

Those To Serve

Sunday, July 30, 2023

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Jim Case

Closing: Robert Foster

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Jim Case

Closing: Dwayne Millikin

Singing Night

Wednesday, August 2, 2023

Singing: Randy Harris

Devotional: Dwayne Millikin

The Record:

Attendance:

Sunday, July 23, 2023

AM 62 PM 43

[Average for the Year]

AM [55] PM [35]

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

46 *[Average for the Year]* [38]

Contribution:

Sunday, July 23, 2023

Actual \$ 2,555.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

[Year-to-Date] \$ 71,160.00

[Average] \$ 2,372.00

[+/- Budget] \$ 55.00

[YTD +/- Budget] \$ (3,722.00)

Elders

Randy Harris

(870) 251-6723

Johnny Knabe

(501) 345-2627

Dwayne Millikin

(870) 264-3264



2102 Batesville Blvd.
Southside, AR 72501

July 30, 2023

Deacons

Chris Ball

(870) 834-2163

Bobby Smithee

(870) 612-2892

Minister: Billy Cline

(870) 236-0225 Cell

(870) 251-1818 Office

Thoughts from Bill:

In Darkness

Simon and Garfunkel's song "Sound of Silence" begins with the phrase: "Hello, darkness, my old friend." Sometimes darkness is our friend, except in some situations (when we are afraid of the dark; sundowners; periods of depression, etc.). The word *darkness* appears over 204 times in the Bible with the first time being in Genesis 1:2 and the last time in Revelation 16:10. In this article, we want to look at four passages that have to do with darkness.

The first passage we want to consider is found in Luke 1:78-79 where Zacharias by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit said: "Through the tender mercy of our God, With which the Dayspring from on high has visited us; To give light to those who *sit in darkness and the shadow of death*, To guide our feet into the way of peace." Isaiah echoed similar

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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 30, 2023

A.M.—In Darkness

P.M.—Devotional from

Gary Bridgman

Scripture: Matthew 27:45-50

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

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words in Isaiah 9:2 when he also spoke of darkness and the fact that those in darkness would someday see a great light. I believe that the darkness and death that both of these writers referred to was the darkness of sin and the spiritual death caused by sin. Sin separated mankind from God in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3) and led to physical death, and if persisted in, sin will cause a spiritual death when it separates God from man for an eternity (Rev. 20:14-15).

The second reference to darkness we want to consider is found in Matthew 27:45-46 and refers to the last few minutes of the physical life of our Lord as He was **hanging** on the cross in **darkness**. Darkness fell upon the face of the earth from noon until three o'clock in the afternoon when Jesus died. There is much speculation surrounding this event with two of the most prevalent being that darkness fell because God turned His back and forsook His Son as Christ was dying (v. 46) or that God turned His back on His Son because Jesus bore the sins of a lost world on His shoulder at the cross. Both or neither may be correct, but the significance of the cross is that it was the place where Christ paid the price for our sins (Isa. 53:4-5; Heb. 9:28; 1 Pet. 2:28) when He was offered for the atonement (Rom. 5:19) and propitiation (1 Jn. 2:2) for our sins.

The next reference to darkness for our consideration is found in 1 Peter 2:9 where Peter tells Christians that they have been "**called out of darkness** into His marvelous light." As referred to earlier, Christians were once lost in darkness (Eph. 5:8). The "calling out" is none other than the call of the gospel of Jesus. Paul wrote in 2 Thessalonians 2:14: ". . . to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." Christians are in the light and are to continue to "walk in the light" if they are going to be saved (1 John 1:7).

The final reference to darkness that we want to think about is found in Acts 26:18 where God tells Saul of Tarsus that he is being sent to "open their (the Gentiles) eyes, in order to **turn them from darkness** to light, and from the power of Satan. Friends, is this not what God has called each Christian to do today when He said to "Go into all the world and Preach the Gospel" (Mk. 16:16)?

News and Notes

Those We Need to Remember in Prayer: **Bill Coles'** cancer has returned. He will go to CARTI in Little Rock on Tuesday to have a PET scan done to find out where the cancer is. **Paula Millikin** has not been having a good week. Shana Hussey's mother **Donna Morgan** is in the hospital in Piggott with pneumonia. LaKrista Knabe's aunt **Faye Bradley** will be going to the Mayo Clinic in Texas. **Steve Smith** has been very sick with congestion and upper respiratory problems.

Others We Need to Remember in Prayer: Ed Hager, Melissa Larson (Shelia Smithee's sister who has cancer), Jane Massey (Shelia Millikin's friend with multiple health issues), Donna Lemaster (Alicia Barber's grandmother who has cancer of the hip)

Fifth Sunday Potluck: We will have a potluck after this morning's service.

Children's Home Shopping List: Muffin Mixes

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

Children's Home School Supplies: We are collecting school supplies for the Paragould Children's Home. There are lists of items needed on the table in the back.

Directory Change: Bill and Inez Cline no longer have a home phone. Their cell phone numbers have not changed and are in the directory.

Let's Eat: Let's Eat in August will be at Millie's in Cave City on August 8. We will meet at the church building at 5:15 p.m. and take the van. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for those who would like to attend.

Fellowship and Singing: We will be having a monthly fellowship and singing beginning in August. The upcoming fellowship and singing will be on August 12 at 6:30 p.m. and will be hosted by the Clines. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer for all who would like to attend.