

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

Sunday morning worship (Bible study)	9:30 AM
Sunday morning worship (Preaching)	10:30 AM
Sunday afternoon worship (Preaching).....	4:00 PM
Wednesday evening worship (Bible Study).....	7:00 PM

NEWS AND NOTES

VISITORS: If you are visiting with us, we welcome you and ask that you please sign our guest book and fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection basket or give it to one of the men in the congregation

GOSPEL MEETINGS: Our Gospel Meeting begins today, plans to attend every service should have already been made. There are advertisement cards on the table, continue to invite your friends and neighbors. Upcoming meetings: July 16 – 19 Hillsboro Heights with Justin Roberson Monday through Wednesday 7 PM. July 16-21 Washington Ave in Russellville with Dale Robbins Monday – Friday 7PM; Belgreen with Mark White (time unknown); Westview (Hartselle) with Ken Chapman (time unknown). There may be other meetings in the area, I will pass information along as I receive it.

SCHEDULE: The schedule for July is posted on the bulletin board so the men can see what their responsibilities are for that month.

OUT OF TOWN: Telford and Alice Hamm are out of town today. Jack will be working out of town all week. Rita Thompson is in Nashville this morning Thanks to the church here for allowing Jerry and Dottie to be away this past Sunday so they could go to Dallas, TX to attend the funeral for Bobby Holmes a faithful gospel preacher for around 60 years and a very close and dear friend for many years.

SICK AND SHUT-INS: Remember Peggy Tiffin's brother-in-law as well as other family members. George Humphries had surgery Thursday and came home Friday afternoon and is doing well enough that he hopes to be at worship today.

PRAYER: Sarah Dorner (Bruce and Beulah Tooley's daughter) is expecting twin boys.

NOTE: I am sure there are others we know about that need to be remembered in our prayers. If you know of someone who should be mentioned in the announcements please tell the one who makes the announcements. To have information put in the bulletin please get it to Jerry before about 4 pm Saturday.

POINTS TO PONDER

- Common sense is about the most uncommon thing there is.
- The Bread of Life never becomes stale.

THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

Published by the Eastside church of Christ Red Bay, AL
Meeting at the corner of Hwy 24 East and Meadow Dr.
Web Site: <http://eastsidechurchrb.com/>

Vol. 1 - No. 10 – July 9, 2017

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OUR GOSPEL MEETING

July 9-14

Service times are:

Sunday 9:30 & 10:30 AM & 4:00 PM

Monday - Friday 7:30 PM

Speaker: Ben Walker

**For more information or transportation
Call 662-542-3170 or 256-333-0017**

Please consider this to be your personal invitation to this gospel meeting and be sure to invite your neighbors and friends to attend with you.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND

A MESSAGE TO SENIOR SAINTS

By Ben Walker

Much attention is given in our congregations to the younger generations among us. Young families need instruction and encouragement to build strong marriages and raise godly children. The Bible classes for the children receive much consideration (and they should) so they can be effective and fruitful. But in all of our preparations for the young people in our congregations, we must not neglect the older saints among us too. What messages can we give to our "senior saints?"

1. We look up to you. The Bible places great honor on those who are older (Prov.16:31; 20:29) but our culture does not always display this honor and respect toward them. Technology has left the older generations behind, fumbling through life with the "old-fashioned way." Our fast-paced society moves at too great a speed for those who are older to keep up. But this lack of respect and appreciation for the elderly among us is nothing new. Young Elihu recognized that "age should speak, and increased years should teach wisdom" when consulting Job in his trial (Job 32:7). However that did not keep him from rebuking Job's older counselors and proceeding to give his opinion in ch.32-37.

"You shall rise up before the gray headed and honor the aged, and you shall revere your God; I am the Lord" (Lev. 19:32). Paul urged Timothy to deal with older men and women properly (1Tim. 5:1ff) and included is the instruction to "honor widows who are widows indeed." Why should widows be honored? Look at the lives they have lived (5:5, 10). To our senior saints we want you to know that we look up to you.

2. We thank you. We who are among the younger ones have many things to thank you for.

a. *We thank you for being good parents and grandparents.* We were privileged to grow up in Christian homes, directed by your godly instruction, and disciplined in the ways of the Lord. Truly you have left a spiritual inheritance for your children's children (Prov.13:22).

b. *We thank you for teaching us in bible classes.* I vividly remember the bible classes of my childhood. I recall the various teachers and the activities we did together. Those memories will always be with me and I cherish them.

c. *We thank you for standing for your convictions, even when facing opposition.* Many of you faced the issues of division in the 1950s and 1960s. You studied carefully, made up your mind on the subject, and stood for what you believed. We know that was not easy for you. We have heard of the conflicts and controversies of the time. Following your example, we can be prepared for whatever controversy may arise in our lifetime and, like you did, we can stand firm for our convictions.

d. *We thank you for your continued service to the Lord.* It encourages us to see you attend all the worship periods of the church. Despite your chronic pain and illness you are present when you can be, and seeing you makes us stronger. It encourages us to hear you sing, lead prayers, and give devotional talks. It encourages us to see you be hospitable to others, prepare meals for the sick, and care for those who are in need.

3. We still need you. The Christian life is often compared to a marathon (1Cor.9:24ff; et al). You "senior saints" may be closer to the finish line than those who are younger, but a race is not finished **until it is finished!** We who are younger still need to see you running the race because we are following your lead. Many characters in the Bible accomplished great things in the Lord's service in their old age.

a. Abraham was called to leave his home at age 75 (Gen. 12:4). Isaac was born when he was 100 (Gen. 21:5). Abraham died at age 175 (Gen. 25:7-8). Most everything we know about Abraham occurred in the second half of his life.

b. Moses was 40 when he left Egypt (Acts 7:23). When God spoke to him and told him to return to save the people of Israel, Moses was 80 years old (Acts 7:30). He died at age 120 (Deut. 34:7). Moses' great accomplishments happened in the final $\frac{1}{3}$ of his life.

c. Caleb was 40 when called to be a spy (Josh. 14:7). He was 85 when Israel finally made it to Canaan (14:10). When he received his inheritance in the land, he still had work to do (14:11-14).

To our "senior saints" we offer these messages. We look up to you. We thank you. We still need you. May God bless you for your years of faithful service and labor for His glory.