



# THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 45

March 29, 2026

Number 11

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

- Bible Classes 10 am
- Worship 10:45 am and 6:00 pm
- Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

### Elders

- Mike Ernstberger  
270-293-7027
- James Pigg  
270-293-2319

### Deacons

- Bobby Hall
- Jesse Vincent

### Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison  
270-978-7569

### Location

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Church of Christ  
3980 Murray Paris  
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## HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THAT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS UNIQUE? *By John Jones*

One truth that we cannot overemphasize is that the church of Christ is unique in the religious world today. We claim to be the church you can read about in the Bible because we follow what we see as a pattern in the New Testament for the establishment of the Christian church (not used as a "name" for the church, but as a descriptor of the New Testament church, as distinct from "the church in the wilderness" composed of fleshly Israelites, Acts 7:38, hf). We meet together on the first day of the week to partake of the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7), sing songs of praise to God without instrumental musical accompaniment (Ephesians 5:19), give of our means to support the work of the church (1 Corinthians 16:1-2), offer prayers to God (1 Timothy 2:1), and hear a message from God's word (Acts 2:42). We do these things because this is what the early church did in their worship. We recognize the apostle's doctrine of male spiritual leadership (1 Corinthians 14:33-34) but also appreciate the roles of service our hard-working women provide the church (Titus

2:3-5). We follow the pattern of each congregation having elders who lead the local church to follow Jesus (1 Timothy 3:1-6). We emphasize, scripturally, that baptism is for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). These biblical principles make us unique in the religious world today!

The ability to provide a scripture reference behind each of the spiritual activities we do is very important to us. We believe in biblical authority that comes from recognizing the Lord's authority in the running of His church. He purchased it with his own blood (Acts 20:28), He built it (Matthew 16:18), and He is its head (Ephesians 5:23), therefore He commands and we obey. But those commands are given in a spirit of love because He knows what is best for us. When we obey Him, we recognize His love for us and respond submissively to Jesus because we love Him (John 14:15).

Unfortunately, I've recently seen some of our members act like the church of Christ is just

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## NEWS AND NOTES

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain Members:** Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder (Spring Creek), Dave & Ann Thompson (Hickory Woods), Joan Lathrop, Wanda Barrett, Roy and Marie Wyatt, Mary and Jesse Vincent.

**Family and Friends:** Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Kim Burrows, Lucetria Hutchison, Ted Clark, Patrice Wyatt, Jackie Herndon, Peyton Mays, Patricia Dowdy and Darren Mays. Please let us know those on this list who have improved or if others need to be added.

Our spring session of our **School of Biblical Studies** got off to a good start this past Monday with 18 present. Dan Sikes did a great job in introducing the book of Revelation. This class will continue each Monday evening through May 18th. Don't miss out.

**AREA EVENTS:** **Gospel Meeting** at the Lebanon church of Christ in Mayfield, KY with Victor Eskew March 29-April 1. See the bulletin board for details.

**PANTRY ITEMS March 2026:** 1-Tooth Paste; 8-Koolaid; 15-Salt; 22-Pepper; 29-Jelly or Jam  
All items must be **non-perishable or canned**.

**March 2026; Anniversaries:** 12-Marie & Roy Wyatt; 15-Sue & Bobby Hall.. **BIRTHDAYS:** 9-Gail Hutchison; 14-Roy Wyatt; 20-James Pigg.. Congratulations!

**Enroll in a FREE Bible Correspondence Course.** Send your name and complete mailing address to Green Plain church of Christ 3980 Murray Paris RD, Hazel, KY 42049. You may also enroll online at our website: <https://greenplainchurchofchrist.org>.

### THOSE TO SERVE March 2026

Announcements: Mike

Lord's Table AM: James & Chad

Lord's Table PM: 1-Chad; 8-James; 15-Chad; 22-James;  
29-Chad

Opening Prayer AM: 1-Bobby; 8-Jonnie; 15-Jimmy;  
22-Perry; 29-Mike

Closing Prayer AM: 1-Roy; 8-Don; 15-Jesse;  
22-Russell; 29-Bobby

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

Count Contribution: James & Chad

**EVENTS AT  
GREEN PLAIN  
Spring Session  
Green Plain School  
of Biblical Studies  
March 23-May 18  
A study of the book of  
Revelation with Dan Sikes**

**SPRING GOSPEL  
MEETING  
April 19-23  
With Josh Manning  
Eastwood church of Christ**

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one among many denominational options or, sadly, that their membership is only tied to where their parents raised them. I'm worried that we may be turning into the Israelites of Judges 2:10 - "And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel." I've heard some recently explain that former members here are now attending with the Baptists or Methodists and, instead of expressing deep sadness over this, act as if its better to be worshiping in falsehood than not at all.

Don't get me wrong, we love everyone. But our love for them ought to be shown in a deep concern for their souls. If we believe all churches are essentially the same, other than some minor differences, we have completely missed the point. Jesus built

one church and disunity among Christians is condemned (1 Corinthians 1:10). Jesus calls all Christians to a unity that is founded upon the truth of His word (John 17:17, 20–23). If we give up on that, can we really claim to be Christ's followers?

Do we know who we are and what we stand for? Do we understand the "restoration plea"? Are we still interested in Christian unity from a "back to the Bible" perspective? Let's encourage our brethren about what makes us unique and invite everyone we know to join us in the ongoing work of restoration: restoring individuals to God and restoring the church to the pattern the apostles show us clearly in the pages of the New Testament.

—From the bulletin of the church in of  
Christ McEwen, TN

### “PREPARE TO MEET YOUR GOD” By Jonnie Hutchison

Long ago the prophet Amos declared, “Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you. **Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!**” (Amos 4:12 NKJV). The context of this passage concerns the refusal of God’s people to repent and the promise of punishment for the impenitence. The punishment of which Amos spoke was coming at that time upon them. They were going to meet God’s punishment in this life. However, the words of Amos speak to the certainty of our need to prepare to meet God in the Day of Judgment.

What does the statement “Prepare to meet your God” tell us? First, it tells us there is a God. The ranks of those who deny the existence of God continues to grow. God declares, “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God....’” (Psalm 14:1). Man is not without abundant evidence of the existence of God (See Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:20). Men

and women reject God in spite of the evidence not because of it. Yet, how much difference is there between the atheist who vigorously denies the existence of God and one who claims to believe the evidence, yet lives his life as if he does not? If one accepts the evidence of God’s existence he is foolish indeed to reject the life God wants him to live.

A second thing that the statement “Prepare to meet your God” tells us is that all of us must meet Him. There are no exceptions to this rule. All will meet the Lord in the judgment. “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad” (2 Corinthians 5:10). It would do well for each of us to think ahead and to think often of the coming judgment. For you and I will each stand before the judgment

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seat of Christ.

A third truth stated in the words “Prepare to meet your God” is that many are unprepared to meet Him. They are “*without Christ...having no hope, and without God in the world*” (Ephesians 2:12). Think of the millions of people who fit into the description of this passage. Those ensnared in the religion of Islam, those captivated by denominationalism and those in the bondage of worldliness, What despair there will be when the meeting time comes. What hopelessness for those who are unprepared! What an utter tragedy because it can be avoided. Preparation can be made. God has revealed how.

We must meet God in this world if we would be prepared to meet Him in judgment. We meet God in the Bible—in His revelation of His plan to save us from the eternal consequences of sin. The Bible is designed by God so that we can understand His will (Eph. 1:9; 3:3-4). Jesus said we can know God’s truth (John 8:32). Yet, each of us must make our own preparation. Each of us must seek God’s truth and then apply it to our lives. No one can make the preparation that you must make. No one can substitute the preparation he or she has made for your lack of preparation.

How thankful we should each be that God has made available to every person the tools necessary to prepare to meet Him in judgment. He has given us the Bible to instruct us. He has given His only begotten Son as a sacrifice for our sins. “*But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.*” (Romans 5:8-10 NKJV).

Are you prepared to meet God? If not, are you willing to make the necessary changes in your life so that you can be prepared? “Prepare to meet your God” can be either a frightening prospect or a gracious invitation. To those willing to receive the benefits of the blood of Jesus to wash away sins it is indeed a precious invitation. Please, answer it today for the salvation of your soul!

### 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!

## Bible Study Opportunities

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10:00 AM**  
**“A Study of Luke”**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM**  
**Guest Speaker**

**SUNDAY WORSIP 6:00 PM**  
**Guest Speaker**

**Wednesday 7:00 PM**  
**“A Study of 2 Kings”**

### What Must I Do to Be Saved?

1. Hear the gospel -Romans 10:17.
2. Accept the Deity of Jesus Christ—John 8:24.
3. Repent of sin—Acts 17:30.
4. Confess faith in Christ—Acts 8:36-38; Rom 10:9-10
5. Be immersed in water—Acts 2:38; 22:16; Gal. 3:27.