

*Those To Serve*

**Sunday, July 2, 2023**

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Randy Harris

Closing: Butch Minyard

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Bill Cline

Closing: Ray England

Singing: Bobby Smithee

**Wednesday, July 5, 2023**

Singing: Bill Cline

Devotional: Robert Foster

*The Record:*

**Attendance:**

**Sunday, June 25, 2023**

AM 56 PM 24

[Average for the Year]

AM [55] PM [35]

**Wednesday, June 28, 2023**

44 [Average for the Year] [37]

**Contribution:**

**Sunday, June 25, 2023**

Actual \$ 2,078.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

[Year-to-Date] \$ 61,805.00

[Average] \$ 2,377.12

[+/- Budget] \$ (422.00)

[YTD +/- Budget] \$ (3,139.00)

**Elders**

Randy Harris

(870) 251-6723

Johnny Knabe

(501) 345-2627

Dwayne Millikin

(870) 264-3264



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**July 2, 2023**

**Deacons**

Chris Ball

(870) 834-2163

Bobby Smithee

(870) 612-2892

**Minister:** Billy Cline

(870) 236-0225 Cell

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*Thoughts from Bill:*

*Threats to Our Life of Faith:*

*Discouragement*

Discouragement is the latest threat to our faith that we will consider this week. *The Dictionary of Bible Themes* defines *discouragement* as a sense of unhappiness arising from a loss of confidence in one's own abilities, in the reliability of God, or the power of the gospel. Further it states: "Discouragement can occur in the Christian life, especially when there is resistance to the gospel or instances of personal failure." God's word speaks of discouragement and can offer us hope if we become discouraged.

**God's people have always suffered discouragement at some point in their lives.** The patriarch Job suffered discouragement in his

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*Plan of Salvation*

*Hear*

Mark 12:29; Romans 10:17; Acts 2:22

*Believe*

Hebrews 11:6

*Repent*

Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38

*Confession*

Matthew 10:32, 33

*Baptism*

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21

*Sermons for July 2, 2023*

**A.M.—Threats to Our Life of Faith:**

**Discouragement**

**P.M.—Is It Too Good To Be True?**

**—Lesson from Johnny Knabe**

**Scripture: Job 3:1-6**

*Schedule of Services*

**Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 AM**

**Sunday AM Worship: 10:00**

**Sunday PM Worship: 5:00**

**Wed. Bible Study: 7:00 PM**

**Website: [www.southsidechurchofchrist.info](http://www.southsidechurchofchrist.info)**

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life during the many trials that Satan put him through. Job at the very beginning of his ordeal lamented over the things happening to him and asked why light or really life itself is given to those who are going to suffer in this life (Job 3:20-26). Discouragement comes on the journeys we take in life as it did in the Israelites' literal journey in the wilderness (Num. 21:4-5). **Even the apostle Paul faced despair and discouragement because of the affliction that he and his fellow workers experienced in Asia** (2 Cor. 1:8-9).

Now we want to notice the effects of discouragement. Discouragement can **break our spirit and stop our progress in working for the Lord** (Pr. 15:13; 17:22; 18:14; Ezra 4:4). Discouragement can **lead to disobedience** (Ex. 32:1; Job 15:24-25).

Finally, we want to concentrate on what to do when discouragement comes. When times are hard, we need to do our best to resist discouragement by looking **to God and remembering His presence** (Deut. 1:21; Josh. 1:9; Gal. 6:9). Discouraging times should **lead us to prayer**. In 2 Samuel 22:7 David said, "In my distress I called upon the Lord, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry entered His ears." Other passages encourage us to pray during times of distress and discouragement (Lk. 18:1; 1 Pet. 5:7). When discouragement comes, we should **seek encouragement and endurance** to withstand it (Ezra 7:28; 2 Tim. 2:3; 4:5; James 5:11). During discouraging times, we must **seek God's help while knowing He is working for us** (Isa. 40:29-31; Rom. 8:35-39). Finally, we can resist and overcome discouragement and help others do the same by realizing **the need to stand with the discouraged** (Job 6:14; Heb. 13:3; Rom. 12:15; Jas. 1:27).

Again, the question is not will we be discouraged, but what will we do when discouragement comes? Will it threaten our faith? Will it cause us to lose heart? Or will we seek God's presence, help, and mercy during times of distress and trouble? Remember "there is a Balm in Gilead."

## News and Notes

**Those We Need to Remember in Prayer:** **Willene McGuffey** has been sick at home. **Donna Lemaster**, Alicia Barber's grandmother, has cancer in her hip.

**Others We Need to Remember in Prayer:** Ed Hager, Melissa Larson (Shelia Smithee's sister who has cancer), Bruce Millikin

**Elders and Deacons Meeting:** There will be an Elders and Deacons Meeting today at 3:30 p.m. If you have anything that needs to be discussed with them, please let them know.

**Visitation Meeting:** There will be a Visitation Meeting next Sunday after the evening service.

**Children's Home Shopping List: Dishwashing Detergent**

**Let's Eat:** This month, we will be starting something called Let's Eat. It is for all the members of the congregation that would like to go out to eat and fellowship together. The first Let's Eat gathering will be on July 11 at Western Sizzlin in Searcy. We will meet at the church building at 5:15 p.m. and take the van to the restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for all who would like to attend.

**Romanian Children:** If you are helping with the support of the children of Romania, please give your donation to Tammy Harris.

**New Phone Number:** Jim and Bonita Bangs have a new home phone number. Their new number is (870) 569-4472.

**Updating Prayer List:** We will be updating the long-term prayer list soon. If you know of someone who needs to be added to the list or taken off the list, please let Hannah Cupp know.

**Guest Speaker:** Jerry Bates with Voice of Truth International will be speaking next Sunday during the class period.

**1 Peter 5:7—...casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.**