

**Crossville church
of Christ**
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COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation

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November 7, 2010

Elders:

Eddie Brown	484-6768
Bill Foland	788-2387
Larry McDuffee	484-7828
Clyde Randolph	935-5933

Deacons:

Jim Bell	456-2476
Frank Bohannon	484-2363
Al Griffin	456-9565
Jimmy Harris	788-2553
Doug Loveday	335-6374
Jonathan Loveday	484-9205
Greg Maxwell	788-2560
Brian McLaughlin	788-1216
Mark Roberts	787-7315
Roger Smith	484-8003

Minister:

Barry Kennedy	787-7108
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Missionaries:

Don Iverson	(828) 963-5172
Jim Waldron	(865) 376-9947 (India)

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM
	6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class	
Tuesdays	11AM
Prayer Meeting	
Tuesdays	10 AM
Joyful Generation	
(Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7:00 PM



"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter into his gates with THANKSGIVING, and into his courts with praise: be THANKFUL unto him, and bless his name. For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations" (Psalm 100).

HAVE WE BECOME TOO BUSY

Wayne Rogers

It was Ben Franklin who said, "Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of." What is time? Einstein said it is what the clock read. There is solar time, Atomic time, daytime, night—time, local time, good times, and old times. The Bible says that Felix waited for a "convenient time." Paul said that "now is the accepted time" (2 Cor. 6:2) and that the "time is short" (1 Cor. 7:29). James said "life is but a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14). Every birthday is a milestone of the relentless march of time and a reminder that we are quickly passing through the sands of this world. "As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them" (Psa. 103:15-18). We have learned that we can never go back, only forward in time.

Time comes from God, though God himself lives outside the boundaries of time. "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day" (2 Pet. 3:8). Time began when God created the universe—"And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day" (Gen. 1:5). God created the stars in their courses that determine our hours, days, months, and years (Gen. 1:16). As the one who has control over time, God gives it out to us a moment at a time. Someday, we shall stand before God and turn in, as it were, a time card accounting for how we have used his gift (cf. 1 Cor. 4:2; Lk. 16:2). Are we good stewards of the "time" we have been given by God? We should all say with Moses, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom" (Psa. 90:12).

We are to look to Jesus for our example (1 Peter 2:21). Jesus was never too busy, and he did not waste time. He always took time to pray and mediate (Lk. 9:18), to go to worship services (Lk. 4:16) to give attention to the sick (Gal. 6:9), to rest (Lk. 8:22-25), to give attention to the children (Mt. 19:13, 14), and even found time to attend a social event, the wedding feast in Cana (Jn. 2:1-10). Jesus was certainly the example we should imitate. Jesus was master over His time, and we should ever strive to be the same. "Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Eph 5:14-16).

We should learn to prioritize the things in each of our lives, so that, our ultimate goal is fulfilled—to bring glory and honor to God through our service and daily offering (Rom. 12:1-2).



MOST THANKFUL

Jason T. Carter

In the Winnie the Pooh movie, Seasons of Giving, Christopher Robin asks Pooh Bear what he is thankful for. "Why nothing short of everything," Pooh replied, "but most of all, I'm thankful for the company of friends, such as yourself."

During this time of year, Americans' thoughts are focused on giving thanks for the blessings we enjoy. This should not be limited to a once-a-year ritual. We should always be thanking God, all year long. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

We should be specific in our thanksgiving, and especially be thankful that we have the opportunity each week to gather together with other Christians on the Lord's Day and on Wednesday. Paul began many of his letters by saying that he gave thanks to God for his recipients. We should likewise give thanks for the church here.

If we were able to ask the apostle Paul what he was thankful for, we would probably get a response similar to Pooh's, but I doubt Paul would say he was thankful "most of all...for the company of friends." Paul, and every Christian, should be thankful most of all for the precious gift of eternal life we have through Christ Jesus, when we obey His commands.

We know what we are to do: hear, believe, repent, confess, be baptized, and live faithfully. Some stop at belief, some at repentance, others at confession. Without baptism and a faithful life, however, they stop too short.

Is anything lacking in your relationship with God? Make it right, and give the saints of God on earth another reason to be thankful.

TEN RULES FOR IMPROVING ATTITUDES IN THE CHURCH

1. Tell yourself over and over that since you are not perfect, you would not fit into a "perfect" congregation if one existed.
2. Instead of picking out the worldly members to point to, select the sincere, dedicated, spiritual members, and thank God for them.
3. If you are old, treat the young with the consideration you desired as a young person. If you are young, treat adults with the respect you will want when you are mature.
4. When you are tempted to criticize others, be sure to pray earnestly for them first. This may not change them, but it will do wonders for your attitude.
5. When you see a work neglected, instead of being critical, offer to help.
6. Never blame others for your own failures. Every individual can be faithful to God in spite of the bad examples and discouraging attitudes of others.
7. Remind yourself every day that the only way you can improve the world or the church is to begin with self.
8. Consciously look for the good qualities in each brother and sister in Christ; make a mental note of the good points each possesses.
9. Constantly strive to increase your circle of associates in the church. Try to do something for each.
10. Every congregation has problems. Constantly ask yourself, "Am I a part of the problem, a part of the solution, or merely a critical spectator?"