# **BLESSINGS FROM THE RAIN**

With the past several weeks being so hot and dry, it has been nice to have the recent rain. However, even with the blessings of rain, it can seem at times that rain can be frustrating to our plans and activities. Baseball games and practices can be rained out, lawn mowing gets postponed, and outdoor activities get cut short. Although rain can be disappointing at times, when we take a step back and take a pause, rain gives us a good reminder of many of the characteristics of God.

For example, rain should remind us of the providence of God. Matthew 5:45 tells us. "For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." Acts 14:17 also says, "Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." When we look at the rain, we should remember that it is only through God's providence that we receive such a blessing. Rain should also remind us that God is replenishing the earth. **Psalm 147:8** says, "He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain for the earth; he makes grass grow on the hills. Job 5:10 also says, "he gives rain on the earth and sends waters on the fields:" The rain should also remind us of the food that God produces for us through that rain. Isaiah 55:10 says, "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater." Think about it, every single thing that we eat relies on water from the rain. When you begin to think about it, rain truly is one of the most amazing, life giving, blessings that God provides on this earth.

But rain doesn't just provides us with reminders of how much God blesses us. Rain is also a reminder of how serious sin is. In **Genesis 6:5** we read, of how "The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Because of the sinfulness of the world, God determined to destroy the world with water, saving only Noah and his family, in order to protect and preserve the creatures of the earth. In **Genesis 7:4** we read what God says to Noah. "For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." Sin is serious, it is so serious that the very act of sin caused Him to regret ever creating man and destroying the world by rain and water. And, although rain reminds us of how serious sin is, it also reminds us of How much God loves us.

Peter says in 1 Peter 3:20-22, "because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him." Just as God was willing to save man through Noah, God desires to save us though His Son. 2 Peter 3:9 says, "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance." Just as God's patience waited in the days of Noah, God is being patient towards us, hoping that we would humble ourselves before Him, repent of our sins, and be baptized into Christ.

Rain is also a reminder for us that God answers prayers. James tells us in James 5:16-18, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he praved again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit." This passage has always stood out to me, not only as an example of the power of prayer but that James explains Elijah as a man like us. It is so easy for us to read about certain people and events in the Bible and think, "well of course, they could do it." But we forget that the men and women that we read of in the Bible were people just like us. And if God was willing to do all that He did for them, how much is He willing to do in your life as well? Think of what all He has already provided to you with the rain, and think of how many more blessings He will continue to shower upon you when you come to Him.

**Andrew Spivey** 

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES Sunday Read – Ezra 4-6 Wednesday Read – Haggai & Zechariah

Questions for last week's reading of; Ezekiel, Lamentations & Ezra 1-3 Ouestions:

1. What did God tell Ezekiel about warning the wicked man?

2. Who wrote Lamentations, and why did he lament?

3. How was Jeremiah able to have hope?

4. Who made a decree for the Israelites, and what was provided for the decree to be carried out?5. What was rebuilt first, and why?

# UPCOMING EVENTS

August 4<sup>th</sup>-Fellowship Meal after AM service August 6<sup>th</sup>- TNT @ 6:00pm August 6<sup>th</sup>- Ladies Bible Study @ 6:30pm August 15<sup>th</sup> Senior Group @ 5:00 pm August 17<sup>th</sup> - Bible Trivia Night @ 6:00pm August 20<sup>th</sup> TNT @ 6:00pm August 20<sup>th</sup>- Ladies Bible Study @6:30 pm All events will be held in the fellowship room here at Nashville Road. Ladies Bible Study will be in the high school classroom.

### **BULLETINS**

If you are not getting our daily newsletter online and would like to begin receiving our newsletter, please call the church office or send us an email requesting to receive the newsletter. If you do not have the internet, we will be able to mail a bulletin to you. We will also have bulletins in the lobby at church every Sunday. Please call us at; **615-452-3431/email;secnashroad@gmail.com Thank You.** 

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give you peace. Numbers 6:24-26

# ORDER OF SERVICES SUNDAY August 4, 2024 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY

# (Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Eric Stephenson
Auditorium Lesson	Andrew Spivey

#### **10:00 AM SERVICE**

Welcome	David Johnson
Scripture Readin	ngBen Hutson
Song Leader	
Opening Prayer.	Garrett Rowlett
Lord's Supper	Adam Williamson
Servers	M. Ellis, C. Nelsen, T. Butler
	K. Veale, Z. Tooley, D. Thompson
Sermon	Andrew Spivey
	Tim Strickland

#### 5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome	David Johnson
Song Leader	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Jim Cherry
Sermon	Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper	Brent Smith
Closing Prayer	Tim Cummins

# WEDNESDAY August 7, 2024 7:00 PM

Welcome	David Johnson
Song Leader	Carl Newby
Opening Prayer	Bob Brown
Lesson	Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer	

Ushers for August.....Robert Buck & Lowell Clark Communion Care for August....Bob & Tarina Brown

Door Greeters – West Door	B/M Smith
East Door	L/J Clark
Visitor's Desk Volunteer	Sherry Perry

IF YOU CANNOT SEI	RVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill	615-289-9935
Church Office	615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ 1883 Nashville Pike Gallatin, TN 37066 Web Site: nashvilleroadcoc.org E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

# **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

#### SICK LIST

Ann Tyler is at hospital for tests. Wanda Seals will have a procedure done on Aug. 6. Evelyn Harris is now at NHC Gallatin. Andy Boner is home now and doing better. Faye Britt is recovering at home from knee surgery. Shirley Ralph is home now and doing better. Donna Jennings is home now recovering from hip replacement surgery. Charles & Jackie Williams, Charles is improving, and Jackie is better. Virginia Long, sister of Gary Stallcup, has a parathyroid illness and is bedridden. Paul Gruber neighbor of Bob & Sherry Sever has been diagnosed with bladder cancer. He is now undergoing a new drug therapy through the end of August. Larry Bailey, son of Tina Bailey a former member, has been diagnosed with liver cancer.



#### PRAYER LIST

Maddie Andrews; James & Mary Spivey; Charlie Cliburn; Ottis Cothron; Sara Hosman; Anita Cato; Shauna Lockett; Tony Perry; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Fave Hart; Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Lena Baggett; Maxine Cothron; Pat Watson; Frances Catron; Pat Crump; Heather Lemley daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley. Elaine Reynolds, friend of Christie Coleman; Alan Greene, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; Bethany Shoulders, granddaughter of Evelyn Harris; Samantha Hager, friend of June Thompson; Bryan Grissom cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; Vycki Puckett, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; Ty Tyler son of Ann Tyler; Wade Kennedy father of Diana Stephenson: Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill: Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett; Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson: Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill: Aza Topik. grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals.

SHUT-INS

Jean Deaton; James Spivey; Melba Hill; NHC 140 Throne Blvd. Gallatin rm 2010 Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

#### **OUR RECORD THIS WEEK**

Bible Study	108
Morning Worship	153
Sunday Evening	79
Wednesday Evening	91
Contribution\$	6,608.00
Youth Group Account	53,613.00

615-479-2149
615-300-9084
615-289-9935
615-598-6621

Carl Newby Jonathan Senn Brent Smith Eric Stephenson Adam Williamson



# Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister

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