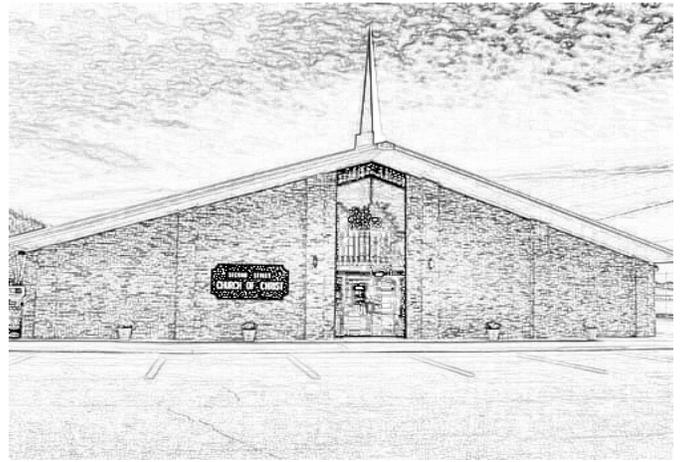


# Second Street Church of Christ



April 24, 2016

## Am I Glad To Be In God's House?

### MINISTER

Adam Cozort

662-663-0231

### Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126  
Belmont, Ms. 38827

### SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am  
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am  
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm  
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

*Endeavoring to keep  
the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:3*

Recently in our worship on Sunday evening, I listened to a prayer of a senior saint asking God to help us come to a time when our attendance was equal at all services. It's been a while since I heard such a prayer and desire expressed before the Father. Why is there such a disparity?

What is it that makes one assembly more appealing to some than others? Is there something missing (other than people) in some of our assemblies that makes them less of a draw for the saints?

Isn't it important for us to reflect "why do I go to some but not all of the services?" Is it a spiritual reason? Is it a stewardship thing? Is it that I feel that my needs are not being met? Did I worship, praise, pray, study, admonish, encourage, all that I needed to?

We all have busy lives. No one has a schedule less than crammed to maximum capacity. Yet, some folks still find time, energy, and desire to meet together for Bible study and worship every time the saints meet.

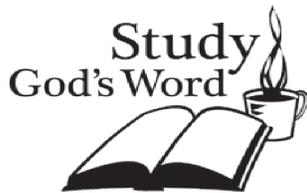
The writer of Hebrews told us to "spur one another on to love and good works." He tells us to be careful not to grow derelict in meeting together. (He. 10:24-25). Paul reminds us twice, not to grow weary in doing good (Ga. 6:9; 2Th. 3:13). Isaiah preached to an obstinate people who had lost their fervor for service and worship to God. God's words through Isaiah were stern and heartbreaking. God showed just how selfish Israel had become:

"You have not brought me your sheep for burnt offerings, or honored me with your sacrifices. I have not burdened you with offerings, or wearied you with frankincense. You have not bought me sweet cane with money, or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened .....,*continued on page 3*

# Announcements

**Welcome Visitors!!** You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

**The sign-up sheet** to host a singing and fellowship night is posted on the board in the foyer.



Trays for April

Shea Cozort

Trays for May

Michelle Holcomb

Welcome!  
  
We are Glad  
You are Here!

## Diligently Seeking God

Adam Cozort

There were once two neighbors who both wanted the same style of boat. The first worked hard for the boat he dreamed of having. He saved, budgeted, and worked until finally he could afford what he desired. The second man had no desire to put any effort into working to obtain the boat. He was content to sit around talking about how much he wanted it and how he'd like to have it, but he never raised a finger to receive it. That is, until his neighbor bought his boat; then he decided he could have what the other man had worked so hard to obtain, all he had to do was steal it. As you can imagine, the story ends with one man having the boat he had always wanted. Meanwhile, the other man spends years in prison because he wanted to try to get something without it taking any effort.

Unfortunately, some people act the same way toward spiritual things as this second man did toward obtaining the boat. They want to receive all of the blessings and promises of God, but they do not want to have to do anything to receive them.

The Bible teaches such will not work. It states in Hebrews: "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

It is not enough for a person to simply say they believe in God, or want to go to Heaven. That person must believe it and desire it enough to act toward that end. If a person simply believes in God, he is no better than the demons that also believe (James 2:19). If a person simply says he wants to go to Heaven, but does nothing to put himself on that road, he will not find it (Matthew 7:21-23).

Let us diligently seek God and salvation: that by his grace, through our obedience, it might be found.

*Continued from page 1*

me with your sins; you have wearied me with your iniquities.” (Isaiah 43:23–24 ESV)

We cannot say that everyone who worships four or five times per week at the church building is a spiritual giant. However, knowing that it is good to be in the house of the Lord, shouldn't I develop a desire to be there as much as I can? David showed a righteous attitude “I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”” (Ps. 122:1 ESV).

I echo the prayer of that older brother; that we would all desire to be with the Lord more often. Let us find joy and desire to be in the Lord's presence.

“For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.” (Ps. 84:10 ESV).

“One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.” (Ps. 27:4 ESV).

*Joseph D. Chase*

*North Loop church of Christ Gladewater, TX Bulletin Digest*

## Sin is a Leech

Adam Cozort

Whether you have experienced them personally, seen them in the movies, or studied them in school, most people are familiar with leeches: those blood-sucking worms that seem to make their way into every jungle river movie ever made. There are many different kinds of leeches, but their general nature is the same: they survive by sucking the blood out of their hosts. I know, for most people it is gross and starts giving some the willies just thinking about it.

Have you ever thought about the fact that sin is very much like a leech? It lives through making you bleed both physically and spiritually. Sin will bleed your health, your financial resources, your influence, it will bleed away your friends and family, but most important of all, it will kill your relationship with God.

However, there are some ways in which leeches and sin are quite different. You see, the leech will suck on its prey until it is full, then it will detach itself and leave. Sin does not work that way. It will not voluntarily disappear or just walk out of your life, it has to be forced to leave. Sin will hang on as long as you will allow, until you forcibly remove it and cast it from you.

Once a leech has been removed the wound needs to be cleansed in order to heal. Likewise, once sin has been removed (through repentance – 2 Corinthians 7:10), the wound that has been left behind to the soul must be cleansed. This can only be done with one salve: the blood of Christ (1 John 1:7) received through obedience (Hebrews 5:9).

Have you checked yourself for leeches lately?

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

**Bible Study**      **9:00am**  
**Worship**         **10:00am**  
**Evening**          **5:00pm**

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**      **7:00pm**

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Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*  
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

**Psalms 133:1**

The process for becoming a Christian  
is the same as it was over 2000 years  
ago! To become a Christian, one must:

*Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17*

*Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6*

*Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3*

*Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10*

*Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38*

*Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10*

None of these alone will make you a  
Christian. These commands are from  
God and must be obeyed from the  
heart to become a Christian.

### Prayer List



Paula Wanner	Matthew Horton
Joey Pierce	Cathy Harrison
Troy Yarbrough	Phillip Pharr
Barbara Blackman	Stephanie Moore
Jeanie Ivy	Marie Azzinaro
Gerald Nunley	Lauren Chase
John Tate	Lou Dodson
Mike Braden	Allison Heitzman
Dana Clayton	Jo Vandagriff
Sammy Green	Brenda Leatherwood
Tim Denson	



### April Birthdays

### April Anniversaries

*James & Bonnie 4/15*

*John & Betty 4/17*

### Sympathy