

Galatians 6:10 *“Therefore as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith.”*

January 10, 2016

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS---

- **Ronnie Lowe, Eyvonne Frankln, Terry Langley, Roger Key, Sue Whitehead, Carl Franklin, John Ozley, Sara Ozley, Aladene Jacks, Kynethia Kelley, Amanda Kelley, Myra Garrison, Jimmy Parker, Stefani, Kate Miller, Johnny Richardson, Conner Rice, Tim Craven, Mickey Aldridge, Beverly Craven, Tuesday Pierce, Faye Wilkinson Goodwin, Sarabeth Upton, Rhonda Knowles.**
- **Sawyer Jones, Jeremiah Hughes, Robert Langley, Ana Reichelderfer & all of our servicemen and women** who are defending freedom. **Our nation** and its leaders. **Those that preach and teach the gospel**; especially those who labor under hardships. **Ben Brownfield, Shannon Brown, and Terry Tatum** (Christians' at Donaldson) and **Robert Gibson and Walter Aldridge** (released Christians who are struggling).

BLACK CREEK UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Second Sunday Guest Speaker @ 3:00 PM** today is Robert Knowles
- **Donaldson Bible Classes** Suspended due to quarantine.

Area Gospel Meetings:

No Notices Received



Those Needing our Prayers.....

Our hearts are heavy with the passing of our sister **Doris Knowles** this week. Please continue to remember Dan, Rhonda, Robert and boys, in your prayers continually.

Roger Key is improving but still experiencing pain.

Amanda Kelley had her ablation Thursday, and will be resting at home for a while. She and Michael appreciate continued prayers

Becky Oglesby (Melanie's friend who has breast cancer) will have her first chemo treatment on Monday and will also get the results of her pet scan on Monday.

John Ozley continues to make good progress with his walking and rehab.

Sara Ozley is about the same.

Black Creek Banner of Truth

Black Creek church of Christ

1235 Alliance Rd; Alliance, Alabama

436-4477

“You have given a BANNER to those who fear you, that it may be displayed because of the TRUTH. “ Psalms 60:4

Editor:

Van Cooper

Schedule of Services

Lord's Day

9:30 A.M. Bible Classes

10:30 A.M. Worship

4:00 P.M. Worship (3 PM on the second Sunday of every month)

Wednesday

7:00 P.M.

Elders

Philip Jacks 436-3055
Truman Wallace 483-7016
Van Cooper 491-9695

Deacons

Jeff Swindle 475-3043
Matt Carter 491-0414
Roger Key 491-3723
Mike Wood 522-5703

Evangelist

Sammy Bynum 368-3511

Who We Are: The Black Creek Church of Christ is simply a group of Christians dedicated to serving God. We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and it is to be our sole guide. We are committed to preaching the gospel of Christ, which is man's only hope for eternal life.

We are interested in helping anyone who is searching for the way to God. We welcome the opportunity to privately study the Bible with you. If you would contact us, we would be happy to meet with you. In addition, you are invited to visit one of our public assemblies (information is above). At our public Bible studies, we have classes for adults and children of all ages. If we can help you in knowing more about God and His Word, then please visit, call, or write us.

(Visit us on-line at (WWW.blackcreekchurch.com))

Traveling Home

By *Robert Knowles*

As I drove home the other night, I couldn't help but be astonished by a beautiful, waxing Aril moon in the black sky. I thought about its beauty and what great power it took to set such a great body in the place and, even, more, the wondrous wisdom and power it took to create something from nothing. See Hebrews 11:3. It's funny how one thought leads to another. Isn't it? So, really the theme of my story is not the moon, but what you think about when you are alone.

Brethren, Paul wrote the Ephesians in chapter five and verses fifteen and sixteen to say to them, "walk circumspectly... redeeming the time." Proverbs 23:7 says, "as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he," and James says our lives are as a vapor. James 4:14. The conclusion is that we have very little time to prepare ourselves for eternity. Our destiny depends on what we think about how we practice what we have thought about.

Here are a few suggestions to follow when you have free time for yourself:

1. Pray to God.
2. Listen to sermons on your tape player (or CD player).

3. Consider how you have presented yourself together people and how you acted.
4. Think about what it really means to repent of sin.
5. Think about who you can invite to church.
6. Think about the lessons for Bible Class.
7. Recall how you might apply the points from the last sermon you heard.
8. Mediate on God's word.
9. Discipline yourself to study more.
10. Remember the Lord knows all things you do.

These are just a few things that we can think on when we have a moment to ourselves. I challenge everyone to make the best of their time because we know not the hour when the Lord comes, Mt. 24:36. So the next time you are on your way home, remember that you are not just traveling to a house made with hands, but that we are "waiting for the city which has foundations whose builder and maker is God," Hebrews 11:10

Sky-Diving and Mark 16:16

By *Reagan McClenny*

A sky-diving instructor looked out over his class and said, "He who wears a parachute and opens it will live; but he who does not wear a parachute will die."

Can we understand what one needs to do to survive sky-diving based on this statement? Does this statement make opening the parachute any less essential to surviving sky-diving than wearing the parachute? Is it necessary (and does it make any sense) to add "and does not open it" to the second phrase so it would read "he who does not wear a parachute and does not open it will die?" Is opening the parachute even possible on the part of the sky-diver if he or she is not wearing one?

How easy these questions are to answer-so why do we complicate it when it comes to the scriptures?

Mark 16:16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Yet, here is a statement from an article given to me by a believer to explain why baptism is not

essential to salvation:

Mark 16:16, a verse often quoted to prove baptism is necessary for salvation, is actually a proof of the opposite. Notice that the basis for condemnation in that verse is not the failure to be baptized, but only the failure to believe. (From "Is Baptism Necessary for Salvation?" by John MacArthur)

Can you see the fallacy in that statement? The condemnation does not have to include baptism because true baptism is dependent on belief. If you don't believe, you might get dunked in water-but you aren't going to be baptized any more than someone without a parachute can open one. A failure to believe of necessity mandates a failure to be baptized-because you can't perform the second action (baptism) without the first (belief). Immersion in water (baptism) for the remission of sins can only occur with repentant believers (Acts 2:38).

But just like wearing the parachute alone isn't enough, believing alone isn't enough. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved." So it really comes down to this: do you want to be saved or condemned? Believe and be baptized, as Jesus commanded, and be saved.