

# The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

P.O. Box 28

Brighton, Tennessee 38011

Web site address - [www.brightonarpchurch.org](http://www.brightonarpchurch.org)

E-mail address - [baarp@brightonarpchurch.org](mailto:baarp@brightonarpchurch.org)

---

Volume XLVIII

November 2016

Number 11

**James 1:27 “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction...”**

James is not shy when it comes to his directions for Christians. He directly calls out our self-righteousness, our laziness, our worldliness, our arrogance, and these pesky, sinful tongues we just can't seem to control. His words are challenging, convicting, and utterly humbling. I normally come away more clearly seeing the depth of my sin and depravity before God. But the great thing is, I also have a deeper understanding of the depth and magnificence of God's grace. He has pulled my depraved heart from those sinful depths and now through Christ I have salvation. Oh what a blessing this is!

At the end of chapter one James gets right to the point and summarizes the real truth of our faith. His summary statement discusses what true religion is, and by religion he means Christianity of course. In all of the traditions, doctrines, and creeds that we observe and proclaim what is it all about? In its purest form what does Christian “success” look like? Have you ever thought about that? Have you ever taken an honest look at your faith – your entire system of belief – and asked yourself if you really understand? What does a child of God really look like? How can we bring glory to God in the most pure and undefiled way? Well, James' answer might surprise you. His answer is “to visit orphans and widows in their affliction.” (James 1:27) James is telling us that the best way we can be children of God is to act just like Him – to show love, compassion, and care to those who are in desperate need. We are to have hearts of such generosity that we give abundantly to those in need around us, without an expectation of anything in return. The widows and orphans in our community provide opportunities for us to love like that – to love like Christ has loved us. Christ has demonstrated compassion to us in an almighty way. “While we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son.” (Romans 5:10) He has loved and served us, a terribly needy bunch, in a way that was utterly sacrificial and amazingly generous. And we know there is no way for us to repay. Our duty, then, is not to repay, but to obey. And that obedience makes itself known through our imitation of His love for others in our lives.

This directive from James is applicable for us as individual Christians, but also for our church as a whole. As a local group of believers we have a responsibility to love, serve, and generously give to the needy around us. I believe we have a wonderful opportunity to do just that with two organizations in our community – Amanda's Way and Confidential Care Mobile Ministry.

Amanda's Way is a new organization in Tipton County that is focused on assisting victims of domestic violence and abuse. Unfortunately, there is a large need for an organization like this in our area. Tipton County has the highest reported number of domestic incidents in West TN, and ranks number 6 in the nation for women murdered by men. Statistics tell us that 1 out of 14 residents of Tipton County will personally experience a domestic abuse situation during their lifetime. This Christian organization is focused on helping those that are hurting, healing the broken, and offering them a hope for the future. They do this by providing a means and way out of abusive relationships. They are able to provide transportation, resources, planning,

counseling, and even housing for these people in need. They partner with local law enforcement, churches, and other organizations to ensure that victims have the opportunity to become survivors and are fully restored emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

Confidential Care Mobile Ministry began as Heart to Heart in 1996 to serve young women and families in Tipton County that faced unplanned pregnancies and may have been considering abortion. Due to the dramatic increase in abortions in Shelby County they expanded their ministry into that area. They now operate two mobile units which allow them to provide pregnancy tests and ultrasounds for those seeking abortions. Their new mission is to GO...SHARE the Gospel, SERVE those in need, and SAVE the unborn. God very clearly tells us in Proverbs 31:8 that we are to “speak for those that can’t speak for themselves” and that is their primary goal. Confidential Care Mobile Ministry is one of the most successful mobile ministries in the nation in 2016, serving an average of **52** women per month (including follow-up appointments, 258 total this year), seeing an average of **14** life decisions for pre-born babies per month (69 total this year), and seeing an average of **2** eternal life decisions through Jesus Christ for mothers, fathers, and others that have come on the mobile unit each month (11 total this year). With two mobile units in operation Shelby County has seen a 34% reduction in abortion in the last 2 years, and this organization is very much responsible for that wonderful decline.

James was very clear about how we fulfil our obedience as Christian – we are to serve the hurting, give to those in need, have compassion on the broken, and give help to those who cannot repay. I cannot think of two organizations that fit these categories any better. Due to the great blessing that God has poured out on our church we have the ability to help these organizations in many ways. We can give financial support, provide for their tangible needs, offer our time, and lift them up in prayer each and every day. James warns us that empty words about our faith don’t mean much. He says “What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, Go in peace, be warmed and filled, without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works is dead.” (James 2:14-17) In the coming months as we discuss our ability as a church to help these organizations I pray that we move forward in obedience and offer a Christ like love to the hurting and needy among us.

In His Service,  
Nick Goulder

For more information about these organization you can visit their websites below:  
[amandasway.org](http://amandasway.org)  
[confidentialcaremm.org](http://confidentialcaremm.org)

# Prayer List:

Bennett, Mary F – Shut in  
 Billings, Richard – (Denise’s Dad) Cancer  
 Boswell, Charles - Cancer  
 Boswell, Mike – Health issues  
 Bryant, Ty – Infant, Heart  
 Cavin, Flora – (Meredith’s Mom)Nursing home  
 Cothran, Bill – Recovery Back injury  
 Goulder, Helen – Shut in  
 Goulder, Martha Jean -  
 Lineberger, Rachael  
 Locke, Mike - (Vickie’s brother)Health Issues  
 London, Peggy  
 Lupinsky, Logan  
 McCain, Pat – Health Issues  
 McCain, Ken – Health Issues  
 Gladney’s - Wreck

Jackson, Delois – Pam’s Mom – Health issues  
 Moncla, Luke  
 Moore, Martha Lou – Shut in  
 Moss, Charlie  
 Otis, Mike  
 Pugh, Kaleb – (Laura Kiphart’s grandson)  
 Stitt, Sam – Health issues  
 Trotter, June – Shut in  
 Tyler, Jean – Shut in  
 Turner, Trip - Cancer  
 Wells, Whit – Health Issues  
 Williams, Sandy – (Huffman family)Cancer  
 Wilson, Glenda – Bone Cancer  
 Winford, Sherry – Health issues  
 Yarbro, Ina – Back Issues  
 Murphy, Carolyn – Broken Shoulder

**Military**

Donahoo, Tim                      Starnes, Austin  
 Dooley, Rod                      Heathman,Matthew

Hill, Debra                              Hunt, Boyce  
 Young III, Robert “Trip”

**Missionaries**

Coad, Jim & Gala    Rebekah Carson

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

*November 10 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Goulder*  
*November 16 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Boswell*  
*November 20 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McCain*

**NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

Nov 6      Helen Woods  
 Nov 13  
 Nov 20     Margarett Alsbrook  
 Nov 27     Amanda Heath

**CHILDRENS SERMON**

Nov 6      Nick Goulder  
 Nov 13     Amanda Heath  
 Nov 20     Julia Moore  
 Nov 27     Lilly Alsbrook

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Jane Trotter	11 Alex Alsbrook
4 Kim Crum	15 Helen Goulder
7 Katie Ruffin	16 Joe Kelly Morgan
Randy Goulder	18 Bonnie Griffin
8 Rylee Griffin	21 Carolyn Patrick
Todd Hardy	Marvin Trotter
10 Emogene Neumon	22 Emma Curtis
Jimmy Wylie	27 Kenneth Boswell

## November Menu

Nov 2      Soup - Potato/Vegetable  
 Nov 9      Chili / Grilled Cheese  
 Nov 16     Thanksgiving Dinner  
 Nov 23     NO SUPPER  
 Nov 30     Mac n Cheese /  
                   Chicken Nuggets

Cost:    \$3.00 person  
           \$10.00 Family



# November Happenings

**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](mailto: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** The Harvest Supper and Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. There will be "General Store" with handcrafted items, canned goods, baked goods, etc. Menu is Spaghetti or Stroganoff! Please come out and enjoy this evening. If you need a ride please let us know as we will run the van.

**PLEASE NOTE** Catalyst Missions will be here Sunday November 13 at 6:00 P.M. to introduce their Ministry. Please make plans to attend to see what this Ministry has to offer.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Budget meeting for 2017 will start November 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 P.M. If you have any questions please contact Nick Goulder at 901-451-3206. Thanks The Diaconate.

**IT'S ARP MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION TIME.** The cost for your subscription is \$16.50. Please make your check out to the Brighton ARP Church designated for "ARP Subscription.

**PLEASE NOTE** The Children's Christmas Play Practice is at 4 p.m. on Sundays! Please see Leslie Alsbrook for info!

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

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a Worker's Council Meeting on Tuesday November 1 at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. This meeting is for all who are concerned about the Christian Education of our church.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you would like to be on the Nursery List please let Denise know.

**IT'S CHURCH YEARBOOK** time and we need to start updating! Please inform the church office of any changes, corrections or additions that need to be made.

