



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 39

August 29, 2021

Number 33

Schedule of Services

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:50 am and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders

- Mike Ernstberger
270-753-2108 Home
270-293-7027 Cell
- James Pigg
270-759-2145 Home
270-293-2319 Cell

Deacons

- Larry Enoch
- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
Cell: 270-978-7569

Supporting Works

India—Dale Foster, David Nance, and Ronnie Gootam
McKenzie, TN—Paul Jones

Location

- Green Plain Church of Christ
3980 Murray Paris Road
Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone: (270) 492-8206
- Email: greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org

“NOT-DENOMINATIONAL” CHRISTIANITY

By Jonnie Hutchison

“Undenominational Christianity” means different things to different people. To some it means the unconditional acceptance of anyone regardless of their religious persuasion. To others it may mean being independent of a denominational hierarchy, synod, convention, or other organization.

The actual meaning of the term is more limited. It simply means “not denominational.” Christianity that is not denominational has no connection in any sense with denominational concepts or institutions. Original Christianity (that which is revealed in the New Testament) is not denominational. The fact is that no organized religious denominations as we know them today existed in the first century. There was no Roman Catholic Church or Protestant denominations. Neither Peter, Paul or John were members of different denominations or different kinds of churches. They were all members of the one church which Jesus built (Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47). The church we read about in the New Testament has no earthly headquarters nor organization

larger than the local congregation. Jesus is the HEAD of HIS church which is His spiritual body (Ephesians 1:22-23). The New Testament church has no denominational creed book, confession of faith, church manual or catechism. It has only the New Testament of Jesus Christ as its rule of faith and practice and which constitutes the final authority in all religious matters (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Each congregation of the New Testament church is self-governing. Its congregations answer to no central headquarters, synod or convention or the like. A plurality of qualified men called elders (also called pastors, presbyters and bishops – Acts 14:23; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Timothy 4:14; 3:1; Titus 1:5-7) have the oversight and responsibility in each local congregation to see that the Lord’s work is carried out (Acts 20:28; Hebrews 13:17). They are assisted by qualified men called deacons (servants- Phil 1:1; Titus 3:8ff).. Not-denominational Christianity is as distinct from denominationalism as light is from darkness. Faithful churches of Christ are making every effort to practice

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain members: Faye Travis (In Rehab in Mayfield), Peggy Jarvis, Joanne Barnes, Maxine Pool, Hayes and Marjorie Grady, Jim Fielder, Griselda Adams, Larry Enoch, Carolyn Byars, Mary and Jim Lowrie and Mary and Jesse Vincent.

Family and Friends: Teresa Tacker, Betty Pond, Bryan White, Kenneth Mizell, Dale Pentecost, Brett Wyatt and Charlotte Parker. Please let us know of those who have improved or any one who needs to be added to this list.

- **COVID INFO:** Our Covid safety measures remain in effect for our worship services and Bible classes. It is recommended that we wear our masks, social distance and refrain from hand shakes and hugs.. Let us consider one another's safety and act accordingly.
- **PANTRY ITEMS August 2021:** 1—Toothpaste; 8—Body Wash; 15—Kleenex; 22—Paper Towels; 29—Deodorant Please bring any additional items you wish for the "blessing box" which is located next to the breezeway on the north side of the building.
- **August 2021 Anniversaries:** 13—Gail & Jonnie Hutchison . **Birthdays:** 4-Teresa Enoch; 10-Brent Morris. Please let us know if we have left anyone out.
- **ENROLL IN A FREE BIBLE CORRECSPONDENCE COURSE.** *Send your name and complete mailing address and phone number to the address on the first page of this bulletin.*
- **CHANGE IN UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS** Our fall gospel meeting and the Green Plain School of Biblical Studies has been cancelled this fall due to the increasing threat of the Covid-19 virus. Please take advantage of the many online Bible studies that are available. The West Kentucky Lectures that took place at the Sunny Slope church of Christ last month are available for viewing on YouTube. A search for "West Kentucky Lectures" should lead you to the proper place. We have watched several of these and they are excellent.



**GOSPEL
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The Gospel 24/7

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LESSONS AUGUST 29th

**AM Bible Study—
*The Book of Acts***

AM— "*Secret Things*"

PM— "*The Remnant*"

Wednesday Bible Class

The Book of Titus

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original Christianity. We plead with men and women everywhere to return to the Word of God and reject anything for which there is no Bible authority (that which God has not given us permission to do). Whatever we do in religious matters, whether it be the mission, the organization or the worship of the church, must be done with the authority of Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches *“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father*

through Him” (Colossians 3:17). If “not denominational” Christianity appeals to you, we invite you to come and worship with us at the Green Plain church of Christ and see original New Testament Christianity in action.

If you have questions or comments, please direct them to email: greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org or call 270-978-7569. Write us at Green Plain church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris RD, Hazel, KY 42049.

“Here I Raise My Ebenezer” - Raymond Sieg

An appropriate hymn for this time of year is O Thou Fount of Every Blessing. In general, this beautiful song reminds us that God is the source of all good blessings. This certainly is a scriptural principle, according to James 1:17: *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”* More specifically, however, this song exhorts us to praise God and remain faithful to Him because of the fact that He gives us all good things.

The second verse of this song is quite interesting in that it says, “Here I raise my Ebenezer.” To determine the meaning of this statement we need to turn to the Scriptures. There are three passages that mention “Ebenezer” (1 Samuel 4:1; 5:1; 7:12).

We learn from two passages that Ebenezer was the name of a city. In 1 Samuel 4:1 we read: *“And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside Ebenezer: and the Philistines pitched in Aphek.”* This chapter informs us that the Israelites suffered tremendously in this location. The Philistines defeated them, the ark of the covenant was taken, and Eli and his

sons died. This brings us to 1 Samuel 5:1: *“And the Philistines took the ark of God, and brought it from Ebenezer unto Ashdod.”* This chapter and the following chapter teach us that the Philistines suffered so greatly after taking the ark of the covenant that they decided to return it to the Israelites.

The ark remained in Kirjathjearim for twenty years (1 Samuel 7:1-2). Eventually, Samuel called upon the Israelites to repent. After they did so, they defeated the Philistines. This brings us to the third reference to Ebenezer in 1 Samuel 7:12: *“Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”* Ebenezer means “stone of the help.” Samuel set up this stone because God helped the Israelites by giving them this victory over the Philistines. Perhaps this will help us better understand the second verse of O Thou Fount of Every Blessing: *“Here I raise my Ebenezer: Hither by Thy help I’ve come; And I hope by Thy good pleasure Safely to arrive at home; Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand’ring from the fold of God; He to rescue me from danger Interposed His precious blood.”*

-Daytona Beach church of Christ FL



COME VISIT WITH US

The church building is located southeast of Murray one mile off highway 641 - Near the corner of the Green Plain and Murray Paris Roads. We look forward to seeing you!

A warm and friendly welcome awaits!

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The Happiest Child in the World *By A.C. Grider*

Did it ever make you sad to see a child happy? It did me! Yes, the other Sunday, I saw one of the happiest children in the world and I nearly cried. And, every time I have thought of it since, I have had to fight back the tears.

The little fellow comes to services with his mother. His father isn't a member and rarely comes. Now there is nothing in this world to this boy like his Daddy.

Well, on this particular Sunday, the little boy ran ahead of the rest and entered the church building where I was greeting people in the vestibule. He came running up to me, face aglow, with his hand outstretched. He clasped my hand, but he didn't say "hello" or "good morning." There was just one thing on his mind; just one thing that seemed to matter. He said, "Brother Grider, my Daddy came with me today!"

I wish the fathers and mothers of every child that comes to Preston Highway could have seen and heard as I saw and heard that

child last Sunday. I just know it would have helped the members to be better fathers and mothers. And I am sure it would have had effect upon non-members.

You only have them for a short time, Mom and Dad. Swift passes the time when that child will look up to you in wonder and exclaim, "I want to be just like you!" If you postpone faithful service to God until the children are older, you have in all likelihood lost your opportunity to bring your children to the Lord. Parents, what pattern are you setting for your children with your life? Non-Christian friend, these things may not be important to you today; but one day, these matters will consume your heart with regret.

Mark 8:36-37 - *"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"* What are you giving in exchange for the soul of your child?

-Pennington Bend church of Christ

THOSE TO SERVE AUGUST 2021

Announcements: James Pigg **Lord's Supper AM:** Mike and Chad

Lord's Supper PM 1-Chad 8-Mike; 15-Chad; 22-Mike; 29-Chad

Opening Prayer AM: 1-James; 8-Larry-; 15-Jim; 22-Bobby; 29-Jonnie

Closing Prayer AM: 1-Jesse; 8-Junior; 15-Roy; 22-David; 29-Perry

Song Leaders: AM-Perry; PM- Chad; Wednesday-Mike

Usher: Larry; Count Contribution: Mike and Chad