

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet. We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

<u>SUNDAY</u>		ATTENDANCE LAST	<b>SUNDAY</b>	
Bible Study	10:00 AM	Morning Worship	22	
Worship	11:00 AM	Evening Worship	11	
Evening	6:00 PM	WEDNESDAY	11	
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM	Contribution	\$ 767.00	
Fellowship Meal	12:30 PM			
(Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday)				
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM			
(Last Sunday of every month)				

Visit our website at <a href="https://www.brunswickcoc.com">www.brunswickcoc.com</a>
Rick Massey, Minister
Jim Hobbs, Evangelist

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TO OUR FRIENDS:

#### **MESSENGER FOR CHRIST**



# BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST January 12, 2020

## God's Providence By Steve Higginbotham

Typically, when the doctrine of God's providence is discussed, a handful of well-known Scriptures are used to illustrate his protective care and blessings. For example, we frequently reference Joseph (Genesis 50:19-20), Esther (Esther 4:14), and Onesimus (Philemon 15), but rarely have we referenced the following passage I want you to consider.

When Israel crossed the Jordan to take possession of the "promised land," the nations in Canaan took up arms against them and did what they could to destroy them. The Philistines, Amalekites, Moabites, and others were constantly at war with Israel. They continually sought out ways to destroy Israel and exploit any weakness they could find. (Numbers 30:16).

With their environment understood, consider one of the commands God gave Israel. God commanded all the men in Israel to travel to Jerusalem three times a year to worship (Deuteronomy 16:16). Have you ever considered how vulnerable that would have left Israel? With all the men gone from all the villages, Israel's enemies could have easily overrun these cities and villages occupied only by women and children? Three times a year, Israel made themselves vulnerable to their enemies who wanted to destroy them. Yet, there is not a single example of which I am aware, of any raid by Israel's enemies during these times when the men were gone from their cities.

The question that begs to be asked is, "Why not?" Why didn't Israel's enemies take advantage of this vulnerability? The Bible gives us the

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### "...The Churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

#### Continued...

answer. God said, "Three times a year all your men shall appear before the Lord, the God of Israel. For I will cast out the nations before you and enlarge your borders; neither will any man covet your land when you go up to appear before the Lord your God three times in the year" (Exodus 34:23-24).

Did you see that? The reason Israel didn't suffer during a period of extreme vulnerability is because of God's providence and protection. He promised that the enemies of Israel would not covet Israel's land when the men were on their pilgrimage three times a year. Don't you find that interesting? Doesn't that impress you with the power of God and the control he wields in the affairs of men?

Next time you feel overwhelmed and defeated, you need to remember that you serve a powerful God who answers prayer and promises to work on our behalf for our good.

**Bulletin Gold** 



#### **GOD'S PLAN FOR MAN**

HEAR GOD'S WORD Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17 BELIEVE IN JESUS Jn. 8:24

**REPENT OF SINS** 

Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10

**CONFESS JESUS' NAME** 

Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10;

Mt. 16:15-16

**BE BAPTIZED** 

Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38, 41; Acts 22:16;

Rom. 6:3-4

**LIVE FAITHFUL UNTIL DEATH** 

Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

The Bible study topic for Wednesday night:

**Galatians** 

Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.



#### **Funny Church Bulletin Bloopers**

A cookbook is being compiled by the ladies of the church. Please submit your favorite recipe, also a short antidote for it.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm – prayer and medication to follow.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

#### **Opportunities to Serve**

	Today	01/19/20
Welcome	Tom Walsh	John Bowling
Song Leader	John Bowling	Willie Gore
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Willie Gore	Tom Walsh
Communion	*Don Lockey	*Lee Shepherd
	Lynn Means	<b>Bob Stanley</b>
	Dick Phillips	Lynn Means
Scripture Reading	Lee Shepherd	Lynn Means
Speaker	Rick Massey	Rick Massey
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Tom Walsh	John Bowling
Evenings	Jim Hobbs	Devotion/Tom Walsh
Nursery	Lelia Gore	Hannah Garner

#### The nursery will be open following the communion for children 3 years and under.

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

Health

BJ Lockey

**Clara Nuss** 

**Bradley Higgins** 

**Traveling** 

Hatcher Family

**Deaths** 

**Elizabeth Tucker Family** 

The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.





The Ladies bible study will be held Tuesday, at 10:30 am in the fellowship room. We are studying "Study of Song of Worship". Our time together will include prayer and songs of praise. You are welcome to join us.

Your Word
is a lamp to
guide my feet
and a light for
my path.
Psalm 119:105