

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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Getting Reformed

Do you have a middle name? Some people like their middle name so much that they go by it. But some people don't care for their middle name. My wife, for instance, completely dropped her middle name when we were married (I won't tell you what it was, either!). My middle name is not a name I necessarily want to go by either (I'm also going to be silent on that).

"Reformed" is sort of the middle name of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church. But many people may be confused over the meaning of that term. In our day, using the word "reformed" conjures up visions of a wayward individual who has found his way back to the straight and narrow (such as a criminal who has "reformed"). In a sense, that idea is not far from the mark.

The name "Reformed" is most directly tied to the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century. The decisive event which launched the Reformation took place on October 31, 1517, when a young monk named Martin Luther nailed 95 Theses (statements) to the church door in the German city of Wittenburg (this year will be the 500th anniversary of that date!). These theses were later taken and copied and distributed throughout Europe, starting a firestorm of protests against the abuses and corruptions of the Roman Catholic church. In essence, this "protest" (from which we get the word "Protestant") was a recovery of the gospel of God's grace: that we can only be saved by God's grace through faith alone in Christ alone. Yet, Luther had apparently rediscovered this truth before that fateful day in 1517. In a letter he wrote one year prior, he stated to a colleague, "You will never find true peace until you find it and keep it in this ... that Christ takes all your sins upon Himself, and bestows all His righteousness upon you." Thanks to Luther and those who followed him (men like John Calvin, John Knox, and Ulrich Zwingli), the church was being "reformed" from its formerly wayward pattern back to the straight way of the gospel.

The struggles, however, were not over. In Scotland, there was always the threat that there might be a return to the ways before the Reformation. Some of the English monarchs seemed bent on returning to the ways of old. Many faithful Scots stood firmly on the gospel and made a series of covenants (solemn, binding pledges) to recognize only Jesus Christ as Head of the church and never to return to the religion of Roman Catholicism. Many of these "Covenanters," both men and women, paid the ultimate price for their faithfulness (the sad period from 1680-1688 is referred to as "The Killing Times"). Associate Reformed Presbyterians today are the spiritual descendants of these faithful Christians (as are our brothers and sisters in the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America), and they serve as a reminder to us that we all need to be "reformed" by God's grace and remain faithful to the gospel of Jesus Christ. The middle name of our denomination may be "Reformed," but it's not a name we ever need to be ashamed of.

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 – Brookhaven Senior Living
 Goulder, Martha Jean – Shut In
 Lineberger, Rachael
 Hopper, Claude – Shut in
 Locke, Mike - (Vickie’s brother)Health Issues
 London, Peggy
 Lupinsky, Logan
 McCain, Pat – Health Issues
 McCain, Ken – Health Issues
 McCain, Kenny – Health Issues
 Moncla, Luke

Moore, Martha Lou – Shut in
 Columbus, Norma – Health issues
 Moss, Charlie
 Otis, Mike
 Pugh, Kaleb – (Laura Kiphart’s grandson)
 Stitt, Sam – Health issues
 Trotter, June – Shut in
 Tyler, Jean – Shut in
 Trotter, June – Shut in
 Wells, Whit – Health Issues
 Williams, Sandy – (Huffman family)Cancer
 Wilson, Glenda – Bone Cancer
 Winford, Sherry – Health issues
 Yarbro, Ina – Gallbladder issues
 Young, Lois – Heart Issues
 Heath, Kristin - Cancer
 Ferrell, Lynn – Ken & Pat’s Niece - Cancer

UPDATES NEEDED! Please

Military

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

Missionaries

Coad, Jim & Gala Rebekah Carson

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

March 15 Mr. and Mrs. Brad Templeton

March 28 Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Yarbro

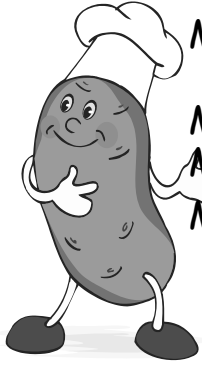
NURSERY ATTENDANTS

March 5	Leslie Alsbrook
March 12	Molly Huffman
March 19	Denise Moore
March 26	Lydia Maxwell

CHILDRENS SERMON

March 5	Rev Tim Phillips
March 12	Margarette
March 19	John Moore
March 26	Leslie Alsbrook

March Menu



Mar 8 Spaghetti
(Reg/Chicken)
Mar 15 Chicken Pot Pie
Mar 22 Family Night
Mar 29 NO SUPPER

Cost: \$3.00 person
\$10.00 Family

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1	Helen Woods	11	Floyd Columbus
3	William Clayton Pannell		Margarette Huffman
	Elizabeth Phillips	14	Wanda Starnes
	Ruth Joy Phillips	17	Whitni Smith
5	William Pannell	19	Joanna Simonton
6	Clay Yarbro	20	Keith Trotter
	Leyna Cannon	21	McCallie Ruffin
9	William Carter	23	Jimmy Trotter
10	Andrea Trotter	25	Peggy Huffman
11	Cathy Morgan	27	Pam Yarbro
			Zac Scott

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 Chris Woods. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Chris 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 NOTE: The Sunday Evening Service will begin on March 12th at 6 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: The Men's Ministry will be sponsoring another fabulous Casserole Dinner on March 25 @5:00 p.m. We haven't killed anyone so far so come out and take your chances again. Music to accompany.

PLEASE NOTE: Special Services will be April 23 – 26th. Pastor Kyle Sims will be the guest speaker. He is the Minister of the First ARP Church in Lancaster, South Carolina. Please keep this event in your prayers.

PLEASE NOTE: MVP Presbytery will be March 6-9. Keep this in your prayers.

PLEASE NOTE: MVP YOUTH RALLY will be at 1st Presbytery Church in Covington on Friday March 24th @ 6:00 – 10 p.m. Cost is Donations

Personal Mention

CONGRATULATIONS: To the Bible Bowl group on their Recent Win. Keep up the good work guys. Thank you team members / Leaders for all your hard work.

REMEMBER: McCallie Ruffin and her group as they leave for their Mission Trip to Belize March 10.

PRAYERS: Ms Bennett's family at the loss of her son in law.