

# Church of Christ

# Florence



October 2, 2016

## Elders

*Robert Budy*  
home (859) 525-7396  
*Art Green*  
cell (859) 743-3290

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact one of the elders.

## Deacons

*Jesse Black*  
*Matthew Hallmark*  
*Wyatt Robbins*

## Minister

Bruce House  
cell (270)570-0830

## Schedule of Services

Bible Class 9:30 am  
Worship 10:30 am  
Evening Worship 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Class 7:00 pm

## Contact Information

1141 Boone Aire Rd.  
Florence, KY 41042

(859) 283-2355  
[www.florencecc.org](http://www.florencecc.org)  
[churchoffice@florencecc.org](mailto:churchoffice@florencecc.org)

### FROM THE ELDERS

Due to safety concerns  
The church doors will be locked  
10 minutes after the beginning of service.  
Someone will be stationed in the foyer  
to allow admittance to latecomers.

*Excerpt from* SOUL WINNER'S FIRE

by  
John R. Rice

"He That Winneth Souls Is Wise"

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.--Prov. 11:30.

"He that winneth souls is wise." We may put it down, on the authority of Holy Writ that the best wisdom of this world is not shown by the banker nor by the statesman nor by the educator nor by the millionaire businessman, but by the humble soul winner. All other labor is insignificant beside the supreme labor of winning souls. All other efforts are as good as wasted when the results they bring are considered beside the eternal and glorious results of soul winning.

The Savior Himself indicated that one soul is worth more than all the world: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36, 37).

Certain considerations help us to see the value of a soul, and I want to suggest them for your prayerful meditation. Our fathers were accustomed to pray, "Lord, roll on us the weight of immortal souls." Again and again I have heard that heartfelt petition as men besought God to give them a Heaven-born concern for the salvation of sinners. That prayer I heard often in my childhood, and I make it my Own again today.

Soul winning is such a delicate art, it requires such a heavenly wisdom, it weighs so little in the minds of worldly men, that we are not likely to win souls unless we consider some appalling and glorious facts that bear on the subject. Suppose we think about the fact of Hell, the ruin and misery of this world, the death of Christ, and the glories of Heaven, as they bear on soul winning.

Disappointments and Unhappiness of This World

This present world is a failure, which fact is not hard to prove. That homes have failed is evidenced by the ever-mounting divorce rate. About one in every two and a half marriages ends in divorce, and many other couples live in stark tragedy and bitterness of soul.

Our jails are full of boys and girls. Suicides are high among high school teenagers, proving that both home and school have failed.

Governments have failed. They cannot put down crime. They cannot control graft. More than three quarters of the population of the globe have been killing and being killed. Unbalanced budgets, mounting taxes, show the failure of the governments of the world. And disease, suicide, crime; heartless, conscienceless wickedness everywhere prove the failure of this present civilization. It is a sad, bitter, wicked world, and it offers no peace to the human heart.

I am impressed more and more with the sad, stark tragedy that stares out of the faces of people. As I preach, and the faces of people relax into the grim, sad, lonely lines of despair, I realize that this world has wrought tragedy in the heart of every person who ever put his hope in it.

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*The Church you read about in the Bible*

Youth starts out so optimistic, with so many delightful prospects, with visions, dreams, air castles, laughter and high ambitions; but before youth merges into mature manhood or womanhood, life has become a grim business of making ends meet, or wringing some drops of joy out of the fleeting pleasures of a day. And old age comes on to bring, in most cases, a sadder disillusionment, which results either in the bitter, querulous resentment of the aged or the calmer resignation of defeat.

This is a sad, bitter, wicked, disappointing world. It does not give men and women, boys and girls what they cry out for, what they hunger for, what they need!

Here, then, is a weighty argument for winning souls. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only sure road to peace!

One Sunday night a young man stood in my service during the invitation time and said to a friend, "I have given up hope of ever being happy." This friend said to him, "There is no real happiness except in Jesus Christ!" Peace, soul peace, real rest for the weary and heavy laden, can be found only in Jesus Christ! You may give your wealth to the poor, you may die a martyr in a good cause, you may relieve human distress and earn the gratitude of millions; but no philanthropist ever did so much for any man as he who told him the Gospel and taught him to trust in Jesus and obtain peace of heart and forgiveness of sins!

The pleasure, the wealth and all the good things that this world can give, fail men. How important, then, to offer troubled, sinning people the soul peace that comes with salvation! If you will be wise, remind people of the words of Jesus:

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." --Matt. 11:28-30.

Here is reason enough for winning souls and proof that he that winneth souls is wise.

Glories of Heaven

True wisdom takes the long look. Proverbs commands the improvident, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise," because the ant provides for tomorrow. So with the soul winner. He must somehow forget today in order to provide joy for many a tomorrow. Soul winning does not pay much in United States dollars.

The soul winner has many blessed rewards in this world. He has the great joy of the Holy Spirit's conscious presence, for no one ever won souls without an endowment from Heaven. He has the joy of answered prayer, for whoever won souls without beseeching God for wisdom and power? It is sweet to know that God has heard, and to have the burden lifted after long pleading. The soul winner enjoys the gratitude of those he wins. I remember with glad heart the affectionate thanks I have received from many I have won to Christ. I treasure a great number of letters written out of a heart full of gratitude and love by those I was privileged to snatch as brands from the burning with the Gospel of Christ.

The soul winner has much joy in this world, I say, and "he that winneth souls is wise," very largely because he believes the Word of God and knows that there will be rewards commensurate with the importance of the task rewards in the world to come.

This is the meaning of Daniel 12:3, "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." The rewards of the soul winner are eternal.

Jesus is the great pattern for soul winners. Concerning this, Hebrews 12:1, 2 tells us:

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

The inspired writer of Hebrews tells us that, for the joy that was set before Him, Jesus endured the cross and despised the shame. He looked forward to the joy in Heaven, so He despised the shame of the cross and endured it gladly. The soul winner must have the same wisdom.

My Christian friends, if the cost of soul winning seems too great, then I urge you to take private lessons from the Holy Spirit, for I Corinthians 2:14 tells us, "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." The Holy Spirit can show you the things of God, the worth of a soul, and help you to be a soul winner. No one ever wins souls except by the power of the Holy Spirit. Do not be deceived by the foolish wisdom of this world.

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God .... It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." -- I Cor. 1:18, 21.

Let those who would be wise win souls; and when the soul winner hears the word of the Savior, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord," then he will have just begun to enjoy the eternal rewards and the glorious returns of his investments.

"He that winneth souls is wise"!

## Collecting For Those In Need

### **The Emergency Shelter of NKY items needed:**

(Men's Shelter)

- **SOCKS**
- Men's Jeans
- Men's Sweatshirts
- Men's and Women's Sweatpants
- Underwear (New)

*There is a sign-up sheet for those interested in helping at the shelter.*

### **Benevolence Pantry items needed:**

- Canned Goods
- Fruit
- Vegetables
- Meat
- Milk
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Macaroni & Cheese
- Ramen Noodles
- Juice Packs
- Baby Formula & Food

### Benevolence

Our next meal for the Northern Kentucky Emergency Shelter is the October 8th. Your generosity in this endeavor is greatly appreciated. There is a sign-up sheet located in the hallway.

*We are collecting donations for*

*Newlyweds*

*Nathan & Amber*

*Bowling*

*Please see Cindy Presnell for more information*

### Centurions of Scripture

We would like to challenge the entire congregation to memorize 100 scriptures. Our youth do this as a part of the Lads to Leaders program. We ask that you do this with your family. We will be putting two scriptures in the bulletin each week.

This week's scriptures to memorize are:

Psalms 119: 51-52

51. The proud have me in great derision,

Yet I do not turn aside from Your law.

52. I remembered Your judgments of old, O Lord,

And have comforted myself.

**To ensure accuracy of announcements and prayer requests please fill out a gold or blue form and turn in to the office by Wednesday.**

*“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer” 1 Peter 3:12*

## *Prayer List*

### **Flood Victims**

**Clarence Major** is in the hospital

**Eunice Chumbly** knee replacement surgery

**Jim Gilpan**, friend of Clint Green, heart attack

**William Robbins**, Wyatt Robbins father, procedure on heart

**Caleb Robbins**

**Jacob Gorman**

**Russel House**, Bruce House's father, Parkinson's

**June Pugh**

**Oswaldo Bonaga**, friend of Vicky Robinson, cancer and heart problems

**Matthew Wright**, recovering from surgery

**Alexis Aiken**, Joyce Bewley's Great Granddaughter,

**Nancy Noojin**, Karen Brown's cousin, health issues

**Bowen Becker**, Bob Becker's grandson, heart problems

**Stacie Grindstaff**

**Peggy Harber**, Bob Warmack's cousin, on life support

**Bobby Dawson** Teddi Budy's nephew

**Cindy Walker** health issues

**Our Elders**

**Our Nation's Leaders**

**Our Military Personnel**

**Our Police, Emergency and Healthcare Personnel**

**The Churches of Christ around the world**

**All those traveling**

**The Emergency Shelter**

**The Creation Museum and Ark Experience**

**Those who have lost loved ones**

### **Those with cancer and their families**

Sharon Lonard	Dennis Blundell	Margie Koons
Randy Williams	Desirae Wilson	Janice Gallagher
Gary Burke	Dwight Lowerg	Kay Shinc
Dave Hammer Jr.	Layla Adkins	Jim McCarthy
Kristen Shaw	Ayden Egan	Donnice Palmer
Shari Caton	Peggy Davis	Mike Lohman
Lorraine Starr	Gwen Miller	Lindy Blankenbuehler
Tammy Palmer	Chad Fischer	Buddy Webb
Ashley Pike	Debbie Hellman	Lois Stroub
Theresa Falukner	Nancy Lambert	Ruth Phelps
Mike Lowe	Steve Dobson	Serena
Cale Thomas	Jim Kennedy	Oswaldo Bonaga

### **Our shut-ins and those caring for them**

Clarence Major	Chuck Gambil
Eveline Lanham	Dessie Hacker

Joyce Tingle

Please check the prayer list and let me know of any updates. I did remove some names to make room for new prayer requests. If those need to be returned to the list please let me know. I apologize if I removed anyone prematurely. Thank you.-Nita

## Serving in AM Worship

	<b>October 2</b>	<b>October 9</b>
Announcements	Bill Morgan	Bill Morgan
Opening Prayer	JD Martin	Randy Johnson
Song Leader	Jerry Gorman	Jesse Black
Communion	Robert Budy	Bob Warmack
Serve	Bobby Lemay	Bobby Lemay
Serve	Tom Grindstaff	Tom Grindstaff
Serve	Mark Walker	Mark Walker
Serve	Daniel House	Daniel House
Serve	Wyatt Robbins	Wyatt Robbins
Serve	Dave Moster	Dave Moster
Scripture Reading <i>Proverbs 11: 30-31</i>	Kyle Strasser	Mark Walker
Sermon <i>The Wisdom of Winning Others to Christ</i>	Bruce House	Bruce House
Closing Prayer	Art Green	Robert Budy

## Sunday 10/2

Sunday Night      Invitation  
Bruce House

## Wednesday 10/5

Invitation      Ken Strasser  
Announcements      Art Green

## Communion

October      Naiome House  
November      Stacey Brown

## Greeters

October      Cindy Presnell  
November      Greeters Needed



Oct	2	Men's Prayer Session
Oct	7	Bible Bowl Meeting
Oct	8	Shelter Meal
Oct	9	Lads to Leaders Team A
Oct	15	Lads to Leaders Group Scrapbook
Oct	23	Potluck and Trunk or Treat Following PM Service
Oct	30	Lads to Leaders Team B
Nov	5	Lads to Leaders Individual Scrapbook
Nov	6	Men's Prayer Session
Nov	9	Prime Timers' Luncheon
Nov	11	Bible Bowl Meeting
Nov	12	Shelter Meal
Nov	13	Lads to Leaders Team A
Nov	19	Lads to Leaders Group Scrapbook
Nov	27	Potluck Theme Soup

## Deacons

Jesse Black      *Children's Education/  
Fellowships*  
Matthew Hallmark      *Building Maintenance*  
Wyatt Robbins      *Youth and as needed*

## Coordinators

Jerry Gorman      *Prime Timers*

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