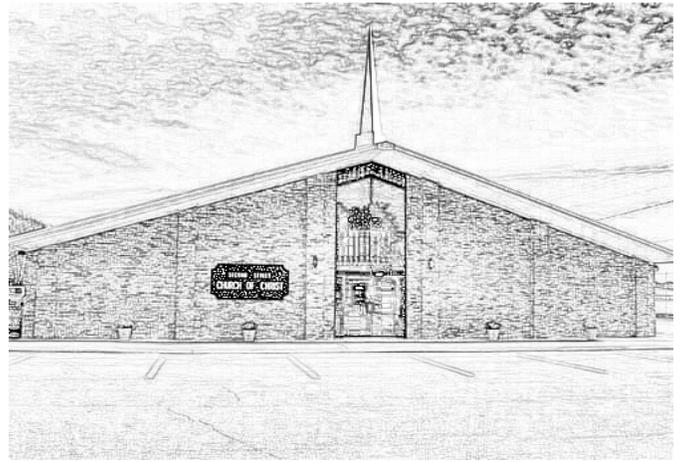


# Second Street Church of Christ



May 21, 2017

## MINISTER

### Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126  
Belmont, Ms. 38827

Website:  
secondstreetcofc.com



## 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***

## Free-diving into eternity

***Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matthew 10:28).***

Off the coast of Greece, since the days of Plato, free divers have been plunging to depths of 50-100 meters with no breathing apparatus at all to harvest sea sponges. Others do this kind of diving for sport.

But it is extremely dangerous.

In 2013, Nicholas Mevoli died after performing a dive. He resurfaced, signaled “OK,” then lost consciousness, and died. In 2015, Russian free-diver, Natalia Molchanova, who held 41 world records and earned 23 gold medals, plunged into the Mediterranean darkness off the coast of Spain for a recreational dive, and failed to resurface. After a few days, rescue efforts ceased.

Free-divers must learn not only the physical techniques of free-diving, but also how to switch off their primal instincts. They do this through rigorous physical and mental training. They learn to silence their primal responses when breathing slows and oxygen levels decrease. However, this switch off, while necessary for the task, can also be the reason for failure. Learning to ignore one’s fears can and does result in serious injury, or even fatality.

This is true of our spiritual selves. We are spiritual beings. Some overcome spiritual fear by ignoring or denying that they are spiritual beings at all. Though it be ignored, the soul of man is quite real (see: 1 Thessalonians 5:23; [Hebrews 4:12](#); James 2:26).

The spiritual self can, like the diver’s primal instinct, be switched off through sheer will power. The conscience can become numb (1 Timothy 4:2).

When Jesus said, “Fear not,” he meant for us to find peace and hope for our soul through obeying his gospel (Romans 1:16). He did not intend for us to switch off our soul in hopes that it would go away.

Unfortunately, many are free-diving, having shut off the spiritual intuition with which they were endowed by their Creator. They are sinking. The longer they stay submerged, the less likely it is they will resurface.

*Used by permission from Forthright Magazine (forthright.net). Copyright © 2017 Rick Kelley*

## *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.

**Gospel Meeting** June 4th - 7th. Josh McCrary will be speaking to us. Postcards are in the back. Pick some p, hand them out or put an address on them and mail them to someone. You can also place them in the local businesses.

## Courage or Foolishness

It takes a lot of courage  
To put things in God's hands,  
To give ourselves completely,  
Our live, our hopes, our plans,  
To follow where He leads us  
And make His will our own,  
But all it takes is foolishness  
To go the way alone!

*via Findlay church of Christ  
BulletinDigest.com*

## Gospel Meeting



**DATE: JUNE 4th, 2017**

**SUN MORNING 9:00**

**LUNCH 11:00**

**SUN AFTERNOON 1:00**

**MON - WED 7:00**

**Second Street Church of Christ  
Belmont, Ms.**

**Speaker**

**Josh McCrary**

**Ripley, Ms.**

**Website - [www.secondstreetcofc.com](http://www.secondstreetcofc.com)**

**Email: [sscofc@secondstreetcofc.com](mailto:sscofc@secondstreetcofc.com)**

## Be strong and courageous

“*I* will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:5-9 NIV).

What is it like to start a new job, to begin a new project, to begin an exciting challenge? There may be opportunities ahead but there can also be uncertainty: Will this work? Will we succeed? Can we do it? It is even more difficult when we are replacing someone who has been doing the work for a while. How will those I am working with accept me? Will they respect me? Will they try to sabotage what we are doing?

Maybe we can see a little bit of what Joshua seems to have been going through as he began to lead the nation of Israel. He had worked with Moses since they left Egypt. He was the one who had been chosen by God to be Moses’ successor (see Deuteronomy 31:14-23). But would the people follow him as they had followed Moses? And how would they be able to conquer the land of Canaan?

Joshua needed encouragement, so God told him over and over again, “Be strong and courageous.” He needed courage if he was to lead Israel to conquer the Promised Land so they could have a new home.

But notice what else God told him: he needed to obey God’s word. If he obeyed God’s word, not deviating from it at all, then he would be a successful leader of God’s people – God would give him success in all that he did!

God’s word had to always be on his lips – he had to know it for it to always be there. He needed to meditate on it day and night – he had to take time to read and think about what God had revealed. In this way he would know it so that he could do everything that God had commanded. It is only then that God would make him prosperous and successful. There was no reason for him to be afraid and become discouraged because God would be with him.

*we need to be careful to obey God and to have his word always on our lips, meditating on it each day.*

Isn’t it the same for Christians today? We need courage and strength if we are to successfully carry out the mission Jesus has given us of making disciples of all men (Matthew 28:19-20). But it isn’t always easy. We can become discouraged. How do we keep going?

The answer is the same as God gave to Joshua – we need to be careful to obey God and to have his word always on our lips, meditating on it each day. The only way we can do this is to spend time reading and studying the scriptures.

And don’t forget to pray! When the apostles ran into their first opposition they prayed to God – not to remove the opposition but to give them boldness to continue to proclaim the good news of Jesus (see Acts 4:23-31). We need to ask God for the boldness we need and have the courage to continue to tell others about Jesus.

Be strong and courageous!

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

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

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**      **7:00pm**

---

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	Dianne Vandagriff
Cassie Tierce	Kathy Alexander
Phillip Pharr	Stephanie Vandagriff
Stephanie Moore	Margie Pharr
Larry Sartain	Flora Wanner
Carolyn Holcomb	Ellie Sander
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
David James	Joel Robbins
Jimmy Searcy	Wayne Thomason
Alton Cleghorn	Stacey Rives
Suzanne Vandagriff	James Bailey
Patsy Wanner	Ken Saylor
Brenda Leatherwood	



### May Birthdays

*Rada Malone 5/4*  
*Stephanie Harris 5/16*  
*Stella Higginbottom 5/17*  
*Mallory Cleveland 5/27*  
*Shea Cozort 5/29*

### May Anniversaries

*Doris & Wendell 5/26*

*Sympathy*