

Romans 15:5: “Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus.”

THAT YOU MAY KNOW...

Let us pray for...

- Rick Beauchamp** – on extended absence from family and us because of employment
- Sheila Beauchamp’s brothers** – Mike, Rick, and Doug.
- Jerry Douglas** – fighting bone and lymph cancer (Danny Douglas’s twin brother)
- Ann Henderson** - fighting cancer again, trying one last treatment series (Sheri’s Aunt)
- Terry Hightower** – in the loss of his wife, Vicki
- Judith Klein** (Don Smith’s mother) is down with pneumonia.
- Dub McClish** – Recovering from an angiogram/stent emplacement April 6
- Debbie Post** – fighting cancer (wife of Doug Post, Gospel preacher)
- Judy Reid** – sister in NJ, planning to move here
- Jaylen Reid** – Courts have awarded custody of Jaylen to his father on weekends, meaning he will be under denominational influence every Sunday (the Reids' grandson).
- Brian Ritter** – fighting rare autoimmune disease (son of Rick Ritter, Gospel preacher)
- Jeff Simmons** – “our boy” in the US Navy (Saratoga Springs, New York)
- Don Smith** – faithful brother in Ohio prison, ordered to cease teaching fellow inmates
- Stephanie Tigner** – who has been restored to Christ (Kourtney’s sister)
- Samuel Bagsangi** – Gospel preacher in Philippines we support
- Danny Douglas** – Gospel preacher in US we support

Records you helped make last week...

Bible Classes	12
Sunday AM Worship	12
Sunday PM Worship	12
Wednesday PM Bible Class/Worship	7
Contribution	\$2,382.00
Contribution average (2017)	\$1,309.41

Internet and YouTube Sermon broadcasts...

- Both sermons each Sunday are broadcast, beginning at approximately 10:45–10:50 a.m. and 1:12–1:15 p.m., via Internet through our Website, www.northpointcoc.com.
- Our **YouTube** channel at *Northpoint Church of Christ* has a growing collection of Northpoint sermons available for viewing.

Preacher, Editor, *The Lighthouse*

Philip Smith



The Northpoint Lighthouse

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Pleasing God In Giving

Paul addresses the subject of raising funds for the work of the church in 1 Corinthians(16:1-4; cf, Rom. 15:26 ASV). His instructions were clear and specific concerning raising funds for the work of the church, “Let every one of you lay by in store, as God hath prospered him” (1 Cor. 16:2; 2 Cor. 8:12). The fact that this command was specific as to when and how eliminates all other methods of raising funds for the work of the church. It is therefore wrong for congregations to have car washes, bake sales, rummage sales, bingo games, fund raising meals, music or theatrical performances, or any such like thing. You will never hear a faithful congregation or Gospel preacher request funds from the general public. The New Testament is clear that the work of the church is supported by Christians giving into a common store (treasury) upon the first day of each week.

Christians were to give cheerfully and not grudgingly nor of necessity (2 Cor. 9:7). A proper attitude is vital if God is to accept our worship in giving. The sacrifices that God commanded in the Old Testament were unacceptable when the peoples’ hearts were not right with God (Amos 5:21-23; Isa. 1:11-16;). It is possible to do the right thing for the wrong reason (John 6:24-27).

Proper giving is not waiting until the end of the week and checking what was left to give to the Lord (2 Cor. 9:7). God will never accept our leftovers, He deserves our best. Our giving is proof of our love (2 Cor. 8:24; 1 John 4:19). Do we truly show our love for God in our giving?

May each of us carefully and prayerfully consider our worship in giving and do so according to God’s word and our love for Him.

-Philip Smith

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Sunday
Bible Class 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 1:00 PM

Wednesday
B.C./Worship 7:00 PM

Changing Times

Franklin Camp (deceased)

All one needs to do to sense the difference between the preaching that is being done today and that of the past is to read some of the books of sermons or the writings of the pioneers of the plea for restoration. Their preaching was Bible-based, distinctive in its message, and simple in its appeal to people to lay aside the doctrines and commandments of men and return to the Truth of the Gospel of Christ. This distinctive message that characterized the church in the past is almost an unheard of thing today. Instead of being distinctive, it seems that the philosophy of our day is to see how near we can ape the sectarians and denominational people in their rejection of the Bible. Many sermons that are preached today could be preached in any denominational building without upsetting anyone. I cannot think of anything more tragic than for a sermon to pretend to be the Gospel of Christ to be such as could be preached in the hot bed of error without causing any objection.

The emphasis that has been given to positive preaching, while repudiating anything negative, has also contributed to the lack of a distinctive message. If preaching is to have any effect in the lives of people, it must be the Gospel of Christ itself. First, therein alone can preaching be authoritative, and second, it must be preached with conviction to enable people to understand what sin is and what sin does. Let us realize that the changes that have taken place in the last twenty-five years have carried the church down the road toward the very verge of apostasy. We need to remember that in the changing world in which we live, there are some things that are unchangeable. When we attempt to change the unchangeable we are fighting God, and it can only lead to our own ruin and condemnation. May we give careful and prayerful consideration to a restudy of the things that cannot be changed, and let us hold to them with all the fervor and zeal that we can command.

[Dub McClish commented on this fine article, saying, “Brother Camp wrote these words in 1982. He referred to changes over the previous 25 years. Since he wrote, the changes that have resulted in compromise and outright apostasy, have increased on a broader scale and at a faster pace. Let us say with David “I shall not be moved” (Psa. 62:6), when the Word of God is concerned.] To that I say “amen.”

Via “Bulletin Briefs,” edited by Jess Whitlock

Dear Preacher

Dear Preacher,

You often stress that attendance at worship is important. But I think a fellow has a right to miss now and again. I think I should be excused from the following days, and their corresponding week-ends, for the following reasons:

July 4th (National Holiday—1 day), Labor Day (even God took one day of rest—1 day), Memorial Day (state holiday), school closings (kids need a break—1 day), school opening (last chance before Fall to get away—1 day), family reunions (1 day each for my wife and me—2 days), out-of-town ball games (we must support the team—5 days), school tournaments (high school, college, tennis, and golf—4 days), anniversary (second honeymoon—1 day), business trips (gotta make a living—3 days), vacation (2 weeks but 3 weekends), bad weather (rain, ice, snow, high wind—5 days), professional football games (and Super Bowl—4 days), unexpected company (they usually don’t bring church clothes—2 days), house and car repairs (can’t afford plumbers and mechanics, Saturday is my only day to relax—3 days), TV specials (good for the kids—2 days), Christmas (only once a year and it is time for family—1 day), New Year’s Day (time to rest from the holidays—1 day).

Well, that brings the total to 50 Sundays. So, preacher that only leaves two Sundays per year. So we will see you Easter Sunday for sure, and the third Sunday in July (unless we are “providentially hindered”)!

Yours truly,

A very faithful member

-Author Unknown

Psalms 119:59: “I thought on my ways, And turned my feet unto thy testimonies.”