

Those To Serve

Sunday, August 2, 2026

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Bill Cline

Closing: Robert Foster

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Randy Harris

Closing: Ray England

Singing: Bobby Smithee

Wednesday, August 5, 2026

Singing: Randy Harris

Devotional: Bill Cline

The Record:

Attendance:

Sunday, July 26, 2026

AM 55 PM 35

[Average for the Year]

AM [51] PM [33]

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

31 *[Average for the Year]* [32]

Contribution:

Sunday, July 26, 2026

Actual \$ 2,943.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

[Year-to-Date] \$ 73,589.00

[Average] \$ 2,537.55

[+/- Budget] \$ 443.00

[YTD +/- Budget] \$ 1,089.00

Elders

Randy Harris

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August 2, 2026

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Thoughts from Bill:

The Benefits of Faith

Romans 5: 1-11

Paul, in his letter to the Romans, spoke of faith many times. He recognized that he was an apostle by faith (Rom. 1:5). He spoke of the righteousness of God being revealed from faith to faith and that the just were to live by faith (Rom. 1:17). Paul in Romans 10:17 declared: "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." In our lesson today, we want to focus on the benefits of faith as seen in Romans 5:1-11.

Paul begins by alluding to the fact that we have been *justified* by faith (v. 1). The word *justify* means to declare one righteous or acquitted from something. Verse 9 tells us that we have been justified by the blood of Christ. Galatians 2:16 tells us that we are not justified by the works of the law, and for that matter our own works, but by Christ Jesus and

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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 August 2, 2026

A.M.—The Benefits of Faith

P.M.—Lesson from Zach Harber

Scripture—Romans 5:1-11

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 AM

Sunday AM Worship: 10:00

Sunday PM Worship: 5:00

Wed. Bible Study: 6:00 PM

Website: www.southsidechurchofchrist.info

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obedience to His will. James pointed out that Abraham was justified by works and faith when he offered his son Isaac on the altar (James 2:21). Faith alone will not justify a man, but faith in God and obedience to His commands will.

Paul then lists the benefit of *peace with God* that stems from being justified by faith. Isaiah 53:5 tells us that our peace came as a result of Christ's suffering on the cross. Ephesians 2:14 speaks of Christ making peace by breaking down the wall of sin that separated God and man. This peace is powerful and is past all understanding (Phil. 4:7).

Another benefit of faith that Paul lists is *grace* (v. 2). *Grace* has been defined as the unmerited favor of God. Grace has been said to be tied with God's initiative, not with human merit. Paul in Ephesians 2:8 wrote: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." As we have seen, faith must be accompanied by obedience, which brings one in contact with God's grace. Without God's grace, there is no hope.

Speaking of hope, *rejoicing in hope* is another benefit of faith (v. 2). *Hope* can be defined as a looking forward with expectation. A Christian's hope is based upon a relationship to Christ the Son (Heb. 3:6). Colossians 1:5 tells us that a Christian's hope is laid up in heaven and, as Titus 2:13 points out, is connected with Christ's second coming. John points out that if one has this hope in Christ, they will purify themselves like the pure Christ (1 Jn. 3:3). The hope that Christians have sometimes will grow out of tribulation, and this results in a hope that does not disappoint (Romans 5:3-5).

The final benefit of faith we want to discuss is the *reconciliation to God that saves us from His wrath* (Rom. 5:6-11). Paul points out that God began this reconciliation by allowing Christ to die for us while we were yet sinners (vs. 6-8). Sin had made us enemies of God. Consider Paul's words in Colossians 1:21-23. Christ, by His death on the cross, reconciled us, or made God and man friends again. We deserved the wrath of God because of sin, but Christ made it possible to be saved from sin by His death on the cross.

News and Notes

Those We Need to Remember in Prayer: **Leota Allen** is now home from the hospital. **Melissa Wood** has an appointment on September 1 with a neurologist in Jonesboro. **David Elms** will have knee surgery on Thursday. **Glenda Mitchell** had a chemo treatment this past Tuesday. Let us pray fervently that the treatments worked.

Others We Need to Remember in Prayer: Bonita Bangs, Lea Barber, Pam Burrow, Nancy Duncan, Brantley Elms, Bobby Joe England, Trulee Green, Manda McGough, Pat McGough, Glenda Mitchell, Glen Mize, Dalton Philips, and Lavon Rogers

Elders and Deacons Meeting: There will be an elders and deacons meeting today at 3:30 p.m. If you need to discuss anything with them, please let them know.

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

Children's Home School Supplies: We are collecting school supplies for the Children's Home in Paragould. Lists of needed items are on the table in the back. If you would like to help with this effort, please have the supplies here by this evening. You can also give money to this effort. If you give by check, please make it payable to the Paragould Children's Home and in the memo line write "school supplies."

Blessing Box: Thank you for your help with the blessing box! Your continued donations are greatly appreciated.

Children's Home Shopping List: Saltine Crackers

Visitation Meeting: This month's visitation meeting will be next Sunday after the evening service. We will have finger foods after the meeting to celebrate the completion of the fourth year of the visitation program.

Romans 5:1—Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...