

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

P.O. Box 28

Brighton, Tennessee 38011

Web site address - www.brightonarpchurch.org

E-mail address - baarp@brightonarpchurch.org

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“Better Than Gold”

In a few days, I will be fifty years old – *the big 5-0*. That is considered by many to be a milestone year. A 50th anniversary is considered to be “The Golden Anniversary. When a person turns fifty, it is said to be the beginning of “The Golden Years.”

Gold is valuable and precious, but the Bible tells us that there is something more valuable (and therefore more precious) than even gold: the word of God. Psalm 19:10 makes the claim that God’s word is more desirable than gold. Psalm 119:72 says, “The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.” And in Psalm 119:127, the Psalmist states, “I love Your commandments above gold.” Who needs gold when you have God’s word!

The precious nature of God’s word is emphasized elsewhere in Scripture. It is more important than food (Matthew 4:4; cf. Deuteronomy 8:3). To be without God’s word is comparable to living in famine-like conditions (Amos 8:11). Scripture is literally “breathed out” by God (2 Timothy 3:16); it is therefore like a breath of life for us.

In Matthew 13, Jesus tells a parable about the importance of God’s word. A man sows seeds that fall upon four different kinds of soil. The seed represents the word of God. In some cases, the word does not fall upon good ground and it is snatched away by the evil one, or it withers because it has no root, or it is choked out by the cares of this world. Only the seed which falls on the good soil bears fruit. We should desire the word of God above all else, and it should grieve when we do not have it or do not cherish it.

How did the saints who lived before us view the word of God? One of the documents of the Reformation era, the Second Helvetic (Swiss) Confession, states that “God Himself . . . still speaks to us through the Holy Scriptures” and that “the preaching of the word of God is the word of God.” Do we have this same attitude when it comes to the word of God? One of the reasons the word of God is not more fruitful in our lives is because we do not value it as we should. We have Bibles in our homes (and on our phones!); let us make sure we are reading the word. The word of God is proclaimed every Lord’s Day in our churches; let us therefore make sure that all of us, young and old, make every effort in our churches to hear that word whenever it is faithfully preached. Pastors, make sure you make effort to feed your congregation with God’s word; there are many important things you will do every week, but rightly handling and proclaiming God’s word is the most important thing of these. It is the way God has determined to speak to His people. Therefore, treat it as such.

Turning fifty is good and “golden,” but God’s word is even better. And you don’t have to be fifty to appreciate that!

Prayer List:

Bennett, Mary F – Shut in
 Billings, Richard – (Denise’s Dad) Cancer
 Boswell, Charles - Cancer
 Boswell, Mike – Health issues
 Bryant, Ty – Infant, Heart
 Cothran, Bill – Health issues
 Goulder, Helen – Heart Issues - Hospital
 Goulder, Martha Jean – Shut In
 Hopper, Claude – Shut in
 McCain, Pat – Health Issues

McCain, Ken – Health Issues
 McCain, Kenny – Health Issues
 Bridges, Lucille – Hospital Health Issues
 Pugh, Kaleb – (Laura Kiphart’s grandson)
 Trotter, June – Shut in
 Williams, Sandy – (Huffman family) Cancer
 Wilson, Glenda – Bone Cancer
 Winford, Sherry – Health issues
 Yarbrow, Ina – Health issues
 Heath, Kristin - Cancer

Rivercity Reformed Presbyterian Church – Church plant in Little Rock Arkansas

Military

Donahoo, Tim	Starnes, Austin	Hill, Debra	Billings, Tyler
Dooley, Rod	Heathman, Matthew	Young III, Robert “Trip”	

Missionaries

Coad, Jim & Gala Rebekah Carson

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2	Damon Morgan	10	Debbie Walker	22	Vickie Hugues
3	Casey Hill		McKenzie Huffman	26	Joseph Smith
	Jonathan Hill	11	Ginger Carter	27	Cynthia Gibson
	Tim Phillips	12	David Templeton	28	Nick Goulder
4	Jennifer Goulder	13	Justin Whitmer	29	Taylor Glass
9	Lee Ann Smith	14	Kenneth McCain	30	Judy Huffman
	Sandy Herring	16	Laura Richardson		Anna Phillips

<u>CHILDRENS SERMON</u>	
Aug 6	Margarette
Aug 13	Ashley Goulder
Aug 20	Nick Goulder
Aug 27	Pastor Tim

<u>NURSERY ATTENDANTS</u>	
Aug 6	Lydia Maxwell
Aug 13	Alton Woods
Aug 20	Ashley Goulder
Aug 27	Helen Woods

Upcoming Events

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-674-3851 or e-mail at chris_gravley@bellsouth.net.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Alton Woods. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Alton at 901-837-8950.

PLEASE NOTE If anyone is sick, in need of prayer or a visit, please contact Milton Murphy 901-476-2808.

PRAYER LIST: Thank you for the updates on the Prayer List. There are names still on the list that people do not know or have any information on. **Keep the updates coming!** Thanks!

PLEASE REMEMBER: The Sunday Night Bible Study at 6 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Photo's of the different church events are needed for the Website. If you have photo's that you don't mind sharing please send to Nick Goulder at nick.goulder1@gmail.com
Subject: Church Photos

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a Family Night Potluck and Prayer on August 30. Hope to see you there.

PLEASE NOTE: Workers Council will be Tuesday August 1 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: We are looking at scheduling some outings to the Orpheum:

The King and I - Sept. 19 - 24

Phantom of the Opera -
November 29 - December 10

Finding Neverland - January 23 - 28

Wicked - March 7 - 25

If you would like to attend please let Denise know. Tickets and Pricing will depend on how many and the group rates.

Personal Mention

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a Farewell Reception on August 13 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for Linda Clarke in the Fellowship Hall. Please come and wish her well as she moves to Prescott Arizona.

PLEASE NOTE: The session is asking that our church support both BJ and Lydia Maxwell with monetary and prayer support on their upcoming mission trip to Indonesia. Please see either one for any information about this exciting trip they are preparing for.