

Weekly Services

Sunday	Bible Class	10:00am
	Worship	11:00am
Mid-Week Study	@ the Building	6:30pm

Happening Soon

Men's Study – Monday, September 14th

The mid-week Bible study has been delayed and will be scheduled soon. In addition, monthly activities have been delayed.

Do Unto Others...Closet

Will reopen in September.

Please note there will be new procedures in place.

Our endeavor to open the Do Unto Others...Closet has already made an impact on our community. Every month we have increased our numbers and met new folks from the community, that are in need. To continue though, we need to consider ways to restock our shelves. Donations are always welcome, and we appreciate all our members and visitors that are able to help.

***Our people must learn to devote
themselves to doing
what is good, in order to provide to urgent needs
and not live unproductive lives.
Titus 3:14***



Welcome September 6, 2020

Today's Service:

*Sermon: Rob Shaver
Songs: Nick Purvis
Communion: Nick Purvis*

Inspiration:

"Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law."

Romans 13:10

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Duane will be traveling throughout September, pray for his safe travel.

Dan Farrington's recovery. Dan is currently home and receiving physical therapy.

Continued Prayers for:

Nick's Father

Amy's brother, Peter, recovering from a stroke

Diane's friend Mary Jeanne

Visit our website for a complete list of prayer requests.

 troychurch.org

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18*

Repurposing the Church

Restoring an old piece of furniture to its original glory is a beautiful thing. But, there is a vast difference between restoring and repurposing. People can be quite creative in repurposing an old piece of furniture. Since circumstances have changed, some relics of the past no longer serve a useful purpose in the present.

However, repurposing has no place in restoring the pattern of New Testament Christianity. Repurposing the church betrays a belief that the original is no longer adequate to meet present needs. But, the words of Christ are forever relevant and convey an unchanging purpose to those who are His followers (Mt. 24:35; 28:18-20). Millions in darkness stand in need of what Christ offered in the first century. How can we tell them that such is no longer adequate to meet their needs—that things have changed—that we are different people, living in a different culture, requiring a differing purpose?

Clearly stated in Scripture is the Lord's purpose of seeking and saving the lost (Lk. 19:10). His purpose meets our most pressing need: salvation from our sins. This basic need has not changed. "There is nothing new under the sun" (Eccl. 1:9). So far as the nature of man is concerned, we are all sinners who need a Savior (Rm. 3:23).

Those who seek to restore the pattern of New Testament Christianity in the 21st century must seek also to restore His purpose as the primary reason for the church's existence. Because so many have repurposed the church to meet their own needs and desires, we have seen a corresponding lack of focus on teaching and preaching the gospel. We have been deceived into thinking that we can do His work without His word—that we can socialize lost souls into the kingdom. But, when focus is shifted away from Christ and His word, we have repurposed the church according to our own desires.

Our mission is accomplished by preaching the gospel (Mk. 16:15-16). Scripture says, "They shall all be taught of God" (Jn. 6:45). We do not absorb people into His church by creating loyalty to us rather than to Christ. We do not ground people in the faith by keeping them entertained, but by making them disciples of the Lord. Many are ill-equipped to know the difference between the New Testament church and the repurposed, counterfeit version of the church as it exists in our world today. The difference is seen in "preaching the word" or accumulating "teachers in accordance to [our] own desires" (2 Tim. 4:2-3).

Glen Elliot
Greenbrier Church of Christ
Greenbrier, AR