

## Serving This Week:

### Sunday Morning

**Announcements:** Howell Todd  
**Song Leader:** Kyle Richardson  
**Opening Prayer:** Howell Todd  
**Lord's Supper**

**Presiding:** Ken Grandstaff  
**Serving:** Eric Horne  
Kyle Richardson  
**Preaching:** Howell Todd  
**Closing Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff

### Sunday Evening

**Opening Prayer:** Howell Todd  
**Preaching:** Howell Todd  
**Closing Prayer:** Kyle Richardson

### Wednesday Evening

**Opening Prayer:** Brian Horner  
**Devotional:** Howell Todd  
**Closing Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff

### Serving Next Sunday:

**Lord's Supper:** Brian Horner  
**Preaching:** Brian Horner  
**Opening Prayer:** Ken Grandstaff  
**Closing Prayer:** Howell Todd

**To all our visitors - Welcome!**  
**We hope you will come back**  
**and worship with us soon!**

## TEAM MEETINGS

**Correspondence** - Sunday evenings after worship see Kyle Richardson.

**Visitation/Bible Study** - For assignments see Brian Horner.

**Member Care** - Regarding Member needs contact Kyle Richardson.

**Flower Request** - Please call Lynda Ann Sparkman: 444.0938(h) 587.8187(c)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Men's Business Meeting

After services this evening.

## Sign Up!

The signup sheet for cleaning the building, yard work, and 5th Sunday preaching for 2013 is on the bulletin board. Thanks in advance for you help!

## Pantry:

Please let Howell know of anyone in our community who needs help!

## God's Plan of Salvation

**Hear** the Word

(Rom 10:17)

**Believe** in Jesus

(John 8:24)

**Repent** of your sins

(Luke 13:3)

**Confess** faith in Christ

(Rom 10:10)

**Be Baptized** for forgiveness of sins

(Acts 2:38)

**Live Faithfully**

(1 Cor. 15:58)

## Daily Bible Reading

Day	Scripture
<b>Sunday</b> ( <i>Epistles</i> )	Romans 7-8
<b>Monday</b> ( <i>The Law</i> )	Genesis 12-15
<b>Tuesday</b> ( <i>History</i> )	Joshua 16-20
<b>Wednesday</b> ( <i>Psalms</i> )	Psalms 9-11
<b>Thursday</b> ( <i>Poetry</i> )	Job 7-8
<b>Friday</b> ( <i>Prophecy</i> )	Isaiah 18-22
<b>Saturday</b> ( <i>Gospels</i> )	Matthew 8-10

# Bethel church of Christ

2427 Sparta Pike, Lebanon TN 37090

<http://www.bethelcoc.net>

January 27, 2013

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM  
Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

## Edification

One of the responsibilities of the Church is edification. The meaning of edification is to build up. In the context of the Church, edification involves: constructive speech and behavior by Christian disciples and leaders to spiritually strengthen the Church and those whom they interact with outside of the Church.

**Romans 14:17-19** – *“For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.”*

Edifying speech is not limited to “happy talk”. While sharing the positive concepts of love, peace, purity, and eternal life uplift the hearer, they cannot stand without sharing the truth about sin, repentance, judgment and eternal destruction. If a faulty foundation has been set, then that foundation must be torn down to erect a truly stable building. Paul expressed that he shared the whole counsel of God to the Ephesians (**Acts 20:27**). He also stated that what he taught he did so in every church everywhere (**I Cor. 4:17**). The truth spoken in love enables edification (**Eph. 4:15**). This type of speech encompasses everything from daily pleasantries to correction of sinfulness (**I Thess. 5:14**). It certainly does not involve false accusation, name calling, cursing, gossip, lying, or double talk (**Eph. 4:29**).

Edifying behavior starts with a mind striving toward purity (**Phil. 4:8**). When a congregation assembles, the behaviors they engage in should build up those gathered (**I Cor. 14:23**). Their behaviors should be authorized in the Words and Deeds of Christ (**Col. 3:17, I Peter 2:21-24**). When Jesus' life is examined, it is found that all He said and all He did were what the Father commanded (**John 5:30, John 12:49-50**). Christian behavior should be grounded in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and self-control (**Gal. 5:22-23**). Their lives should not involve immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,

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envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these (**Gal. 5:19-21**).

Edification is the responsibility of every Christian (**Heb. 10:24**). This certainly involves sharing the gospel (**Mark 16:15, 2 Tim. 2:24**), caring for the fatherless and widows (**James 1:27**), comforting fellow Christians (**I Thess. 4:13-18, 5:11**), and meeting their physical needs (**I Cor. 16:1-2, I John 3:17**). It should be observed that at times there is an overlap between benevolence and edification, but the result is a building up or strengthening from the actions undertaken. Quite often edification is believed to be something Christians do for others (**Eph. 5:19**). However, consider what the Christian does when he studies, listens to a taped sermon, or softly sings a hymn as he goes about his work. That Christian edifies himself. He strengthens himself in Christ and stirs up his mind by way of remembrance (**2 Timothy 2:15, Col. 3:16, 2 Pet. 3:1**).

The eldership sets the tone for edification in the Church. They watch over and build up souls. They do not ignore sin to achieve an appearance of unity or soundness. If an eldership allows unauthorized practices or teaching in the Church, edification does not occur. The kings of Israel are a good example of what happens when leadership fails to edify. An eldership must be able to hold fast the Word that they may exhort in sound doctrine and refute those who contradict sound doctrine (**Titus 1:9**). A sound eldership listens when Christians are alarmed over possible sin in a congregation. They do not get angry, attack, call names, make false accusation, or chase the Christian off when warned of sin under their leadership. Self-willed, quick-tempered, and pugnacious elders do not demonstrate edifying behavior (**Titus 1:7**). Edification starts at the top following the example of Jesus. Elders edify the Church with proper speech and behavior so that God may be glorified.

Travis Main  
churchofchristarticles.com

### January Birthdays:

- 2 - Virginia Laudeman
- 12 - Mary L'Heureux
- 16 - Leslie Hembree
- 23 - Eric Horne
- 26 - Dorothy Bryan
- 27 - Rissa Morris

### Anniversaries:

- 12 - Deloris & Jackie Wright

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:35-38

## Keene Thinking

Once upon a time a pig and a chicken were arguing about which one was more important in the breakfast meal of bacon and eggs. Each one was claiming to be the dominant one in the meal. After a long and heated discussion, the pig said, "Look, for you, you're only involved in the meal. For me, it's a permanent commitment."

Sometimes I think many folks go through life like the chicken rather than like the pig. We are involved, and our involvement is a good thing. We are busy here and busy there. Our works are good, and they fulfill what the Lord said we must do. There is nothing wrong with what we do. However, there may be a lack of commitment in our hearts. Commitment goes to motive; why we do what we do. Commitment also keeps us involved when things are difficult and going to pieces around us.

The apostle Paul understood commitment, probably more than most anyone. He faced adversity on every side, had enemies everywhere he went, and suffered pain and persecution often. Yet, he never gave up. Why? Because of commitment. Listen to his own words.

**2 Timothy 1:12:** *For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*

**2 Timothy 4:7:** *I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:*

For Paul, Christianity was a permanent, lifelong commitment. It should and must be the same for us today. May we each take a long look at our life and examine whether or not we are truly committed to Christ.

Barry  
Highland Heights church of Christ

## Remember in Prayer

### Shut Ins:

- Fannie Bell Warren
- Janelle Arrington
- William Wells

### Others:

- Hollis Cluck
  - Muril Todd
  - Karen Hudson - cancer
  - Christy Garrett
  - The Bryan Family
  - Annie and JW Smith
  - Margie Taylor
  - Priscilla and Patrick Graves
  - Jessica Richardson
  - Dan Smith
  - Diane Grandstaff and family
  - Joe Allen
  - Linda Kay Edwards - surgery recovery
  - Edna Forbes
  - Janice Garrett
  - Carol Goins - Mary L.'s sister
  - Lila Kirk
  - Wanda Gates - cancer
  - Kathy Greer
  - Jeff Greenblatt - auto accident
- Please call to inform us of News items or Prayer Requests: Kyle Richardson (495-7106) Dorothy Jean Smith (444-5437)*