

An Update from Andrew...

I hope and pray that these last few days have given the opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends and to take a break from your regular schedule. I realize that many of us travel during this time, and even if we stay in town, we often go from one house to another to visit different family gatherings. While that can make for a packed holiday itinerary, I hope that you have had the chance, as I have, to take a break.

We don't do that often - at least, not often enough. It is simply too easy to fill every available moment with activity. I have noticed that tendency in myself. When standing in line in a store or in a restaurant, I often find myself checking my phone to send and reply to e-mails, instead of simply waiting for my turn. At home, it is even easier to watch TV or listen to a podcast to break any silence, no matter how brief it might be. Taking a break can be harder than it seems. We like to be busy.

For some, "busyness" equals productivity. One of the reasons we don't take many breaks is because we want to be productive. We don't want to waste time, and we certainly don't want anyone to think we are lazy. Yet when Psalm 46 reminds us to "be still and know" who God truly is, we discover that taking a break to focus on Him is often the most productive thing we can do.

For others, "busyness" equals avoidance. We find things for ourselves to do so that we don't have to think about unpleasant circumstances. By the way, finding ways to be busy often helps us process grief, pain, and other difficult emotions. But the key is found in taking the time to go to God and ask Him to help us process these challenges rather than avoiding them all together. Scripture is filled with those who discovered that need. When we take a break to spend time with God in prayer, we can find strength to deal with difficulties, as well as energy to sustain us through the day's "busyness."

For another group, "busyness" equals distraction. We often allow things in our schedule that seem urgent to crowd out the things which are actually more important. We don't intend to ignore spiritual things, but each time slot in our daily routine quickly becomes filled with little things that need to be done. Jesus made comments to a faithful woman named Martha in Luke 10. As anyone hosting someone in her home would be, she was concerned with many things, yet Jesus told her there was something more important. That message resonates with us as well - do I need to stop, take a break, and make time for what is important?

I hope you have been able to take a break, and if not, I hope you can in the next few days. I hope all of us can take time to "be still and know" who is in control. There is no better way to reorient ourselves spiritually and maintain the right focus for the coming year.

We will be away on a family trip this week, so we will miss worshipping with you on Wednesday and Sunday. I am thankful to **Chad Landman** and **Jon David Schwartz** for preaching on Sunday and to **Taylor Thompson** for teaching the Fellowship Hall Class on Sunday morning. We will look forward to being back with you the next Wednesday!

Sunday's Messages

AM - Chad Landman - *Fear God* - Ecclesiastes 12:13

PM - Jon David Schwartz speaking

ELDERS

Rick Combs	931.380.0081
Jerry Kirk	931.381.5120
Hugh Langley	931.381.6455
Jack Love	931.388.1089
Fred Porter	931.388.8088
Roger Riddle	931.381.4657
Dennis Stephen	931.619.0329
Steve Thomason	931.797.8983
Kevin Thompson	931.797.6642
Rick Whitley	931.626.6628

MINISTERS

Andrew Phillips	Pulpit/TV
Chad Landman	Education
Jack Malone	Senior Adults
Jonathan Winchester	Missions/Evangelism
Jon David Schwartz	Youth

DEACONS

Rick Barker	Carl Martin
Billy Bishop	Wayne Phillips
Bobby Bishop	Troy Potts
Shawn Butterfield	Warren Robinson
Hollis Carpenter	Ed Self
Barry Christian	Charles Smith
Ken Compton	Austin Simmons
Ben Farris	Jeff Skelton
Randy Fleming	Ron Stone
Dwayne Fulks	Ricky Thompson
Jason Golden	Doug Wilburn
Randy Goodwin	Ken Wiles
Tim Gordon	Doug Williams
Eddie Harris	Larry Winchester
Jeff Harris	Phillip Wright
Vance Hendrickson	Ken Young
Josh Love	

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Phone 931.388.4796
Fax 931.388.4797
graymere@graymere.com
graymere.com

TIMES OF WORSHIP

Sunday 9:00 AM
Sunday Bible Study 10:15 AM
Sunday 6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM

COUNSELING CENTER

Mondays 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
931.540.0174

TELEVISION

Connections
Charter Channel 195
Wednesdays 7 PM,
Sundays 5 PM
CPWS Channel 13
Sundays 7:30 PM
Sunday Morning Worship
Charter Channel 195
Sundays 8 AM

OUR RECORD

Week of	12-24-17
Sunday AM	537
Bible Study	No classes
Sunday PM	37
Contribution	\$25,534.48
Wednesday PM	311
Budget	\$23,000.00

Graymere Yellow Pages

The *Graymere Yellow Pages* is now ready for use. You may access it on the Graymere website or the Graymere App (not Instant Church Directory). When you go to the website, click on "About Us" and then drop down on the menu to "Graymere Yellow Pages" and click. On the Graymere App, the "Yellow Pages" tab will come up immediately. This is a listing of everyone in the congregation who turned in information for us to use in the Yellow Pages. If any corrections or additions need to be made, please let us know.

Looking Ahead to 2018

January 4-March 29: Columbia School of Biblical Studies (Thursdays)

January 15: Graymere Guys Trip

January 30-February 21: John Vaughan, India Mission Trip

February 2: Annual Graymere Singing

February 26: Preaching Workshop

March 30-April 1: L2LL Convention

Mission Points & Missionaries

Anthony & Jesenia Barboza
San Jose, Costa Rica
tonyucilo19@gmail.com

Peter Solomon
Chennai, India

nbcsolo@gmail.com

Evan & Crystal Todachine
Phoenix, AZ
etodachine12@gmail.com

Juan & Nahia Abanto
Lima, Peru
juabant@gmail.com

Josh & Divine Austin
Phoenix, AZ
djaustin14@hotmail.com

Our Shut-ins

NURSING HOME:

NHC-MAURY REGIONAL

Emily Long, 2406

Lillian Bills, 2506

Sarah Johnson, 1302

LIFE CARE CENTER

Mary Robertson, 324A

ASSISTED LIVING:

THE BRIDGE

Bobby Smithson, 227

Frances Logsdon, 225

Olivyn Hardison, 209

Mary Margaret Lovell, 225

Grace Frank, 106

Marguerite Porter, 211 (mother of Fred Porter)

MORNING POINTE

Marie Voss, 126

Sue Foster, 114

Rebecca McNeese, 102

POPLAR ESTATES

Mary Robb, The Gardens

Barbara McNeese, The Gardens

Fran Ferrell, The Gardens

BROOKDALE

Gladys Olive, 104

Ruby Mathis (626-0260), 5011

SOMERBY OF FRANKLIN

Sara Pigg, Apt. 1207

Faye Locke, Apt. 1315 (615-856-2913)

NHC PLACE Cool Springs

Robert Waddell, 313

AT HOME:

Edwin Derryberry

Marie Mayberry

Jewel and Leon Whitlatch

Rebecca Burgett

Aurelia Reed

Our Sick

MRMC: **Glenn Ferrell**, 684; **Joanna Huff** (daughter of Kenny & Frances Compton); **Marguerite Porter**, 169

(mother of Fred Porter-no visitors)

Vanderbilt: **George Brent Wiles** (infant grandson of Ken & Debbie Wiles); **Mandy Self** (granddaughter of Ed & Donna Self)

Dismissed: **Allen Elias**

Remember in prayer: **Tessa Fleming; Bettie Sparkman; Sandra Aldridge; Ron Bishop; Randy Fleming; Janice Hardison** (sister of Beverly Martin)

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Bonnie Landman on the death of her grandmother, **Kay Cochran**.

Upcoming Events

• **Meals Program:**

January 1: no meals

January 3: Kathie Porter

January 5: Lynda Barker

• **Pantry items:** Cereal or oatmeal

• **L2LL:** No Bible Bowl practice

December 31.

• **Ladies and Men's Wednesday morning Bible classes** will not meet again until January 3. Debbie Wiles will be the guest speaker for the Ladies class. There will not be a covered dish luncheon.

• **Give-Away Day** December donations: Toys

• On Sunday, December 31, worship will be at 9 AM and 6 PM and classes will meet as usual.

• There will be NO Bible Kidnection December 31.