

THE PRAISE BELONGS TO GOD
Matthew 5:16

Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

The week spent in Nicaragua was an unbelievable experience. Thanks to all who helped make this trip a reality. Your financial support, prayers, and cards were a blessing.

Our work began on Saturday with the annual ladies conference attended by 300 people. Our own Janie Harper was one of the speakers and, in addition, our group provided child care during the conference. On Saturday afternoon we walked through the neighborhood handing out flyers inviting people to Bible School.

We had a great morning in worship with our Nicaraguan brethren on Sunday and praise God for a baptism that took place after worship. On Sunday afternoon we began Bible school with a total attendance of 272. For the next three afternoons we had well over 400 each day.

This year our group painted a couple of murals on the outside walls of one of the buildings at Nicaragua Christian School. It was dedicated to the memory of Mary Jo Rogers. On Monday morning we paid a visit to a school for children with "special needs." We were able to deliver to the school a number of coloring books, cleaning supplies, and medical supplies.

We thank God for the experience and pray that next year's trip will also be a great success. The praise belongs to Him.

--Ron Harper--

Why Aren't We Growing?

Numbers have been down. Discouragement has been up. Your congregation started years ago and had initial growth, but now everything seems stagnant. Everyone seems happy to be there, but if anything, it is a front. In reality, people are asking, "What is the point?" In the Bible, we read of a church that grew. This was the church that God built. This is the church God wants us to be. If we follow its pattern, then our churches will be in the right mindset for growth.

Growing Churches Worship (Acts 2:42-43)

Worship is vital towards our relationship with God. Without it we have no relationship. "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire" (Heb. 12:28). Think about how huge that is. We have the opportunity to come before the God who created everything and offer worship to Him. (Notice how the passage says acceptable worship.)

Growing Churches Serve (Acts 2:44-45)

When was the last time you really served someone? Jesus makes it clear that on judgment day, whether or not we have served on this earth will determine if we go to Heaven or Hell (Matt. 25:31-46). Serving is not easy to put into practice because it requires us to put others before ourselves (Phil. 2:3-5). The book of James teaches us that true Christianity involves service and helping those in need.

In Acts 2:44, the Bible says Christians were selling their possessions and giving to those who were in need. That is love. When the world sees the church that Jesus sacrificed for, they need to see a church that sacrifices.

Growing Churches Fellowship (Acts 2:46)

Have you ever wondered why God requires us to come together as a church to worship Him? Could we not worship alone in our homes? The reason God designed the church the way he did was so it could be one body, perfectly joined together (1 Cor. 1:10). We come together so we can lift one another up. Whether we are in times of sadness, struggle or gladness, we have each other (Gal. 6:1-2).

Noah Icenhour
312 Ministries

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Selma Boyd, Gerald Wiseman, Jeanie Young, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Janneil Brown, Kinley Mobbs, Sue Reeves, Willis Clark

Laura Wiser is recovering from a recent fall. Please keep her in your prayers.

TAKING TREATMENTS:

Lois Arnold

SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann* Nell Jernigan*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

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

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

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

VBS



When: Saturday, July 23

Time: 10-3

Theme: RESCUED

There will be classes for all ages and lunch will be provided; however, we will need lots of delicious cookies. Please invite all your friends and family to attend our first VBS at our new building.

The Visitor

NEWS & NOTES

- **FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY** will be held on **Sunday, July 24**. This will give your family and friends an opportunity to see our new building. Let's fill the building!!!
- A teen devo will be held at the home of **Jon & Judy Holland** following our evening service.
- The monthly Men's breakfast will be held **Tuesday, July 12** at IHOP @ 8 am.
- **MYM** – Tuesday, July 11, @ 7p.m. at Florence church of Christ. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer.
- **TNT** - July 14th and 28th. Billy Bearden - guest speaker on the 14th to be held at Salem Creek.
- **Eagleville church of Christ Homecoming July 17**. See flyer posted in the foyer.

*Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grissem
Invite you to join in the celebration
of the recent marriage
of
Tanya & Casey Landis
A reception honoring them will be
held on
Saturday, July 23 from 1 till 4 at
The Heritage Room
352 W. Northfield Suite B
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
Refreshments will be served.*

July 10, 2016

Salem Creek church of Christ
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 Murfreesboro, TN 37128

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 Murfreesboro, TN 37133

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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

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

FOR THE RECORD

July 3, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	190
	Bible classes	143
	PM worship	120
	Contribution	\$5,723.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	101
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
 15 minutes prior to services!*



July 10

Jim & Pat Davidson

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!