

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING US

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8
God's Love and Mercy - Ephesians 2:4
Christ's Blood Shed - Romans 5:9-11
The Gospel - Romans 1:16

Our Response of Faith:

Believe - Acts 16:31; Mark 16:15-16
Repentance - Luke 13:3
Confession - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for remission of sins -
Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
Be faithful, committed, walk in the
light - Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7

Sheep Need A Shepherd con't from pg. 3
the way of a man is not in himself, that it is not in man who walks to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). We like to be in control of our lives. When we are young, we believe that we are invincible. We feel certain we are going in the right direction. The truth is that we are just stumbling blindly along, heading toward destruction.

Jesus told a parable about a lost sheep and how the shepherd leaves the ninety-nine where they are safe and goes to seek the one lost sheep (Luke 15:3-7). God sent His Son among the sheep with the purpose, *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost"* (Luke 19:10). Jesus is the good Shepherd who takes care of His sheep.

Our Shepherd guides and equips us with everything we need. To follow His lead, we must be in His word, seek His help through prayer, and seek aid from brethren who are spiritually mature so that we will stay on the right path.

Retiring... cont'd from front page
Billy Bybee, Ken Russell and R. T. Turner were the elders who invited me to come and work with you. R.T. passed away in 2018. Willie Cyphers was installed in 2007 and Rex Wallace in 2019.

Becky and I have been blessed to be friends with so many Christians in the places we have lived and worked. It is hard to comprehend how serving the Lord has made so many memories of people we taught the gospel, weddings funerals, and all the great memories.

May the Lord continue to bless this church. With our deepest love and care.
Wayne and Becky Hatcher



A Weekly Publication of the Horse Cave CHURCH OF CHRIST

120 Cave Street
Horse Cave, KY 42749

TIME OF SERVICES (CST):

Sunday: Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study 6 PM

Church Webpage: www.horsecavecoc.com

Bulletin Editor: Wayne Hatcher

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Retiring From Local Ministry After 51 Years

As I announced at the first of October, the time has arrived when I feel it necessary to retire. It was not an easy decision. For the past few years Becky has experienced some serious health issues. I have been her caregiver for the past four years. I need to slow down and devote more of my attention to her and to my own health. She is unable to do housework nor prepare meals which she was so good at for many years. She is on dialysis three times a week which I take her and to all her doctor appointments as well.

Becky and I have been here at Horse Cave for nearly 22 years. It has been my privilege to serve as your preacher. Becky taught bible classes ladies classes and in VBS until she was not able. She has been a faithful and supportive wife throughout the years in local ministry which took us to Vermont, North Carolina, Tennessee and back to our home area here in South Central Kentucky for the past 40 years.

I plan to still be around and Horse Cave will still be our home base. The elders have ask me to continue doing some of the other things that I have done such as maintaining the church website, the Facebook pages, publishing the bulletin, printing our monthly church calendar, teaching one Wed. night a month in the rotation.

I look forward to Dennis Hogan beginning his ministry with us. We welcome Dennis and his wife Peggy. He will preach on Sunday evenings in January and will begin preaching at both services and teaching the adult class in February.

I will always be grateful for the church here at Horse Cave. You have been caring and supportive to us both. I cannot say enough good things about how great it has been to work with our elders.

(concluded at the bottom of the back pg.)

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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Doris Wallace is doing well after her back surgery; Malon Schuler recuperating at home. Glad he was out last Sunday; Becky Hatcher dialysis 3X times a week. Her surgery to relocate a vein in her arm for the fistula has been rescheduled to Jan. 18. She developed problems Thursday and spent one night in the Med Center; Billy Bybee; Jackie Coop spent a few days in hospital; Becky Bush; Mike Thompson; Joyce Dye will have one more melanoma skin cancer to be removed in Feb.; Brenda Jagers has not felt well; Mary Whittington; Dixie Napier's son Randy; Joey Palmore; Helen Edwards in Bowling Green; Don Waddell; Carl Thomas; Steve Seaton; Terry Bunnell; Mary Hatcher; Parker Bybee; Ron Hogan recovering in Anchorage from back surgery; sympathy to the family of Tommy Harper and several other residents of Horse Cave who have passed away in the last few days.

Sympathy to the family of sis. **Ruth Bradford**. Visitation today from 3—7 at Hatcher and Saddler Funeral Home Services Monday at 1:00, visitation from 11 till the service.

PRAY FOR MISSION EFFORTS WE SUPPORT

Nepal and Bangladesh - Michael Brooks Manna Project

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10 a.m.

We are in our Winter Quarter studying the book of *Esther*. Today is lesson 5: "Prepared For Presentation" *Esther 2:12-23* Wayne will be the teacher this morning

PREACHING TODAY

Since today is a 5th Sunday, Robbie Fudge will be with us to preach.

11 a.m. "Eating at the King's Table" 2 Sam. 9
5 p.m. "God's Sovereignty: Our Security"
Romans 8

WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6:00

We return back to our study of the *Parables of Jesus*. Wayne will be the teacher this week.

OUR RADIO PROGRAM

We are pleased to sponsor "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" heard on our local radio station WLOC 101.7 FM and 1150 AM each Sunday morning from 8:30 - 9:00 with **Phil Sanders**. Please pray for this work as the seed of the gospel is being sown in this ministry.

NOTE: If you are unable to pick up the radio signal, you can log on to **wloconline.com** You may choose to listen on your computer or use the **tunein** app for you mobile devices.

Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries Commodities Outreach

We have been asked to donate any of the following pantry items:

Granola Bars *Cooking Spray* *Rotel*
Onion Powder *Crackers with Peanut Butter*
checks or cash are also accepted to buy perishable items

Your help will be greatly appreciated. Pantry items will be picked up **the week of Jan. 7, 2024** Be sure and bring in your items in the next few days. Also you may bring in your coin cans as well.

During the New Year May You Have...

...Enough happiness to keep you sweet.

...Enough trials to keep you strong.

...Enough sorrow to keep you human.

...Enough hope to keep you happy.

...Enough failure to keep you humble.

...Enough success to keep you eager.

...Enough friends to give you comfort.

...Enough wealth to meet your needs.

...Enough enthusiasm to make you look forward to tomorrow.

...Enough determination to make each day better than the day before.

-copied, author unknown

[I appreciate this timely article by my friend Edd Sterchi who preaches at the Broadway Church of Christ in Campbellsville, KY] WH

Resolve To Involve Everything

by Edd Sterchi

With the new year comes resolutions. We like a fresh start, and we generally feel that the start of a brand new year is best time to implement changes. I guess it's because we look back on the previous year and analyze successes and failures and make decisions on what we need to do to better ourselves—and that's not a bad thing. We make plans and determinations with great hope of accomplishing them in our lives.

Most people will make resolutions that improve their body (like eating better and/or exercising more), improve their mind (like reading more or learning something new), or improve their attitude. Without a doubt, these are good things to make positive progress in our lives.

But, in making our resolutions, let us not forget about the most important thing to improve in our lives – our spirituality. As Christians, we should always be striving to be growing closer to God, reading the Bible more, increasing in service, and becoming more mature in the faith. Improving our spirituality will also help us to improve anything else we wish to implement into our lives.

Interestingly, Jesus mentioned all of these areas when asked what was the greatest commandment. He mentioned them in connection with our relationship to God. We read it in Mark 12:30, "*And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*" Notice how we are to love God with our all: mind, body, heart, and soul. So, it makes sense that we would

always want to improve ourselves in all of these areas.

Yes, let us resolve to involve every aspect of our lives in loving, honoring, serving, and praising God – and not just at the beginning of each year, but at the beginning of each and every day.

Even though given to the Israelites, Deuteronomy 10:12-13 should still inspire our resolve to involve our all in our relationship with God: "*And now...what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD...?*"

Sheep Need A Shepherd

by Ed Whittliff

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20-21 ESV).

I never liked being compared to sheep even before I read Phillip Keller's "A Shepherd Looks at The Good Shepherd." Sheep blindly follow one another; they constantly go astray; they are unable to find their way back, and they are helpless. When I learned those things and more about sheep, I must admit that God comparing us with sheep is a good comparison.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned — everyone — to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6). "*I know, O LORD, that*
concluded on the back pg.