

REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

Sunday 10:00 am.....Bible Classes
 11:00 am.....Worship
 5:00 pm.....Worship
 Wed. 7:00 pm.....Bible Classes

WELCOME, VISITORS!

We are so glad you are here. If this is your first time with us, here’s what to expect. We seek to worship according to the New Testament pattern. As a result, we **sing** without the accompaniment of mechanical musical instruments (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). We have a weekly observe the **Lord’s Supper** (cf. Acts 20:7) which consists of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine (Matt. 26:26-29). This memorial is designed for those who have been baptized for the remission of sins to partake (Acts 2:38, 42). There will also be an **offering** collected from our members (1 Cor. 16:1-2). As our guest, you are not expected to make a donation. Feel perfectly comfortable passing the collection plate down the row. You will also hear the **preaching** of a Bible-centered message (Acts 20:7) and men leading the congregation in **prayer** (1 Tim. 2:8). We think you will find our worship meaningful and refreshing as we strive to do it in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). We encourage you to observe carefully and stay a while afterwards so that we can get to know you better and answer any questions you may have.

Elders: Chris Clark
Steve Doss
Steven Reynolds

Deacons: Brandon Carmicle (Building & Grounds)
Cole Clark (Worship/Tech./Bldg & Grnds)
Tyler Curry (Safety & Security/Bldg & Grnds)
Edd Sterchi (Outreach/Benevolence/Youth)

Minister: Edd Sterchi

ATTENDANCE & CONTRIBUTION RECORDS

	2021 Goals	Last Week	1 yr ago
Bible Study	60	44	
Sun AM	80	51	44
Sun PM	40		
Wed	45		
Contribution	1950	1070	6450

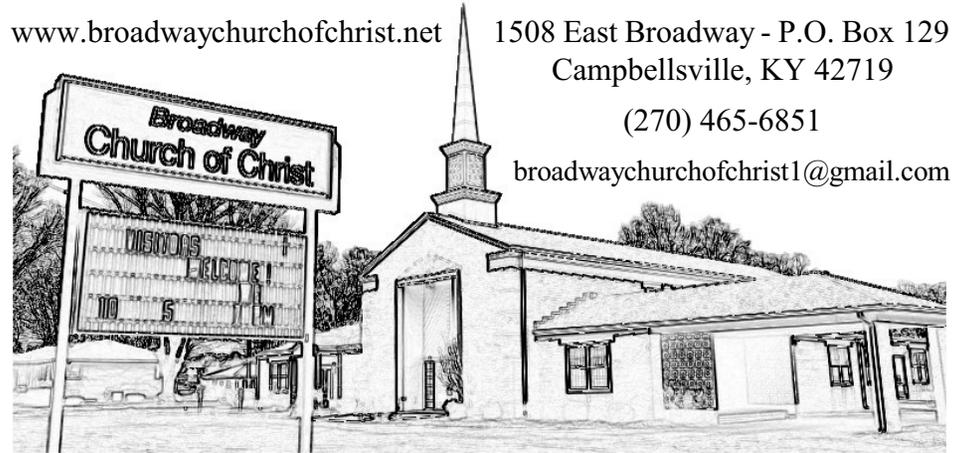
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May 30, 2021

Some Things to Know About Suffering

(from Revelation 2:10)

*“Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer” - We have **nothing to worry about when suffering comes.** When we let fear, panic, and negativism rule, our suffering is always made worse. Suffering happens to everyone. Just stay calm.*

*“Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested” - **God allows suffering in our lives as a test of our faith.** Through everything, stay faithful.*

*“and you will have tribulation ten days” - **God is in control of the situation.** He regulates the time period of our suffering. He will not allow more to happen or a longer length of time to occur than what we can handle with His help.*

*“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life” - **God blesses us when we endure the suffering.** So hang in there. There is not only a light at the end of the tunnel, there are blessings there, as well.*

- Edd Sterchi

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer List * Paxton Bloyd * Bam Carney * Richard Coffey (lymphoma) * Sharon Cornett * Riley Decker (leukemia) * Wayne Eastridge * Matthew Edwards (cancer) * Jerry Fields (cancer) * Britany Harden * Richard Harden * Wilma Landis (cancer) * Eli Marcom (brain tumor) * Kenny Perkins * Ancil Reynolds * Odell Young (cancer)

Medical Updates

- * **Juanita Cheatham** had successful cancer surgery on Wed.
- * **Steven Reynolds** has been in ICU with kidney stones and heart issues.
- * **Katie Sholty**, Bret's sister, is out of the hospital and recovering.
- * **Diane Haycraft**, April Clark's mother, is recovering from COVID.
- * Please continue to pray for **Nina Barfield, Wayne Eastridge, Glenn Frankum**, and **Stacey Stephens** concerning their recoveries.

Moved

Both **John Barfield** and **Steve Clark** have moved to new residences. Their addresses are posted on the bulletin board.

Silver for Children

The change cans for **Potter Children's Home** are on the table in the lobby. Please take one and begin filling it with silver coins and bills. The return date is Aug. 15, 2021. **Note: if you do not wish to take a can you can still participate by bringing your change in each Sunday and giving it to one of the kids (The Children's Bible Class is filling a can).**

Birthdays This Week

- * Titus Sholty (May 31)
- * April Sholty (June 3)
- * Rita Reynolds (June 5)

Remember Jesus Christ

- * *"This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me"* (Luke 22:19)
- * *"And remember the words of the Lord Jesus"* (Acts 20:35)
- * *"Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel"* (2 Tim. 2:8)

- Edd Sterchi

What About Good Moral People?

Comparing the "good moral man" of the world to the flawed child of God can be frustrating!

Take Cornelius and Peter for one example. Even before obeying the gospel, Cornelius was a deeply religious man--one who revered God, prayed regularly, helped the poor, and taught his family to do the same. Then there is Peter, whose prejudice made him hesitant even to associate with Gentiles like Cornelius, much less evangelize them; it took three miracles to convince him that God loves Gentiles, too. If you or I had been in charge, we might have sent Cornelius to preach to Peter; but God did it the other way around. Why? Because Peter was "in Christ" and Cornelius wasn't. Imperfect though he was, Peter had access to the blood of Christ; Cornelius didn't (until he obeyed the gospel). God dealt with Peter's imperfections, but He did so not as with one alienated from Him, but as a son in covenant with Him.

Abraham and Abimelech (Genesis 20) provide another interesting case. Abraham deceitfully implied that Sarah was not his wife, so Abimelech took her to be his own. God told Abimelech in no uncertain terms to give her back to Abraham or die! But the real challenge is where God told Abimelech to have Abraham pray for him (20:7)! You or I might say "Abimelech was more honest than Abraham! Abimelech's error was mostly Abraham's fault, so Abimelech ought to be the one praying for Abraham." Why did God do it the other way? Once again, Abraham was in covenant with God, whereas Abimelech was not. That doesn't mean God approved of Abraham's deceitfulness, or that Abraham was not accountable for it. Nevertheless, Abraham's relationship with God enabled him to pray for Abimelech.

Consider good moral people in our own community. It is tempting to say, "They must be pleasing to God: they must be saved; they must be Christians, though they have never obeyed the gospel and their religious beliefs and practices are denominational rather than Biblical." Especially when comparing such people to less-than-exemplary church members, the temptation is strong to conclude that God must accept "good moral people" over brethren who have obeyed the gospel but whose lives come up short. Let's remember the key point: being in covenant with God is absolutely essential! That covenant is not established simply by "good moral behavior," commendable though such behavior might be. It is established by faith and loving obedience to Him who died to save sinners. All who would be pleasing to God must be in that covenant--even "good moral people."

- Joe Slater