

First, the explanation is rather easy. We have for many years disregarded the sanctity of life. All persons are made in the very image of God (Gen. 1:26-28). That truth should shape the way we treat our fellow man, including those that are still in the womb. We ought to hate the “hands that shed innocent blood” (Prov. 6:17). When we accepted the practice of abortion as the status quo, we sent a message that life isn’t important if it conflicts with our own personal agenda. We have also perverted human sexuality. The same from-the-beginning principles also define human sexual relations. It is part of marriage (Gen. 1:26-28; 2:18-25; 4:1). The body is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psa. 139:14), including our sexual desires and capabilities. Our capacity for sexual intimacy is ordained by God to be reserved for our marital partner (1 Cor. 7:1-9). But when we stop respecting life and pervert sexuality it results in a dangerous concoction that sees other people (even children, for some) as mere objects to satisfy carnal cravings.

Second, we must stop sexualizing our children. Obviously we may not be able to change the heart of every person but we are not helping the problem at all when we present our children as sexual objects. It is one thing to talk with our children about marriage and sexuality. We should. They should learn that “marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled” (Heb. 13:4). They must learn that their body is fearfully and wonderfully made (Psa. 139:14) and to be saved for their future spouse. They should learn that God cares about modesty and that real beauty is the submission of the heart to our Maker (1 Pet. 3:1-7).

It is another thing entirely when we feed perverse forms of sexuality to our children. What outcome are we hoping for from our kids and the world when we feed our children songs and movies that present children as desirable objects (Mark 7:21-23; Phil. 4:8)? What are we expecting when we let our girls and boys dress inappropriately (1 Tim. 2:9-10)? Are we so surprised at what’s happening when we post pictures of our children in skimpy clothing in public sites like Facebook (Matt. 5:28)? As an example, Netflix will soon be offering a series about preteen girls learning how to dirty dance! The only way all this madness can be brought to an end is for parents to stop sexualizing their children.

Obviously, you can tell I am bothered by what’s happening. Our world is sick and it scares me to death that children are now at risk because of it. But so much of this could be ended if we started teaching Biblical sexuality to our children instead of Satan’s version. “Jesus loves the little children of the world”, we sing. In the purest and most protective way, He does. We should too.

North Hamilton Church of Christ

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Schedule of Services:



September 13, 2020

Elders:

Willard Elsea
240-9539
Art Greer
902-6295
Joel Laney
322-7828

Deacons:

Joe Anderson
Keith Herron
Brad Jones
Tommy Qualls
Chris Randolph
Curt Stewart
Justin Tripp
Toby Ward

Preacher:

David B. Smith
667-1987

“The Sexualization of our Children” David B. Smith

News stories are breaking almost daily of children being rescued out of sex trafficking rings. Just within the last two weeks, law enforcement groups found two separate stashes of children, one with close to thirty kids and the other with almost fifty. The children were already being groomed for a life of slavery and forced prostitution. It is unthinkable, I know. The sad reality is that there are thousands more that haven’t been found. So how do we explain this? How is it possible that our world has come so far as to abuse children? Are there things we can do as Christians to reverse this course and change the outlook? Here are a few thoughts.

(Cont’d on back)

Prayer List -- Members

Nancy Birch	Bobby Wilson	Susie Hargis
Jenny Partin	Loretta Leffew	Judy Lusk
Tommy Grandfield		

Prayer List - Friends and Family

Mike Bouldin	Fred Hafley	Tina Brown
Tony Miller	Steve Gaines	Steve Higginbotham
Tim Randolph	Bill Greer	Juanita Johnson
Janice Smith	Grayson Ledbetter	Bessie Smithson
Diane Stacy	Becky Eustice	John Webster
Ruth Fuller	Terry Driver	Jan Burton
Tammy Hudson	Kathy Hamilton	Sherry Phipps
Mary Ellen Phipps	Ida Lou Sanderlin	

(See additional information on each of these on the bulletin board at either hallway.)

Sick and Recovering

Kathryn Isom, mother of Sue Wright, has visited the ER a couple of times this past week. She is home now and will be undergoing tests this next week.

David Scarbrough has requested that we add a friend of his, **Sherry Phipps**, to our prayer list. Sherry and her parents have been touched by the Covid virus. Her dad, **James Phipps**, passed away on Monday and Sherry and her mother, **Mary Ellen Phipps**, are still suffering with the virus. Please keep these folks in your prayers. This family lives in Soddy Daisy.

Ida Lou Sanderlin, a close friend of Nelda Eustice, has throat cancer. Nelda has asked that we add her to our prayer list.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays: Monday-Lila Newsom; Wednesday-Keith Herron; Friday-Ashley Ellison; Sunday-Emry Satterwhite.

Anniversaries: Monday-Terry & Tabitha Williamson; Tuesday-Bob & Lila Newsom (60 yrs.); Friday-Naron & Hayley Yates.

• **Last Sunday Attendance – 114**

- **Sunday Sermon Topic:** David's sermon on Sunday is titled "Missiles in Marriage" part 1 and is taken from Malachi 2:10-16.

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- **Virginia Creeper Trip:** The tentative date for the Virginia Creeper ride is Friday, October 16, which is during fall break for the schools. If you have an interest, please see Joel Laney or Willard Elsea.
- **Electronic Bulletins:** If you wish to receive an electronic copy of the bulletin and are not currently receiving one, please send your email address to Gloria at nhcocbulletin@gmail.com and she will add you to that list of recipients. Items to be included in the bulletin may also be sent to the same address.
- **Mask Mandate in Fellowship Room:** Just a reminder that we are livestreaming to the fellowship room where masks are mandated and social distancing is observed. Livestreaming will be done on Sunday AM and PM services and at the Wednesday evening service.
- **Kids Time:** Please take a moment to congratulate our Kids Time trophy winners: Saralyn Elsea, Evie Rose Smith, and Graceley Smith. They received their trophies last Sunday for memorizing the 10 Commandments.
- **Member News:** The **Smith's** and **Randolph's** had a fun time at the lake during our Labor Day holiday. The **Coopers** made a trip to Branson, MO, during the holiday week. They were able to check that off their bucket list.

Important dates for your calendar:

- Sunday, September 13, 2020 – Sunday Evening worship resumes at 5:00 pm.
- Tuesday, September 15, 2020 – Ladies Bible Class resumes at 10:00 am.
- Wednesday, September 16, 2020 – Mid week Bible Study begins at 7:00 pm.
- Wednesday, November 4, 2020 – Children's Home to pick up our contributions.