

North Hamilton Church of Christ

8310 Dayton Pike/PO Box 517 Soddy Daisy, TN 37384
(423) 842-1044
www.northhamiltonchurchofchrist.com

Schedule of Services: Sunday 10:30 am, 5:00 pm; Wednesday 7:00pm

This is particularly important in this age, since many seem lost as to which principles take priority over others. That doesn't mean any are unimportant. It only means that truths work when the foundation for those truths is in place. Consider, for example, how Jesus explained the same when debating the Pharisees just before His death. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone" (Matt. 23:23). Our Lord wasn't calling for the exclusion of the tithes especially since He said not to leave them undone. But tithing was valueless if it stood alone. It only had meaning when filtered through justice, mercy and faithfulness. So there is a sense in which we could say, "first things first." If we get the foundational principles right, then everything else should fall in place behind.

There is much talk lately about what makes for a good society. Are nations better off if they focus solely on economics? Should the emphasis of a nation be almost exclusively foreign policy? Or are there principles that run deeper that should be considered first? In the words of Jesus, are there principles that should be considered up front without leaving the others undone? If my claim is to be a Christian, then I am professing the reign of Jesus over my heart. I am saying that my life is crucified with Christ (Gal. 2:20). I am saying that all of my thoughts are being submitted to my Savior (2 Cor. 10:3-6). This also means I must do as He did and honor those principles established by God to yield, "very good" results (Gen. 1:31). As we read through the initial chapters in Genesis, here are some foundational principles that should stay on our "first things first" list:

1. The sanctity of human life (Gen. 1:26-28).
2. The sanctity of marriage and the home (Gen. 2:18-25; 1:26-28).
3. Human beings are created for fellowship with God and sin destroys fellowship (Gen. 3:1-15).
4. We must respect authority and understand our accountability (Gen. 2:16-17).
5. God intends for people to possess individual freedom (Gen. 2:16-17).
6. God's redemptive plan is the defining emphasis of history (Gen. 1:15).
7. God is loving and gracious (Gen. 2:7, 9; 3:15).

What good is an economic policy to a nation that does not first consider God or value human life? What good is a foreign policy to a nation that fosters sinfulness and lack of respect to authority? How do we work on social structures and programs in a nation if we don't first understand divine redemption? Our concerns must never be refined to a single-issue, but they should be prioritized. If we don't, then no matter what we do as a nation, we are bound to hear Jesus say, "from the beginning it was not so." Let's respect those foundational principles that shape our interactions with the world. First things first.



September 20, 2020

"First Things First"
David B. Smith

When the Pharisees tempted Jesus with a question about divorce, He went back to the beginning for the answer (Matt. 19:3-9). Even when they asked about the later concession by Moses, Jesus said, "from the beginning this was not so." Though the specific application was to marriage, Jesus is informing us that the principles God established in the beginning are of critical importance. They lay the foundation for everything else.

Continued on the back...

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

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 Chron. 7:14

<u>Prayer List -- Members</u>		
Nancy Birch	Bobby Wilson	Susie Hargis
Jenny Partin	Loretta Leffew	Judy Lusk
Tommy Grandfield		
<u>Prayer List – Friends and Family</u>		
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	Kenlie Carr	
(See additional information on each of these on the bulletin board at either hallway.)		

Sick and Recovering

Kenlie Carr, 6-year-old great niece of Margaret Smith, has a form of brain cancer and will be undergoing chemo for about two years. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Judy Germ is still recovering from her fall and subsequent surgery that she had earlier in the year. Please continue to keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Kathryn Isom, mother of Sue Wright, is feeling some better and will be having more tests done this week.

Tina Brown had a rough week last week but is feeling some better now.

Kaye Greer took a tumble in her yard last Wednesday and is suffering with bruising and soreness. Please keep her in your prayers.

Participating in Worship Service

Leading Singing: Art Greer Opening Prayer: Chris Randolph
 Lord’s Supper: Tom Haithcock Closing Prayer: Willard Elsea

PM Opening Prayer: Curt Stewart PM Closing Prayer: Justin Tripp

Sermon Topics

- **AM:** “Missiles in Marriage” part 2 - Malachi 2:10-16
- **PM:** “Shepherds and Sheep”
- **Attendance: Sunday 9/13 AM – 114; PM – 87; Wednesday 9/16 – 71**

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays: Today-Emry Satterwhite; Monday - Dana Hakes, Emily Fancher; Tuesday - Willard Elsea; Wednesday - Carolina Herron, Tommie Grandfield; Thursday - Toby Ward; Friday - Jesse Lowman; Saturday - Donny Davidson.
Anniversaries: Friday - James & Linda Germ; Sunday – Darryl & Betty Meeks

Important Dates for Your Calendar

- October 11-15 – Gospel meeting at Lafayette, GA with Larry Acuff. See flyer on bulletin board for details
- Friday, October 16, 2020 – Virginia Creeper Trail ride. See Willard of Joel if interested.
- Sunday, November 1, 2020 – Special contribution toward Fellowship Building fund.
- Wednesday, November 4, 2020 – Children’s Home to pick up our contributions.
- **Directory Update:** The update in last week’s bulletin for the Rinkels had an incorrect city and zip. It should be Soddy Daisy 37379.
- **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 available at Sunday AM and PM services and at the Wednesday evening service.
- **Kids Time:** It was great to see our kids participate in Kids Time last Sunday. This week arrangements will be made for them to be down front but distanced.
- **Fellowship Building:** The elders announced last Sunday that we can expect to see groundbreaking for the fellowship building soon. Completion should take approximately six months. The elders also announced that the contribution on the 1st Sunday of November will be dedicated to the fellowship building project. The elders also wish to express a public thank you to **John Germ** who has been instrumental in this effort devoting many hours to the success of this building project.
- **Member News: Angie Frazier** has closed on the sale of her house and will be moving to Lafayette soon. Angie will definitely be missed, but has promised to visit with her family here at North Hamilton often.

 “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” II Tim. 1:7