



THE GREEN PLAIN PROCLAIMER

Volume 45

June 21, 2026

Number 23

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

Preacher

- Jonnie Hutchison
270-978-7569

Location

- Green Plain
Church of Christ
3980 Murray Paris
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Hazel, KY 42049
- Phone:
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@gmail.com

Web Site

- greenplain-
churchofchrist.org

PREACHERS #1 *By Jonnie Hutchison*

When this writer was a student at the Memphis School of Preaching, our instructor, who was teaching a class entitled “the preacher and his work,” compared a gospel preacher to a professional surgeon. Before a surgeon is ready to enter the operating room and perform major surgery he must spend many years in study. He has the physical life of his patient in his hands and thus a tremendous responsibility. If a surgeon is incompetent he can do much more harm than good for his patient.

The point made by the instructor was that a gospel preacher must also spend sufficient time in the study of God’s Word and in preparation to teach classes, preach sermons and engage in one on one Bible studies. For there is a real sense in which the preacher has the spiritual life of his listeners in his hands and thus an even greater responsibility than a surgeon. While the unprepared surgeon may place ones physical life in danger, the unprepared preacher may endanger the eternal spiritual welfare of his listeners.

The primary objective of the

faithful gospel preacher is to “*preach the word*” (2 Timothy 4:2), or, as the inspired Paul stated it, to “*declare to you the whole counsel of God*” (Acts 20:27). In order to meet this objective preachers must spend much time in the diligent study of the Word of God in preparation to present it to others. Every preacher worth his salt realizes that he cannot depend entirely upon what he already knows. The Word of God is filled with treasures of truth for which one must continually be digging if one would be consistently fresh and effective in his preaching and teaching.

Philip Brooks defined preaching as “the communication of truth by man to men. It has in it two essential elements—truth and personality.” Another has written, “the role of a preacher is that of a channel through which God’s message flows into the world.” A preacher has been compared to a window pane through which the light of truth is transmitted to people in the world. If the window pane is colored by prejudice, the people receive an imperfect light. If the preacher’s message is

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NEWS AND NOTES

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Green Plain Members: Maxine Pool, Jim Fielder (Spring Creek), Dave & Ann Thompson (Hickory Woods), Wanda Barrett (Charter Health Care), Roy Wyatt, Marie Wyat, and Sue Hall.

Family and Friends: Jerry Lovett, Teresa Tacker, Dale Pentecost, Kim Burrows, Luce-
tria Hutchison, Ted Clark, Patrice Wyatt, Jackie Herndon, Peyton Mays, Patricia Dowdy,
Darren Mays, Adam Kellam, Dan Sikes, Ariana Yount, Joanne Hutchison, and John
Sales.

June 2026; **ANNIVERSERIES:** 17-Jan & James Pigg. **BIRTHDAYS:** 15-Don
Spiceland.. Congratulations!

Enroll in a FREE Bible Correspondence Course. Send your name and complete mail-
ing 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>.

A PERSONAL NOTE: Most of you know that after 50 years I will retire from full time
preaching and the work at Green Plain. Several factors has entered into this decision. Our
work here has been among the most enjoyable for both Gail and I have experienced. We
ask for your prayers as we continue serving our Lord in a different capacity. Thank you
for your support and being a great blessing to us through these last 14 plus years. In view
of this, the elders will be searching for a preacher to continue the work here at Green
Plain. I will continue my work until September. Pray for our elders and that God will bless
this congregation with a faithful servant to preach the gospel.—Jonnie

THOSE TO SERVE June 2026

Announcements: Mike

Lord's Table AM: James & Chad

Lord's Table 7-Chad; 14-James; 21-Chad; 28-James

Opening Prayer AM: 7-Bobby; 14-Jonnie; 21-Jimmy;
28-Perry

Closing Prayer AM 7-Russell; 14-Don; 21-Jesse;
28-Roy

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

Count Contribution: James and Chad

AREA EVENTS

GOSPEL MEETING at
the Williams Chapel
church of Christ—July 12-
14 with **B.J. Clarke**
preaching.

Monday-Tuesday 7:00 pm

VBS at the Coldwater
church of Christ
Saturday July 11, 2026

9:00 am

**Classes for all ages
including adults.**

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uncertain, the light is dim and inadequate. If the preacher is ignorant the people remain in darkness. The successful preacher makes himself transparent so that God's truth will be seen rather than self.

Denominational preachers often view themselves (and are so viewed by their members) as "professional clergymen" who are always out front. Some of them wear special "clergy clothing" which distinguishes them from the regular members of their particular denomination. They are exalted by special religious titles exclusive to their position such as "pastor", "doctor", "reverend" or "father." Such men are considered to have a special connection to God that other members do not possess. However, no such distinctions are to be found in the teaching of the Bible. Jesus condemned in no uncertain terms the attitude which exalts one man above others including the use of religious titles (Matthew 23:1-12).

True gospel preachers are simply men who have chosen to dedicate themselves to the task of preaching the Word of God both publicly and privately. Their calling has been no different than any other Christian (2 Thess. 2:14). But they have seen the need of using the abilities God has given them through the service of preaching. While the gospel preacher should be respected and appreciated for his efforts by the church, he is on no higher spiritual plain than any other faithful child of God. His prayers reach no higher than the prayers of any faithful Christian. His contribution to the work of the church is no more or less important than that of other Christians who use their abilities in service to the Lord (Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Corinthians 12:14-18).

Sometimes preachers, as well as other members of the church, become discouraged when they see no immediate responses to the

preaching of the gospel. Yet, all need to realize that not all response to the preaching of the gospel is immediate. Some positive effects of preaching are seen in the long range growth of character, knowledge and strength over periods of time. The growth from spiritual immaturity to spiritual maturity is often a time consuming process rather than something that is completed immediately. Those who are "newborn babes" are to "desire the pure milk of the word" that they may "grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2). Preachers contribute to the growth of the new Christian by presenting lessons dealing with the more elementary truths of the Bible. However, preachers are not to limit their preaching to "basic truths." There is also the necessity of presenting the "meat" of God's Word to the more mature (Hebrews 5:12-14). Not every sermon delivered is directly applicable to every person who hears it. Preachers must balance their preaching to make it effective over time for the spiritual needs of all those who listen.

It should be obvious that preachers are men with unique personalities and abilities. Some preachers are extroverts and some are introverts and others a combination of both. Some preachers are loud and some preachers are quiet. Some preachers pound the pulpit when they preach and others do not. Some preachers use almost perfect grammar and others do not. The point is that the character and efforts of a preacher should be judged by scripture and not by comparing him to another preacher. As the inspired Paul declared, "*For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who condemn themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise*" (2 Corinthians 10:12). The standard of effectiveness of a preacher is always God's Word.

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In our next article we will examine the personal qualities necessary to effective preaching. It is our prayer that these articles will help each of us to better understand what the Bible teaches about the work of a gospel preacher.

The Foolishness of the Lazy (Proverbs 6:6-11)

Did you ever look at an ant hill,
And wonder how it was made?
Surely not by lying around,
And drinking lemonade in the shade.

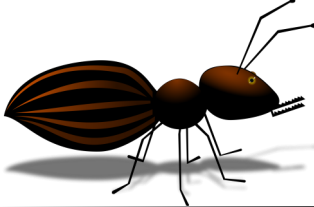
Now look here you lazy fella,
Pay attention to the ant and see.
Learn from its example,
Then a good and wise worker you'll be.

The ant has no supervisor,
No boss to say do this or go there!
It gathers its food in the summer,
Storing supplies for the winter's cool air.

So how long will you lie there lazy fella,
With folded arms and feet propped up high?
When will you wake up and realize,
Hard times are just about nigh.

Look out and beware of your folly,
Your laziness will overtake you one day.
You'll find yourself alone and so hungry,
In the cold and the rain with no place to stay!

— Jay Launius -2023



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 Oppprtunities

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:50 AM
"Before You Sleep Tonight"

SUNDAY WORSIP 6:00 PM
“ ”

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.