamie, Mollie and Tripp Carver** on the birth of **Shelby Elizabeth**. She was born on Wednesday.

We are excited to announce that **Nick Pitman** was baptized Wednesday night. He is the husband of Hannah and son-in-law of Ken and Jo Anne Malone.

- Please pray for the group traveling back from CYC today.
- Robert McKnight's Visitation Team 1 will meet Sunday, March 11 for lunch.
- The MTCS Chorus will perform for us immediately following pm services on March 11. Please bring plenty of finger foods for this time of fellowship.

We are excited to announce **Stan and Cindy Hunter** have placed membership with us. Please welcome this family and add their contact information to your directory.

Stan, Cindy, Rebekah and Samantha Hunter

1141 Walnut Grove Rd

Christiana, TN 37037

Stan's cell: 615-418-8260

Cindy's cell: 615-418-8261

74Huntercm@gmail.com

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2525 Salem Creek Drive
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

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P.O. Box 332067
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Email: office@salemcreekcoc.org

We're on the web!
www.salemcreekcoc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday

Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May)	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

ELDERS

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

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Rick Acklin	Rick Corum
Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Joe Byars	Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

February 18, 2018

Sunday	AM worship	259
	Bible classes	176
	PM worship	143
	Contribution	\$7528.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	102
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	14

When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. Ladies class will be canceled

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 as often as you have opportunity! We were honored by your presence!

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
30 minutes prior to service*



February 25

Dorothy Stroop & Ashley Hurt

March 4

Dean Thompson & Joyce Jenkins