

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- Hear the Word of God – Rom. 10:17
- Believe that Jesus is the Son of God – Heb. 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent of your sins – Acts 17:30
- Confess Christ before men – Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10:32-33
- Be baptized for the remission of your sins – Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Live Faithfully – Rev. 2:10

By The Numbers for April 2nd
Attendance:
Sun. Bible Study – 74
Sun. AM Worship – 123
Sun. PM Worship – 68
Wed. Night (4/5) – 63

To Our Visitors:

We are so glad and honored that you chose to be with us today. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the elders or one of the members. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know. Thanks for being with us, and we hope to see you again real soon!

**Listen to WTRB 1570 AM and
104.9 FM Radio**
**Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday
8:15 AM**

Check us out on the web:
www.ripleychurchofchrist.org

The Ripley church of Christ
P.O. Box 464
1499 Highway 51 North
Ripley, TN 38063

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ripley, TN 38063
Permit No. 58



THE RIPLEY BEACON

FROM

THE RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 9, 2023



“Where the Gospel is Preached and People are Loved!”

Rejoice Always?!

Part 4

“Rejoice always” (1 Thessalonians 5:16). Found within such a simple statement is a very complex command upon which every Christian should meditate. We have noticed that sometimes we are confused about what happiness is. We related happiness with pleasure, and these two things are not the same. We have also noticed that Satan tries to lure us into areas that promise happiness but can’t provide it. And now we have been noticing some keys to finding true happiness. First, we need to be thankful for what we have, Now let’s notice two more keys.

A second thing that we can do to maintain a joyful spirit is to pray. In between the command to rejoice always and to be thankful is this admonition, “Pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Is there any wonder to the faithful child of God why these things are linked? Our prayers to God will help to place our hearts in tune with the will of God. It is hard to be unhappy when we are talking to our Heavenly Father. It is hard to see only darkness when we are talking to the Father of light. In times of difficulty and distress, when the joy is fading from sight, make sure to talk to your Father.

A third thing that we need to do is to renounce murmuring and complaining. Paul would admonish the Philippians to “Do all things without complaining and disputing” (Philippians 2:14). A constant attitude of complaining will rob us and those around us of any joy that may be found. No one likes to be around someone who complains and murmurs all the time. As Christians this should never be our attitude because it will make it impossible to rejoice always.

As a closing note, we may find it hard to rejoice in difficult times, but even in those times, the Christian still has much to rejoice about. We have the forgiveness of past sins, continued forgiveness in Christ, the ability to pray to God and to worship Him, the providential care of God, physical and spiritual blessings from God, and the hope of Heaven. And those are just a few of the things. True happiness is found in Christ, in being a Christian. It is because of that designation that I can, “Rejoice always.”

~Justin

Elders:

Steve Carmack
731-697-0424
Joe Hunt
731-612-7221
David Snell
731-635-8311

Deacons:

Pat Carmack
Robert Anderson
Bret Carmack
Jimmy Hartman
Bryan Hartman
Steven Dodson
Shannon Williams

Minister:

Justin Paschall
731-612-1196

Service Times:

Sun. Bible Study-9:30 AM
Sun. Worship-10:30 AM
Sun. Night Worship-6 PM
Wed. Night-7 PM

Contact Information:

Address:
P.O. Box 464
Ripley, TN 38063

Phone: 731-635-2936

Email: ripleycoc@att.net

“Come Worship with Us!”

Those Privileged to Serve:

AM Bible Study:

Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Shannon Williams
Audio/Visual – Justin Paschall
Security – Robert Anderson

AM Service:

Announcements – Steven Dodson
Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Shannon Williams
Audio/Visual – Bryan Hartman
Opening Prayer – Steve Carmack
Lord's Supper – Justin Paschall
Closing Prayer – David Snell
Security – Robert Anderson

PM Service:

Announcements – Steven Dodson
Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Shannon Williams
Audio/Visual – Steven Dodson
Opening Prayer – Joe Hunt
Lord's Supper – Justin Paschall
Closing Prayer – David Bridges
Security – Robert Anderson

Wednesday Night:

Song Leader – David Snell
Facebook Live – Steven Dodson
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack
Opening Prayer – MacArthur Watkins
& Devotional
Closing Prayer – Shannon Williams
Security – Barry Bates

**Thanks to all of the men who
lead in our worship service!**

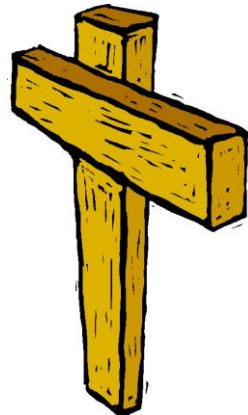
April Birthdays

- Chris Carmack – 1
- Kamisha Dixon – 2
- Robert Anderson – 7
- Courtney Smith – 8
- Roy Colvin – 8
- Joe Hunt – 10
- Abby Moore – 11
- Maddy Moore – 11
- Will Carmack – 12
- Traci Pierson – 13
- Wyatt Stanley – 14
- Fisher Carmack – 16
- Rita Lussier – 17
- Donna Bridges – 19
- Caroline Snell – 26
- Aaliyah Alley – 30



Mark Your Calendars!

- **May 6th** – Ladies' Day here. Registration begins at 9:30. First session begins at 10.
- **June 4th-9th** – Reelfoot Youth Camp. Applications are on the white table. Deadline for registration is April 30th.
- **June 26th-28th** – Vacation Bible School. We will be doing lessons 1, 2, and 3.
- **July 16th-19th** – Gospel Meeting with John DeBerry.



Those in Need of Our Prayers and Encouragement:

Our Regulars/Friends/Relatives:

- At any given time, there are members going through different difficulties that they would rather keep private. Please say a prayer for them; God knows who they are.
- We have been asked to keep the students, teachers, and administrators of the Ripley School System (especially the high school) in our prayers.
- Robert Taylor passed away. The funeral was on Friday (3/31). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Jill Watson (David Snell's sister) passed away. The funeral was held on Sunday (4/2). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Betty Maners (Nell Dodson's grandmother) passed away. Her funeral was held on Wednesday (3/29). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Hunter Harkness (Raymond and Mollie Kelley's great-grandson) suffered a concussion and whiplash in Tipton Rosemark's baseball game. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Carolyn Malone (Shannon Williams' cousin) was taken to the hospital due to seizures and is in ICU. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Scott King (The Dennison's son) had surgery (3/28), and everything went as planned. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Tommy White had his stem cell treatment (3/28), and everything went as planned. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Wade Stanley had surgery (3/17) to place pins and screws in his broken arm. Everything went as planned. Please keep him and the family in your prayers.
- Lisa Hunt (Joe Hunt's sister-in-law) was in a serious car accident. She is back home now. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.
- Jane Snell received a good follow-up visit following her surgery. Please continue to keep her and David in your prayers.
- Shirley Thompson (Roy Colvin's sister) has been diagnosed with lung cancer. Please keep her in your prayers as she undergoes treatment.
- Willie Bonds is having knee problems and will possibly have surgery soon. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Larry Spiess is continuing his treatments for cancer. Please continue to keep him and JoAnn in your prayers.
- Alan Sheckell (Synthia Gibson's nephew): Please keep him and the family in your prayers as he battles cancer.
- Mark Paschall, Johnny Olds, Frances Harrell, Pam Carmack, Scott Sanders, David Blakely, Marian Smith, Tim Etheridge, Linda Climer, Ruth King, Lillie Dennison, Terry and Stella Young, Josephine Latham, Tommy Watts, Brenda Sutton, Joyce Dunaway, Everett Presson, Tyler Newman, Justin Hendrix, Elvis Gay, Leslie Barnes, Drexel Reed, Martha Duggar, Paul Bridges, and Johnnie Matthews: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.