

Announcements & Prayer Requests

- New website should be ready to launch this week
- Let's keep the following in our prayers:
 - John Wolfe – early lung cancer diagnosis
 - Bernida Wolfe – internal bleeding; hematologist appt. 10-1
 - Kim Self – stomach ulcers and weekly Chemo treatments
 - Angie Self – arthritis and Parkinson's
 - Joann Larkin – advanced dementia
 - Barb Agee's son (James)
 - Bernida Wolfe's father –dementia and Parkinson's
 - Rick Parks' parents – Roy has prostate cancer; Helen has dementia
 - Jimmy Woodall's sister – cancer
 - Sandra Perez's grandmother – Lewy body dementia
 - Sandra Perez's uncle – stage 4 cancer

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

- Hear Gospel – Rom. 10:17; Acts 8:30-31
- Believe – Heb. 11:6; Mk. 16:16
- Repent of & Turn from Sins – Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess our Faith – Rom. 10:10; Mt. 10:32
- Baptism – Acts 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Live Faithfully – Rev. 2:10

Let us draw near with a **true heart in full assurance of faith [Believe]**, having our **hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience [Repent]** and our **bodies washed with pure water [Baptism]**. Let us **hold fast the confession [Confess]** of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to **stir up love and good works**, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but **exhorting one another**, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. – *Heb. 10:22-25*



CHURCH OF CHRIST

Invitation

'Therefore, go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' – Mt. 22:9

Address

5080 Highway 70 East
Rockwood, TN 37854

Assembly Times

Sunday Bible Study – 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship – 11:00 AM

Please text/email any announcements, questions, or concerns to Bill Fix, (865) 934-9239 or fix.bill@gmail.com

: <https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChristRockwoodTN>

September 27, 2020

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors and members. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please let one of us know.

Adult Bible Class – Eph. 3:7ff

Sermon Topic – “Nots” that Can't Be Untied...

Memory verse:

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. – *1 Cor. 13:13*

Stuff About Things

By Robert F. Turner (PLAIN TALK, June 1978)

Jonah sought vainly to flee from the presence of the Lord, apparently to avoid his assigned obligation to preach to the wicked people of Nineveh. When finally he began his work, he warned, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown" (Jon. 3:4). He was a prophet of doom—and must have been very convincing—for they "believed God; and they proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them." There is a valid place for warnings, severe and to the point.

But Jonah seemed more concerned about his status as a prophet of doom, than he did about the welfare of those he warned. When "God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way," he "repented of the evil which he said he would do unto them; and he did it not" (3:5, 10). And this displeased Jonah! (4:1-f) **He seemed to have lost sight of the purpose in warnings—to save rather than to revel in human misery; to pull from the fire rather than to warm his hands with the heat.**

We have bigger and better tornadoes in TEXAS; albeit some otherwise brave Texans cringe at the thought. One muscled hulk of a man (with a beard so thick his wife has to kiss him through a straw) cries like a baby when it thunders — (well, that's the way "they" tell it on him). And one good story leads to another.

"They say" he built himself a concrete and steel cellar; and practically lived in it. Every time a little cloud blew in, he would run to his underground shelter, sit in the dark, fearfully contemplating the supposed destruction above, then finally emerge to find all safe and sound, refreshed by the lovely rain shower.

Until that day when he pushed back his cellar door and stepped out into a changed world. His house was nowhere to be seen; his barns and sheds were but scattered wreckage; trees were splintered and pulled from the ground; his cattle were all dead. He looked long and hard, he sighed heavily, and then he said, "Now, that's more like it!"

Lord, if we must hear the crackle of Hell's fire in order to see and correct our waywardness and escape its heat, so be it. But deliver us from the doomsday "prophets" who use our fears to sell their wares. Help us to "cast out fear" and anchor our soul in the Haven of Rest.

Fixating on What's Important: *Withstanding Trials We Don't Want...*

By Becky Fix

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under Heaven" (Eccl: 3:1). Times and seasons have been established by God. Too often we think we know best what we need and make those requests to God in prayer. But sometimes our wants may conflict with God's plans for us in the long term.

Joseph has been our main focus of study for the past three months in the children's class. As children, we dream of what we want to do or be when we grow up. Joseph was no different; however, life handed him a several detours he didn't want, expect, or deserve. He was sold into slavery by his brothers, thrown into prison for a crime he didn't commit, and seemingly forgotten about by everyone. Sometimes, when tragedy hits our lives, we do not know or understand the reason, and we might question God why we've been put in such situations. God had plans for Joseph—he was sent to Egypt and worked his way up to be Pharaoh's second in command to ultimately save his people from hunger when famine hit (Gen. 41). But the events of Joseph's life were no accident. God had him right where he needed to be to fulfill His promises to Abraham.

Jeremiah 29:11 states: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." Going back to verse 7, God told the Israelites to seek peace and to pray to the Lord for it. The Israelites did not want to hear that. They wanted to be told the suffering would end so that they could return home, but that wasn't God's plan. Because of their transgressions, the people faced 70 years in Babylonian captivity before they would return home. Bondage in another country might not sound like much of "a future and a hope," but when they returned to Jerusalem, Ezra and Nehemiah restored the people's desire to serve God, along with rebuilding the temple and the walls of the city.

If you are going through hard times, remember that steel is formed only through exposure to fire. "Consider it joy... when you face trials" (Jm. 1:2). God is not punishing us—He is preparing us for the future and testing our mettle. The plans God may have for you are for you, which can't be taken by others. If we use such trials to strengthen our faith, we will discover just how strong we can be, standing with God.