

1701 Pippin Road
Cookeville, TN 38501
(931) 372-9113
pippincoc@gmail.com
<http://www.pippincoc.com/>

Sunday AM Bible Study	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:30 PM
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 PM

Elders

Eddie Frizzell	(931) 526-3505
Gary Medley	(931) 528-8768
Roger Mayberry	(931) 537-3265

Deacons

Colonel Wheeler	(931) 526-5808
Greg Frizzell	(931) 265-2192
Jonathan Medley	(931) 854-0960
Kale Burchett	(615) 533-9134

Preacher

Randy Bybee	(931) 268-0912
--------------------	----------------

Welcome

The Pippin church of Christ extends to you a cordial welcome. We hope the services have been uplifting, and you will want to return at every opportunity.

Our purpose in meeting is to worship God in Spirit and in truth. God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. John 4:24

How to Become a Christian

Hear the Word - Romans 10:17
Believe - Mark 16:15
Repent of Past Sins - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:9
Be Baptized - Acts 2:38
Remain Faithful - Revelation 2:10

Radio Programs

The Lord's Way
AM 920 WLIV - Tuesdays @ 10:10AM

A Challenge to Think
AM 1400 WHUB - Sundays @ 9:05AM

For the Record, Week of 2/12/16

Sunday Class	76
Sunday AM	92
Sunday PM	-
Wednesday	-

Volume 34, No. 8

Country Club Church

Brad Harrub Ph.D., February 16, 2017

They had works. They labored. They showed patience. They could not bear those who were evil. They were able to detect false teachers. They demonstrated perseverance. They labored for the name of Christ and had not become weary. And yet, according to Jesus Christ—the Great Physician, Who is able to accurately diagnose the heart, this group of Christians in Ephesus had left their first love. (Revelation 2:2-4)

What treatment plan did Jesus give this group of people? He first told them to “remember from where you have fallen.” In other words, reflect back to why they came together—go back and look at what your original priorities were. Spend time reflecting on the true mission of the church. Then He commands them, “repent.” Too often, Christians who have been baptized look at the word “repentance” as a step of salvation. Yet, Jesus here was addressing Christians—telling this sick church that if it wanted to get better then they needed to repent. Lastly, He tells them to do the first works. This group of people was busy working and laboring, but they had moved away from the things that were truly important. The Great Physician then revealed what their fate would be if they did not follow his medical treatment: “or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent” (Revelation 2:5).

I suspect this exact same diagnosis could be given to hundreds of congregations across our nation today. We are busy with works. We are laboring. We don't bear with those who are evil. We can identify false teachers. And yet, we have left our first love. Our focus is no longer on Christ and what He has done for us, but rather, our focus is on the next big program or event—in order to please the masses and get numbers up. We've detached ourselves so far away from our sin that we don't spend much time actually reflecting on where we would be without Christ and the cross.

What many modern congregations have actually done is created vast “social clubs” or “country clubs” full of people who want to be surrounded by moral people of the same socio-economic status. We want to feel like we are doing good, involved in lots of works, and have someone to go to lunch with on Sunday. Sure we love God, but deep down we have grown comfortable. We have built massive buildings, all the while we are surrounded by thousands who are lost and hurting—yet, these people will never hear the Gospel because our social club is too busy with internal programs. Our mentality has become, “We will build bigger buildings and they will come to us.”

Don't believe me? Take a moment to consider how much time, energy, sacrifice, and money are spent actually going out into your local community. Now compare that to how much time, energy, sacrifice, and money are spent on “internal” programs—programs for people who already know about the saving blood of Christ. We wave the banner of “edification” broadly, as justification for these programs, but the reality is in most cases these programs are simply tools that keep the church convinced they are busy and active. A serious look reveals a much deeper problem—Christians who have lost their first love, and no longer desire to “go” and reach the lost.

I have probably heard every excuse in the book: “Door knocking doesn't work anymore.” “We don't think advertising in the local paper will work.” “We don't really know how to reach the lost in this technological age.” Etc. So instead of trying something, we add a few more internal programs and comfort our guilty consciousness. Or maybe we justify it by saying: “We stream or record our services for everyone on the internet” as if there are thousands of people sitting by their computers or televisions who will stumble across our site with the intention of learning the Truth.

Yes, in too many cases we have become country club churches. It's with tears in my eyes that I point out this truth. I love the church. I love the people who make up the church. But the truth is we are comfortable. We are busy in the building. But we are about to have our lampstand removed. It is time leaders and members repent and get busy doing what God really expects us to do. It is time we return to our first love. It is time we get out of our comfort zones and do the hard things.

As for me and my house? We're tired of social club church. We desperately want to serve. We want leaders to blaze a trail into our community. We want to stop wasting money on frivolous internal programs. We want to roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty. We want the waters in our baptistery to be rippling every week—rather than growing stagnant. We want to return to our first love. And that, my friend, is what we shall do. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

SERMON TOPICS

Morning	Jesus' Statement of the Founding of the Church	Matthew 16:18
Evening	Matter of Forgiveness	Luke 17:3

PRAYER LIST

DONALD STRONG - brother of Stella Smith, is in the Centennial hospital in Nashville.

JACOB CONNER - son of Scott and Tonya Conner, was airlifted to St. Thomas last week after suffering a stroke. He is currently in physical therapy as tests are run to determine the cause.

JAMES FRIZZELL - is now back at home and recovering after being in the hospital.

THOSE BATTLING ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES - Betty Long (friend of the Bybee family), Burt Montgomery (co-worker of Josh Lawson), Cathy Phillips (cousin of Geneva Smallwood), Herbie Fox (nephew of Geneva Smallwood), John and Doris Stafford, Junior and Pearl Sherfield, Karma Carter (wife of Jonathan Carter, nephew of Denise York), Marie Eckel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 3rd - 5th - Marriage Seminar

Crossville church of Christ will host a marriage seminar March 3 - 5 with guest speaker Jim Dearman.

Pippin church of Christ Podcast Now Available

The Pippin church of Christ Podcast is now available on iTunes. A podcast is a digital audio recording that's available for free on your computer, phone, or tablet. All sermons preached at Pippin will be available for download and listening. To subscribe to the podcast, use the "Podcasts" app on your iPhone or use iTunes on your computer.

My Daddy Is Here

Glenn Hitchcock, Warner Robins, Georgia

David Elkind, the famous child psychologist and author of the best-selling *The Hurried Child*, tells this true story about his role as a parent.

I remember visiting my middle son's nursery school class, at the request of his teacher, so that I could observe a "problem child" in the class. It so happened that I was sitting and observing a group of boys including my son, who sat in a circle nearby.

Their conversation went like this:

Child A: "My daddy is a doctor, and he makes a lot of money, and we have a swimming pool.

Child B: "My daddy is a lawyer, and he flies to Washington and talks to the president."

Child C: "My daddy owns a company, and we have our own airplane."

Then my son (with aplomb, of course): "My daddy is here."

The most important thing about loving someone is being there for them. And "being there" often literally means being there. No matter what, God will always "be there" for you.

All Month - February

Table	Greg Frizzell
Table Assist	Andrew Pippin Andrew Scott Chad York Josh Lawson

Sunday AM Worship

Announcements	Jonathan Medley
Lead Singing	Adam Swallows
Read Scripture	Mike Martin
First Prayer	Wendall Smallwood
Last Prayer	Andrew Scott
Greet at Door	Colonel & Ida Wheeler
Slide Production	Matt Donegan

Sunday PM Worship

Announcements	Jonathan Medley
Lead Singing	Adam Swallows
Read Scripture	Dennis Chaffin
First Prayer	Larry Jackson
Last Prayer	Kale Burchett
Slide Production	Matt Donegan

Wednesday Bible Class

Announcements	Jonathan Medley
Lead Singing	Adam Swallows
Read Scripture	Lester Boles
First Prayer	Joe Brown
Last Prayer	Lester Boles
Slide Production	Matt Donegan

Happy Birthday

Leslie Wattenbarger	2/19
---------------------	------

Daily Bible Reading

Exodus 29-30; Mark 2	2/19
Exodus 31-33; Mark 3:1-19	2/20
Exodus 34-35; Mark 3:20-35	2/21
Exodus 36-38; Mark 4:1-20	2/22
Exodus 39-40; Mark 4:21-41	2/23
Ps 90-91; Leviticus 1-2; Mark 5:1-20	2/24
Leviticus 3-5; Mark 5:21-43	2/25

Question for the Week

What did a seraph use to touch Isaiah's lips?

Answer to Previous Question

According to Jeremiah, where could one find balm?

Gilead; Jer. 8:22