

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
Kale Burchett	(615) 533-9134

Preacher

Randy Bybee	(931) 268-0912
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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

Volume 35, No. 3

Placing Membership

By Randy Bybee

The membership of a congregation can be a topic of some confusion and even some controversy. In this brief article, give consideration to the topic of church membership. Some guiding questions are these. What is meant by church membership? Is the issue of church membership important? What does the Bible teach about this subject? As always, the Bible is the only source for trustworthy answers.

One of the first realizations concerns the church which Jesus purchased with the shedding of His blood. (Acts 20:28) When an individual obeys the gospel by belief, repentance, confession, and baptism, that individual is added by Jesus to the church. (Acts 2:47) In particular, that individual, upon scriptural baptism, is in Christ, is saved from sin, and equivalently a member of the church. (Galatians 3:26f; 1 Corinthians 12:13; 1 Pet. 3:21; Rom. 6:17f; Eph. 5:23) In order to be saved, all responsible individuals must be a member of the church.

Given the previous comments, what does the Bible teach about local church membership. It is the will of God that Christians work and serve in a local congregation; in other words, God expects Christians to place membership with a local church and to labor in that body of believers. Right after he became a Christian, Paul sought to "join himself to the disciples" in Jerusalem. (Acts 9:26) Due to his reputation, they were hesitant to accept Paul, but Barnabas aided in overcoming the reluctance. (Acts 9:27f) The fact remains that Paul desired to be identified as part of the Jerusalem congregation, to place membership with that group of believers.

To the church in Rome, Paul gave instruction for them to "be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another." (Romans 12:10) This text speaks of a group of people who direct kind affection to one another and who prefer each other in an association sense. Obviously, visitors and strangers are welcome in the assemblies of the church; yet, this text speaks of *one another* and even preferring *one another*. These to be preferred are one's fellow members of the local congregation. The easiest way to appreciate this passage is to consider membership in the local congregation.

Finally, elders are commanded to "feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof." (1 Pet. 5:2) An eldership watches for the souls of the individuals in their watch. (Heb. 13:17) This consideration is one of the strongest ones teaching the scripturalness of church membership. How does an elder know what souls to feed and for what souls he will give answer? The answer is those souls who are identified with the congregation over which he serves as an elder.

Placing membership with a local congregation identifies a person's intent to serve beneath the elders of that congregation and to use his/her talents in that congregation to work for the cause of Jesus Christ. It is God's will that each Christian be a member of a local congregation.

SERMON TOPICS

Morning	Unaccepted Offerings	Amos 5:21-24
Evening	Haman I	Esth. 7:6

PRAYER LIST

MARVIN SCOTT - is in rehab in Cookeville and is doing good.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WILLOW AVENUE GOSPEL MEETING

January 28-31. Speaker - Don Blackwell.

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

If you are interested in receiving an electronic copy of the bulletin prior to Sunday via email, you can sign up at www.pippincoc.com and enter your email address in the box on the right of the page.

BULLETIN UPDATES

The bulletin is a great communication tool. If you have updates, additions or removals of sick please let one of the deacons know so the appropriate updates and changes can be made.

SERMON NOTES:

All Month - January

Table	James Scott
Tray Preparation	Stephanie Frizzell
Table Assist	Andrew Scott Joe Brown Josh Lawson Mike Martin

Sunday AM Worship

Announcements	Kale Burchett
Lead Singing	Andrew Scott
Read Scripture	Mike Martin
First Prayer	James Scott
Last Prayer	Dennis Chaffin
Greet at Door	John & Myra Jones
Slide Production	Greg Frizzell

Sunday PM Worship

Announcements	Kale Burchett
Lead Singing	Andrew Scott
Read Scripture	John Jones
First Prayer	Colonel Wheeler
Last Prayer	Lester Boles
Slide Production	Greg Frizzell

Wednesday Bible Class

Announcements	Kale Burchett
Lead Singing	Larry Jackson
Read Scripture	John Lane
First Prayer	Joey Frizzell
Last Prayer	Roger Mayberry
Slide Production	Greg Frizzell

Happy Birthday

Jeremy Castle	1/27
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Daily Bible Reading

Job 32-33 ; Matthew 14:1-21	1/21
Job 34-35 ; Matthew 14:22-36	1/22
Job 36-37 ; Matthew 15:1-20	1/23
Job 38-40 ; Matthew 15:21-39	1/24
Job 41-42 ; Matthew 16	1/25
Genesis 23-24 ; Matthew 17	1/26
Genesis 25-26 ; Matthew 18:1-20	1/27

Question for the Week

How old was David when he died?

Answer to Previous Question

Who carried the rich man's spirit to Abraham's bosom?
angels; Lk. 16:22