

***WHAT'S THE PRICE?***

***Revelation 2:13***

***I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is, and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you where Satan dwells.***

What does it cost to follow Jesus? If we accepted what He said about that, would we still follow Him? Are we willing to sacrifice our lives for Him? What price do we have to pay?

Pergamum was a difficult place for Christians. It was the place where Satan had his throne. For this reason, it called by some, "Hell's Headquarters." The temple of Zeus was there. It was the center of emperor worship in the Roman world.

It was the place where Antipas met his fate. We know very little about him but what we do know is powerful. Jesus called him "my witness, my faithful one." The Greek word for "witness" is also the word for "martyr"; one who dies for their faith. The word doesn't really mean "martyr." "Witness" is the literal translation.

People who testified that Jesus is Lord were said to be "witnesses." Giving that testimony could cost you your life in a place like Pergamum; just ask Antipas. What's the price? Just ask Antipas who lived out the charge given to another church. "Be faithful to death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

How much must I give in order to follow Jesus? Everything. As people who live in a pagan culture today, we must be willing to follow in the steps of Antipas if necessary. That's a high price. Am I willing to pay it?

***--Ron Harper--***

## What's in Your Wallet?

**“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.”**

Perhaps we've all thought about what we would do if we had a billion dollars (or at least some great amount of money). Even just a few weeks ago while Kayla and I were driving to Chattanooga, we found ourselves discussing what we would do if we had an overwhelming amount of money. I'm not going to tell you what we discussed but we came to the simple conclusion that money cannot buy happiness...but it can buy cows and that's basically happiness.

Imagine you have 1 billion dollars. What would you do? Would you save it? Would you spend it on material things? Would you care for your family? Would you donate a portion to the church or charity?

In Jesus' famous parable of the pearl of great price, the story is told of a merchant who found something so amazing, he would do anything to get it. To get this one pearl, he had to give up everything he had. The pearl was his new treasure. It was worth every penny.

There were other pearls available for him to buy. These would not have cost nearly as much because their essence was not desirable. We can strive for other things like self, glory, fame, or fortune, but these are just cheap imitations and counterfeit comfort.

This pearl cost the merchant everything. It cost him his home, his job, his possessions, and perhaps even his reputation. Who in their right mind would sell everything they owned for one pearl? He would. He knew the value of something so precious. He was not going to pass up this opportunity to have something so great.

Have we found our pearl of great price? Have we given up everything for the cause of Jesus? Are we still buying cheap imitations, or have we found the real thing? Being a Christian cost a great price, but the reward is so much better than anything money could buy.

Joshua Houston

## 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 has stage 4 lung cancer.

**Alice Clinton** had shoulder surgery on Thursday.

**Lynn Weems** is in St Thomas Rutherford ICU on a ventilator.

- We received a thank you note from the family of **Nora Fann**. It will be posted in the foyer.

- Please pray for the group traveling back from the couple's retreat today.
- The youth group devo will be tonight following pm services starting around 7pm. Please eat before you come or go pick up something immediately after worship services. We will meet at the front of the auditorium.
- MTCS Experience Day is March 8. Please register online at [mtcscougars.org](http://mtcscougars.org).
- 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 and drinks for this time of fellowship.
- There will be a VBS meeting on March 18 at 4:30 in the big classroom for anyone who wishes to help with VBS. Our VBS is June 3 and June 6.
- An Elementary Devo is planned at the building on March 18 immediately following PM services. Please bring snacks and drinks.
- An Easter Egg hunt is scheduled for March 24, at 12:30 pm here at the building. Each family is asked to bring candy-filled eggs. Volunteers are needed to provide snacks and help hide the eggs. Please note the change in time from the previously printed calendar of events. The sign-up sheet is located in the foyer with more details. If you have any questions, please see Jeff or Karen Milstead.
- A Senior Saints dinner at Bell Buckle Café is planned for March 31 at 5 pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you plan to attend.

Salem Creek church of Christ  
2525 Salem Creek Drive  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

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Murfreesboro, TN 37133-2067

Email: [office@salemcreekcoc.org](mailto:office@salemcreekcoc.org)

We're on the web!  
[www.salemcreekcoc.org](http://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 25, 2018*

Sunday	AM worship	217
	Bible classes	149
	PM worship	135
	Contribution	\$5670.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	128
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Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	14
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\*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*



### March 4

Dean Thompson & Joyce Jenkins

### March 11

Jake & Mallory Wilbanks