

correct understanding of God. There's already too much misunderstanding in the world. If we can help them know God, truly know God, then all those moments before our evening worship will have been worth it.

Consider, for example, the song we sometimes sing entitled "Deep and Wide." It's not just about moving our hands, although that part helps reinforce the lesson. The song is about the love of God, and how His love is measureless. It is deep and wide in the sense that it knows no bounds. Perhaps we should all be paying attention to songs like this, to help correct the shortcomings of our knowledge.

Here's the reason why. There is a tendency to project our own definitions back into Scripture, and filter our understanding of God through them. When people use the word "love" today it's often very different than the love of God in the Bible. It isn't deep and wide, but shallow and limited. People love only when circumstances are right. Our love isn't sacrificial, and tends to be extended only when it's to our benefit. God's love isn't like that at all. God does not love only when it's reciprocated, because He loves even His enemies (Rom. 5:6-10). God loves the world so much He gave His only born Son (John 3:16; 1 John 4:7-8). His love is so great that He treats us all better than we deserve to be treated (Eph. 2:4-5). The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases (Lam. 3:22-23). We can never be separated from the love of God (Rom. 8:31-39). Truly, God is love (1 John 4:8). That's quite a different definition than we hear in the world today, isn't it?

Our Father's love is deep and wide, meaning that it is greater than we can hope to understand now. It's amazing how such a simple children's song reminds us of that powerful fact. Let's encourage our children to be present and participate in KidsTime. Among other reasons, the songs they are singing are helping dispel bad ideas and form sound conclusions about our Creator. But let's do more than that. Since we are present, let's work on our faith too. There's nothing wrong with joining in and using those moments to increase our own faith (Col. 3:16). Wouldn't we all be better off if we accepted the truth that God's love is deep and wide?

North Hamilton Church of Christ

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Schedule of Services:

Sunday: 9:30am (Bible Classes), 10:30am & 5pm (worship); Wednesday: 7pm (Bible classes)
Minister's Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 - Noon



March 8, 2020

Elders:

Willard Elsea
240-9539

Art Greer
902-6295

Joel Laney
322-7828

Deacons:

Joe Anderson
Rick Essex
Keith Herron
Brad Jones
Tommy Qualls
Chris Randolph
Curt Stewart
Toby Ward

Preacher:

David B. Smith
667-1987

"Deep and Wide" David B. Smith

I love our pre-worship Kids' Time each Sunday evening. Even though we only have ten or fifteen minutes with the kids, I don't think anyone would argue against what's being accomplished in terms of their faith. They are growing. We can see it. They are learning things many kids their age never learn. They are making an investment in their spiritual future and so are we. And much of the credit for what they are learning goes to the words of the songs they are singing. Sure, we are sometimes silly—especially when it comes to the things they invent to put on the ark. But, they are kids and that's the way they learn. What I really love, though, is that we are helping them form a

The Past Week

Bible Class: 115 10:30 Worship: 192
PM Worship: 125 Wednesday: 102
Contribution: \$5,902

Sunday's Sermons

AM: Some Things Never Change
PM: The Sound of Silence

Men to Serve

AM: Opening Prayer – Willard Elsea Announcements – Art Greer
PM: Opening Prayer – Bob Newsom Closing Prayer – Terry Pursley
Wednesday: Opening – Ken Wilson Closing – Steve Pell, Sr
All Week: Lock Building – Joe Anderson Hall Monitor – Toby Ward

(Men, check duty roster on bulletin board and let George Farmer or Curt Stewart know if unable to serve)

Prayer List

James Anderson	Judy Germ	Loretta Leffew
Patricia Anthony	Tommie Grandfield	Judy Lusk
Jim Bethune	Sarah Grasham	Tony Miller
Nancy Birch	Bill Greer	Lexi Owens
Mike Bouldin	Fred Hafley	Carlos Shannon
Jennifer Bradford	Kathy Hamilton	Janice Smith
Marjorie Cagle	Susie Hargis	Bessie Smithson
Isaac Cooper	Grayson Ledbetter	Diane Stacy
Danny Curvin		John Webster

Our Sick and Recovering

James Actkinson had successful spinal surgery on Thursday and we pray that his recovery continues to go well.

Judy Germ remains in Siskin Hospital for physical therapy following her recent fall.

Clint Hopkins is now under hospice care at Life Care of Hixson.

Sympathy

We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to Doris Perry and her family on the passing of her son-in-law, **Jeff Cobb**. As of this time, arrangements have not yet been announced.

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

Copies of the complete March calendar are available on the table in the foyer.

Birthdays

10 – Cindy Rose, Norma Wright
11 – JB Swafford
12 – Joel Laney, Naron Yates, Steve Pell, Sr
13 – Clyde Benford, Jeff McCollum

Anniversaries

None this week

Announcements

- **Guest Speaker:** Next Sunday morning, we are glad to welcome Kirk Eason who will be with us from South Africa Bible College
- **Mission Trip:** Those who are interested in traveling to Panama for a VBS Mission trip this summer should contact Allen Womack at the East Ridge congregation. Currently there are four spaces still open.

Upcoming Events

Additional information for these events is available on the bulletin board.

March 21 – Ladies Day at East Ridge with Speaker Sheila Butt
March 27 – 7:00 PM, Gospel Singing at the Middle Valley congregation
March 29-31 – Gospel Meeting at Hall Church of Christ in Dunlap
April 17-19 – East Ridge Lectureship with speakers Cliff Goodwin, Eric Garner, and Kyle Butt
April 18 – Ladies Day at East Main in Murfreesboro with speaker, Jania Otey.