

August 27, 2023



FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

“Where are the Good Days?”

Many can think of a time in their life they would consider to be the “good days.” For most, the good days are likely when they were at the top of their fitness or the peak of their academics. For others, it is probably times that involved simpler lifestyles and more relaxed atmospheres. The present is seldom regarded as the good days, while the past can often flood the memory with wonderful realities. When looking at the timeline of humanity, we are reminded that we are currently living in the best time available because of our accessible relationship with God.

God spoke through Jeremiah, “The days are coming, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel, and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant though I was a husband to them.” Later in the New Testament, the Hebrew writer eloquently analyzes this very text and conveys the truth of these great days. We are living in the days of the new covenant, and we ought to consider that a blessing for three reasons:

These are good days because of a better covenant ([Jer. 31:31-32](#))

The first covenant could not cleanse the conscience ([Heb. 9:9](#)). The weight of sin was constantly burdening the minds of those who tried to keep the law. Moreover, we now have the most perfect High Priest who can stand between us and God’s wrath ([Heb. 9:11](#)). It was through Christ that we have secured redemption and inheritance ([Heb. 9:12, 15](#)).

These are the good days because of a better knowledge ([Jer. 31:33-34a](#))

God told the people “I will put my law in their minds and write in on their hearts... They will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest” ([Jer. 31:33, 34](#)). We are reminded by the Hebrew writer that we are to have soft hearts, not rebellious ones ([Heb. 3:8](#)). It is a soft heart that can be molded and shaped by the potter, but the hard hearts that break and shatter with any degree of effort. Because of Christ’s blood, our hearts can be cleansed and ready to be offered before God to allow Him to make us greater ([Heb. 10:22](#)).

These are the good days because of a better life ([Jer. 31:34b](#))

When looking back at the old covenant, one can recognize how difficult everyday life was. Consider the constant sacrifices, the relentless guilt, the ritualistic tasks, the unending burden of religious leaders, and the bombardment of hatred from foreign nations. The new covenant provides a better life through God’s mercy ([Heb. 9:15](#)) and God’s forgiveness ([Heb. 9:22](#)). Gone are the days where we must remind ourselves of our guilt. If we are faithful to Him, He remains faithful to us. It is a life of peace, joy, hope, assurance, and thanksgiving. There is no better life than that of a Christian, and there is no better day to embrace than the one in the present. God comforts the people, “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

(copied from Mt Carmel Church of Christ)

Elders
Steve Clark
Jake VanDyke
Ken Vanhorn
Mark Willingham

Deacons
Greg Allen
Justin Beckman
Kevin Clemons
Jeffrey Cox
Mike Davidson
Kyle Dickson
Gregg Elrod
Nate Fulmer
AJ Gooch
David Gooch
Lee Handley
Will Hodge
Brian McManus
Jamey Medley
Ronnie Putnam
Dave Schmidt
Mark Vanhorn

Minister
Austin Johnson

Youth Minister
John Birdwell

Secretary
Sonya Cox

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Worship: Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm; Bible Class 10:15 am; Wednesday: 6:30 pm

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM: 296 / On Line Views: 199
Sunday School: 265 / On Line Views: N/A
Sunday PM: 212/ On Line Views: 215
Wednesday: 193 / On Line Views: 81
Budget: \$14,620
Contribution: \$ 12.849

AUGUST MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

Wayne Barrier (Burma)
PO Box 93
Cloverdale, AL 35633

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES

TODAY: Matthias (replaced Judas); taught by Ken Vanhorn

THANK YOU

Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered by the family. Thank you for the wind chimes and for the donation made to the North Alabama Christian Children's Home in our mother's memory. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated.

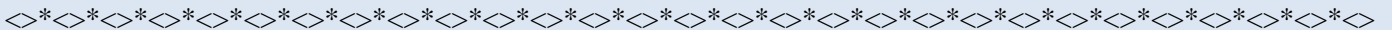
*The family of Betty Terry,
(Paris Terry, Tim & Belinda Holt,
Dan & Sarah Terry).*

MEALS ON WHEELS

This week, August 28th-September 1st is our week to deliver Meals on Wheels. **We are still in need of someone on Monday and Friday.** If you can help with this, please sign the sheet, on the table, in the foyer.

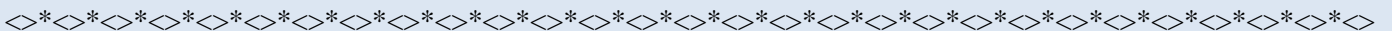
SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to Leo & Hazel Martin and Deb Harrington, in the passing away of their son and brother, Larry Martin. A memorial service was held Saturday, August 26th.



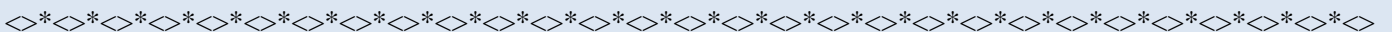
SINGING NIGHT

Wednesday, August 30th **ALL** classes will meet in the auditorium for a night of singing.



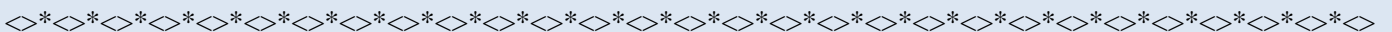
LAUDERDALE CHRISTIAN NURSING HOME

We are in charge of the services at Lauderdale Christian Nursing Home next Sunday, September 3rd at 2 pm. If you can help with this, please see Jake VanDyke.



MEAL SIGN-UP

There is a meal sign-up sheet on the foyer table to deliver meals to Tommy & Martha Smith. Please sign up for one of the days that you are available to prepare or purchase a meal and take to their home. This is for August and September.



UPCOMING EVENTS

DIANA SINGING

Friday, September 8th and Saturday, September 9th; 7:30 pm each night. Diana, TN

Please mark these upcoming events on your calendars and make plans to attend: **Teachers Workshop**, September 15th -16th (at our building with Kirk Brothers, Ed Gallagher, Arvy Dupuy & Michael Jackson); **Church-wide Retreat**, October 13th -15th , at Maywood; **Gospel Meeting** , November 5th-8th.