

# Camden Church of Christ

## Christ Centered ~ Bible Based



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**November 22, 2020**

### Elders

**Dan Wyatt**

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**Bill Jarnagin**

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**David Ulderich**

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**John Dawson**

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### Deacons

Dennis Richardson

William Blow

Tom Ulderich.

Joe Sisco

Michael Laux

Wesley Sparks

Daniel Richardson

Britt Johnson

Sid Osment

### Minister

**Daniel Cook**

731.441.5217

### Youth Minister

**Paul Ulderich**

731.792.5522

### Schedule of Services

#### SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:00 am

Morning Worship 9:50 am

Evening Worship 6:00 pm

#### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

### **The Giving of Thanks**

By Guy N. Woods

The giving of thanks—the audible Expression of a grateful heart—has ever been a vital part of the life of faithful worshippers. The Old Testament abounds with such expressions, and thanksgiving was frequently on the lips of Jesus and his disciples. For a Christian the giving of thanks should be as natural as the act of breathing.

Thanksgiving is essential to the health and vitality of the human soul. Without gratitude, life festers and becomes corrupt within. The path of selfishness leads to the deterioration of the moral tissues of the soul. When a man ceases to feel thankful, the best that is in him dies. When we cease to be grateful, we simply become ingrates.

The Pagan world lost the art of being thankful. In that appalling description of gentile depravity Paul wrote: “they glorified him not as God, *neither were thankful.*” (Rom. 1:21.) The irreverence they felt toward God issued in ingratitude. Irreverence and ingratitude are twin sins; they are born in the heart at the same time. When men cease to glorify God, they cease to thank him. An age which dishonors God soon plunges into utter depravity. Moral darkness settles over the mind and heart of the people. “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.” (Rom. 1:22.) The steps of this degeneracy are traced by Paul with remarkable clarity: (1) when men dishonor God in life, their conception of him is perverted (Rom. 1:23.); (2) perversion of religious belief leads to immorality (verses 24-27); (3) moral chaos descends on the world (verses 28-31); (4) the depths of man's depravity is reached when he actually approves sin in others (verse 32).

Our age has become dangerously like that of Paul's. Those who do not glorify God and who do not feel grateful are legion. The world has lost the art of being thankful.

Men need not only to learn to be thankful; they must be thankful in the right way. Not all Thanksgiving is acceptable to God. The pharisee who went up to the temple to pray thanked God that he was not like other men. This was pride, not gratitude; and it was an insult to God. Jesus

pointed to him as an example of how men *ought not to pray*, but he is imitated more often than not in our day. In fact, who of us has not at one time or another been guilty of this kind of Phariseism? Some of us are so disposed to catalog and confess the sins of others that we never have time to face squarely our own. Any disposition to regard ourselves as possessed of special piety, or to boast of our religious zeal, brings us perilously near this attitude. It is likely that God is often affronted with our display of self-righteousness and smugness. We may learn from Paul a great deal about how to give thanks: *[continued on last page]*

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**A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS.** *Please fill out a white visitor card (on the table in the foyer), including your mailing address and email address, and drop it in the collection plate on your way out. We are so glad we can worship together today.*

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**Second Harvest** – Volunteers for Second Harvest will *not* be needed for the next few months.

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**Baby Shower** – There will be a baby shower for Megan and Garrett Todd December 6<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m. This will be a drive through shower at the church building. She is registered at Ivy Corner Gift Shoppe, Walmart, and Target.

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**Pew Packers** – Pew packers is back each Sunday evening at 5:45 p.m.!

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**Community Project for December** – For anyone interested in participating, Good Samaritan Village reached out to see if we would sponsor 3 residents. All residents write down items they would like for the holidays. If you would like to participate, give money to Teresa Baker, Nancy Curtis, or Debbie Larkins and they will purchase the gifts, wrap them, and take them to Good Samaritan Village. Since we may not see each other due to covid-19, you can put money in an envelope and write “Good Samaritan” on it and drop it in the collection plate in the foyer or mail it to Teresa at 71 Roberts St. This has been a hard time for the residents, so maybe we can brighten up their holiday season.

### **Please Continue to Pray for:**

**Cancer:** Betty Hyde, Phyllis Sanders, Margaret Turner, Margaret Joyner, Wayne Johnson, Richard Fry, Hope Whetherford, Bill Cargle, Doug Rains, Robert Blackstock (a friend of Greg Matlock), Charlotte Loggains (LaBriska Blow’s mother), Larry White (a friend of Greg Matlock), Angela Henry (Nancy Curtis’s niece), George Smith (brother of Brenda Travis), Marsha Hatley, Jimmy and JoAnn Arnold (friends of Tracy Tolley), Darlene Tunnel (Dwayne Robinson’s sister), Lisa Lowry (a co-worker of Michelle Ballard), Bryant Allen (Michelle Ballard’s brother), Loman Ballard (Stacy’s father), Becky Orr (John Taylor’s Aunt), Lora Pettigrew (Glenda Sparks’ aunt), Lesia Jordan (a friend of Susie Belisle), Joe Garner (a friend of Ross Cole), Leslie Hicks (Susan Hicks’ husband), Faylene Marvin (Cecil Bates’ sister), Clyde Lindsey (Penny Wyatt’s uncle), Eddie Breeden (a member of the Hustburg church of Christ), Betty White (sister of Dorothy Cain), Cindy Crossett Smith (a friend’s daughter-in-law of Gail Townsend), Steve Higginbotham, and William Cox (a friend of David Ulderich).

**Others:** Luke Crossett, Joan Ballard, Dorothy Redden, Tarry Stockdale, Jewel Hatley, Susie Brackins, Tracy Tolley, Linda Hams, Tammy DeBruce, Lynn White, Lisa Haynie, Vickie Cox, Shirley Overby (a friend of Greg Matlock), Ann Dinkins (Angela Hick’s mom), Janet Holland (friend of Rebecca Whitfield), Dorothy and Pete Chappell, Johnny (Susie Brackins’ brother), Rita Hatler, David Taylor, Larry Fisher (Jana Ulderich’s step-father), Walter Bryant (a friend of Ross Cole), Tommy Hams (the brother-in-law of Greg Matlock), Beau Griffin, Chesney Bell, Louise Holder (Jim’s mom), Russell Holmes, Aaron Roberts (a friend of Garrett Todd and Shawn McDowell), Donnie Cuthbertson (a friend of Ross Cole), Bonnie Fleischman (Georgia Lashlee’s daughter), Jeff Homan (a nephew of Emma and John Dawson), Brian Melton (a friend of John and Cindy Lumpkin), David Nowlin (a friend of Joan Phillips), Thomas Little (a friend’s grandson of Wanda Horner and Marge Phillips), Sue Bell, Mildred Hedge (J.C. Hedge’s widow), Keith Hamm (a friend of Greg Matlock), Janice and Billy Watkins, Janice White, Kim Fisher (a friend of Nicole Blackburn), Carolyn Farmer, Muriel Larkins (Bryan’s grandmother), Brenda Travis, Mike Wilson, Virgie Heintz, Kristy (Danny Hardin’s daughter), Rita Kelly, Audrey Joralmon, Myrt McLarty, Debbie Fretwell (Sanders), and Carolyn Wheatley.

**Sympathy:** To the families of Kathryn Scott, John Richardson, Lydia Branch, Blaine Cook (Daniel Cook’s grandfather), Larry Yarbrow, and Earl Ellis (Donna Sampson’s father)

**Military:** Mallory Pratt Triplett, US Marine Corp; Joshua Melton, US Marine Corp; Austin Riley, US Navy

## Special Donations

- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Thomas Ray Townsend.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Billy Cagle.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Hunter Phillips** by Charletta Ragsdale.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Blaine Cook** by Anita Boyd.
- Given to the youth fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by Betty Lucas.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch, Kathryn Scott, Mary Belisle, & John Richardson** by Charletta Ragsdale.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by Camden Bay Community.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Johnny Lumpkin.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by Andrew Laux.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Charles E. Crick.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Mark T. Cagle.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch, Blaine Cook, & John Richardson** by m/m Sid Osment.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Jerry Dinwiddie.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch & John Richardson** by Anita Boyd.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch & Blaine Cook** by m/m Bill Jarnagin.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Lydia Branch** by m/m Britt Thompson.

*Our caring remembrances are gratefully appreciated by the families and by the church.*

## Recent Prayer Requests

- Please remember **Jimmy and Evelyn Johnson** in your prayers as he continues his treatments and she continues her rehab following her recent fall.
- **Debbie Bates** is waiting for test results for cancer and has some kidney issues.
- **Marcia Hatley** continues to need our prayers.
- John and Emma Dawson's niece, **Tara Homen**, is still recovering from a rock-climbing accident.

- **Debbie Fretwell (Sanders)** has some health issues and needs our prayers.
- It is believed that **Mary Edwards** had a mini stroke. She is home and doing better.
- **Charles and Rebecca Whitfield** have covid-19. He is still on Oxygen and goes back to the doctor tomorrow to see about taking him back off.
- **Tony Matlock** needs prayers for health issues.
- **Susan Phipps** has some health issues and could use our prayers.
- **Jeff Homan**, John and Emma Dawson's nephew, is now on a trilogly machine to help him breath 24/7 (he has ALS).
- **Peru** needs prayers right now for political and social unrest going on there.
- **Ronnie Barker**, the husband of the previous owner of Ivey Corner, Janice, has covid-19 and pneumonia in his lungs that has worsened. She requests our prayers.
- We extend our deepest sympathy to the families of:
  - **Eva Maiden**, Barbara Medina's mother. A graveside service was held for her Wednesday at Camden Cemetery. By every account, she was a very kind and precious lady who loved people and could find something good in everyone.
  - **Danny Hudson**, who passed away Tuesday. Please remember his wife, Karen, their children (Tanner, Karlie, and Tyler), and the rest of that family in your prayers.
- Daniel Cook's sister, **Charlotte Grisham**, has covid-19 (and likely her two boys as well).

## **FROM THE ELDERS**

*The elders welcome all newcomers. If you would like to be identified as a member here or if you have not had the opportunity to meet the eldership, we would like to meet with you briefly to introduce ourselves and to explain our position on certain issues and matters of doctrine.*

## **FOR THE RECORD**

Week of November 15, 2020

Sunday Morning Worship: 90  
Sunday Evening Worship: 44  
Wednesday Night: 47

*- Sunday morning Bible classes remain temporarily suspended due to covid-19 concerns.*

[Continued from second page]

1. Like every devout Jew of his day, he thanked God for his food before each meal. . . .

2. Paul's most frequent expression of thanks was for Christian faith in others (Rom. 1:8; Col. 1:3); for the faith of men toward Christ, and for their love toward each other (Eph. 1:16); for the growth of Christian character and those who had learned the truth under him (1 Cor. 1:4); for the friendship of other Christians, and for their fellowship and his work of preaching the gospel (Rom. 16:4; Phil. 1:3). He thanked God for his grace and the heart of every Christian, and for his own deliverance from the law of sin and death. (Rom. 7:25.) When brethren in Rome went out to meet him as he drew near the city, he "thanked God, and took courage." He believed that all men should give thanks for all things. (Eph. 5:20.) There was nothing too small for Thanksgiving in the apostle's view.

The thankful heart is the peaceful heart. Paul wrote to the Colossians: "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful." (Col. 3:15.) . . . Paul admonishes the Philippians: "In nothing be anxious: but in everything by prayer and supplication *with thanksgiving* let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your heart and your thoughts in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6, 7.) The word translated "guard" is a military term, and suggests the idea of garrisoning with soldiers. The promise is that those who banish worry and anxiety from their lives, and through prayer and supplication—attended with Thanksgiving—make their needs known to God, he will throw, as it were, a garrison of spiritual soldiers about them, protecting them from disquieting fears and sheltering them with perfect peace from on high.

The thankful heart is the singing heart. (Col. 3:16.) Thanksgiving issues in song and praise to God. If we dwell on our problems and keep constantly before us our disappointments and losses, we can always have much over which to mourn and complain. The thankful heart has so much to feel grateful for that life's sorrows and hardships are submerged in the sea of forgetfulness and rise no more. When Job suffered the loss of all he possessed, he said: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." (Job 1:21.) The unthankful would have grown sick over his losses, blamed God for it all, cursed him, and died. Job said, "God gave," *before* he said, "God hath taken away." His losses reminded him of the fact that his blessings derived from God in the first place!

\* *Gospel Advocate* (Nashville, TN.: June 9, 1949), 353.



### Youth Events

**December 5<sup>th</sup>** – Devo for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up. Meet at Mexican @6 for supper. Will provide transportation back to building.

**December 12<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas party for 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up. Dirty santa. Bring gift \$15 or less.

**February 26-28<sup>th</sup>** – **CYC**. Total cost is \$80. Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> -\$30. Jan 13<sup>th</sup> - \$25. Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> -\$25.

### Scripture Readers

- November 22<sup>nd</sup> AM Aden Hardin
- November 22<sup>nd</sup> PM Michael Laux
- November 25<sup>th</sup> Geoffrey Kee
- November 29<sup>th</sup> AM Adam Blackburn
- November 29<sup>th</sup> PM Tom Ulderich
- December 2<sup>nd</sup> John Dawson
- December 6<sup>th</sup> AM CJ Baker
- December 6<sup>th</sup> PM Cameron Ballard
- December 9<sup>th</sup> Joel Sisco
- December 13<sup>th</sup> AM Austin Sparks
- December 13<sup>th</sup> PM Paul Ulderich