

PULASKI STREET BULLETIN

PULASKI STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THE BURDEN OF BOREDOM

You don't have to be around small children very long before you hear them say, "I'm so bored." Likewise, you don't have to scroll through too many posts on Facebook these days before you read of someone decrying their boredom. Most of us grow out of the whiny "I'm-so-bored" stage, though we may slip into it from time to time, such as when a pandemic sweeps through the land, forcing us to shelter in place, remain distant from family and friends, and entertain ourselves with whatever we've got in and around our house.

Beyond this superficial boredom, I believe that many people in our world struggle from a different, deeper kind of boredom. It's an internal boredom. Boredom is just one of many words that we could use to describe this phenomenon. We might describe it as melancholy, sadness, or the blues. There's a lot of different words that we could use to describe it, but it boils down to a vague restlessness or a deep inner angst. Perhaps you've said to yourself at some point, "There's got to be something more than this version of life that I'm living."

Not only can this kind of boredom be depressing, but it can also be dangerous. People who persistently feel this restlessness inside often choose to self-medicate or self-prescribe these pseudo-solutions for their boredom. But these pseudo-solutions only end up further complicating the problem. They think to themselves, "This feeling will go away, if I invest more in myself." They don't realize, however, that that's probably the reason they are feeling bored in the first place.

Consider the content of the Book of Ecclesiastes. It's hard not to think that boredom, as we've defined it, is something that Solomon is wrestling with in this book.

In Ecclesiastes 1:2, we find these famous words: "Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity." Clearly, a deep frustration is being expressed. "Vanity of vanities," like "Song of Songs," is a Hebrew superlative. It means utterly meaningless, empty, pointless, or useless. The opposite is that which has true enduring value. The word "all" encompasses everything: work, wisdom, wealth, etc.

Ecclesiastes explores life from a secular point of view for the most part. For some people, this book is the beginning of the Gospel. A person who is secular needs to see things when they are excavated down to bedrock: What good is that? What's next? What's it all about? From a secular point of view, one may say, "If you can't see it, then it is not real." However, one must learn that there is more to life than meets the eye. How long does that last? What is the payoff? Do you matter in universe? What is truly lasting? To the secularist, Ecclesiastes says, "Let's play on your field!"

What is the rhetorical effect? What is Solomon seeking to accomplish? What does he want his readers to take from a reading of this book? This book is in the biblical canon, so what does it accomplish? Solomon might be engaging in a little role-playing; however, it is known that Solomon was not always on the right track, so it may very well be sincere. Dismay and despair are all over the pages of this book, yet it is urging us on to something. We have got to get our priorities right, putting God first. We must learn to focus on the ultimate or that which truly lasts (Eccles. 12:13-14).

Interestingly, there are a couple of ways in which boredom can be beneficial. First, boredom can be viewed as an apologetic tool. When non-Christians are unsatisfied with life, lack fulfillment, or feel that sense of vague restlessness, such could be used to demonstrate to them that boredom is the result of seeking to scratch an eternal itch with temporal things. In his autobiography, Augustine famously wrote the following words to God, "You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they can find rest in you."

Second, boredom can be viewed as an analytic tool. When Christians are unsatisfied with life, lack fulfillment, or feel that sense of vague restlessness, such could serve as a gentle reminder or rebuke that they need to check their priorities and scrutinize their thinking as well as their behavior. In other words, to the Christian, boredom should signal that something is amiss . . . that things are not as they should be.

Boredom is a burden, but it's not one that God wants anyone to carry. Next week we will discuss some truths from God's Word that will help us beat boredom.

Jacob Evans

ELDERS: Tim Hammond, 852-4832 Biff Helton, 242-8785 Bob Markus, 762-9779 Eric Nutt, 242-3566

Please speak with the elder chairman regarding anything you'd like the elders to discuss or to arrange a time to meet with them.

The elder chairman for April, May, and June is **Tim Hammond**.

DEACONS: Shayne Adams Joe Cook Jacob Cothren Jim Donnelly Mark Evans Scott Harris Billy Helton III Reggie Holt Shane Hughes Andy Lee Mark Miller Brad Nielsen Caleb Shadrick

MINISTERS: Jacob Evans, 731-343-5325 Jeremy Gargis, 931-231-9557 **Hispanic Ministry:** Rodolfo Espinoza, 615-516-0650 **AGAPE COUNSELOR,** 931-762-8502

THOSE TO SERVE

SUNDAY MORNING GREETERS – April 12, 2020

Please note:

At least for the next two Sundays, April 5 and April 12, at 10:30 a.m., we will be live streaming a worship service from our auditorium using the church's Facebook page. Just type "Pulaski Street Church of Christ" in the search box on Facebook, and follow the links. The elders, Jeremy, and Jacob will be leading the (abbreviated) worship service. In this way, you'll be able to see some familiar faces and hear some familiar voices.

These Sunday morning services will be aired at 6 p.m. on Sunday evenings over the radio at least through the duration of this pandemic. To listen to the broadcast, tune your radio to 106.1 FM (Lawrenceburg), 93.1 FM (Loretto), or 590 AM (Lawrence County). You will also be able to access the broadcast through the X Radio App on both Apple and Android. Our main target group for this endeavor are those in our church family and other sister congregations who do not have access to the internet, Facebook, etc. Please share this information with anyone you might know who could benefit from it. We're doing all we can to stay connected to our church family from the youngest to the oldest.

On Wednesday evenings, Jacob will be live streaming a devotional message from his Facebook page at 7 p.m.

If you cannot drive the van, please contact Scott Harris at 629-3994.

PROJECTOR OPERATORS – April 12 and April 15

SUNDAY MORNING.....Jacob Cothren
SUNDAY EVENING.....Tim Hammond
WEDNESDAY EVENING.....Jacob Cothren

SERVING THROUGHOUT APRIL

Baptismal Clothes.....Gina Burns and Shirley Evans
Please check at each service for garments and towels that need to be washed. The baptistry is used frequently for jail ministry baptisms.

Sunday Morning Song Leader.....Eric Nutt
Sunday Evening Song Leader.....Jeremy Gargis
Wednesday Evening Song Leader.....Joe Cook

Prepare Communion.....Jennifer, Olen, Diane Springer
Pick up Cups.....JoJo and Vangie Gieske

March 25 and March 29, 2020

Mid-Week Bible Study.....	—
Sunday Morning Bible Study.....	—
Sunday Morning Worship.....	—
Sunday Evening Worship.....	—
Contribution (2020 Budget \$10,635.48).....	\$10,995.00
Average (last available).....	\$10,348.51

Pulaski Street Church of Christ
247 Pulaski Street
Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

NONPROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
LAWRENCEBURG, TN
PERMIT NO. 112

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SCHEDULE of SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:25 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.*
Wednesday night.....7:00 p.m.
(*Each 4th and 5th Sunday evening service is at 1 p.m.)

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

◆ On WDXE AM 1370/FM 102.5 ◆ 12:45 p.m. ◆ Monday – Friday ◆
The upcoming week of April 6 – April 10 will be hosted
by the MIDWAY Church of Christ.

PANTRY LIST

instant potatoes/8 oz. pkg. rice/1 lb. bag
crackers/1 lb. box macaroni & cheese/7.25 oz. box
quick oats/18 or 42 oz. OR boxes of individual packets
dried beans/1 lb. bag ramen noodles/3 oz. pkg.
cans of: tuna/6 oz. Vienna sausage/5 oz. salmon/ 15 oz.
SpaghettiOs, ravioli, etc./15 oz. can
fruit or vegetable juice/46 oz. can or bottle
peanut butter/18 oz. jar soup/10.5 oz. can
canned vegetables/14.5 oz. can...
(corn, green beans, peas, baked beans, pork & beans, etc.)
canned fruit/15 ¼ oz. (peach, pear, etc.)
canned meat/12-24 oz. (Spam, Treet, Chicken, etc.)
jelly, jam, or preserves/18-32 oz. jar

Monetary contributions are always welcome!
Make check payable to Pulaski Street Church of Christ,
and please indicate "PANTRY" on the memo line.
Thank you!

Services and events have been and could continue to be altered, postponed, or cancelled due to recommendations regarding the current coronavirus situation.

THOSE WHO ARE IN FACILITIES

(This information was checked on Tuesday, March 31, 2020.)

PLEASE NOTE:

In order to help protect the health of the residents, nursing homes/senior living facilities cannot have visitors at this time.

Remember, many of our members do not have Internet; therefore, they do not use Facebook or receive e-mails.

This is a great time to mail cards or make phone calls.



BRIGHTON GARDENS, 103 Arcaro Place, Brentwood, TN 37027

Susie Davis, Suite 262 (Pulaski Street member)

KEESTONE, 322 Kennedy St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-766-4097

Bettye Holt, 103 (Pulaski Street member)

Mary Wilson, 106 (Pulaski Street member)

NHC LAWRENCEBURG, 374 Brink St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

931-762-6548

Jewell Henson, 205A (Pulaski Street member)

Cleo Keaton, 220B (Pulaski Street member)

Willadean King, 304A (mother of Diane Springer)

NHC SCOTT, 2380 Buffalo Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-762-6548

Macie Rose, 123 (grandmother of Megan Shadrack)

THE SUMMIT, 186 Prosser Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464
931-762-3524

Louise Bates, C-11 (Pulaski Street member)

Knox Holder, B-9 (Pulaski Street member)

Leonard Kirk, C-5 (Pulaski Street member)

Jesse Springer, A-7 (Pulaski Street member, father of Olen Springer)

IN OWN HOMES

Gennie Adams, 931-852-4400, 153 Rabbit Trail Rd., Leoma, TN 38468

Kym Bilbrey Brown, 105 Graves Drive, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

Virginia Cole, 931-565-3331, 1557 Shores Rd., Goodspring, TN 38460

Robbie Guthrie, 1804 Jean Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

Kathleen Tice, 931-762-5435, 708 4th St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

If you know of someone who should be included in these lists, please call or e-mail the church office and let us know.

Thank you.

A VERY SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY!

Next week, on Wednesday, April 8, **J. W. and RUBY WELCH** will celebrate their **70th Wedding Anniversary!** Cards may be sent to them at *411 Morris Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

THANK YOU

Pulaski Street,

Thank you for working so hard to make things as "normal" as they can be right now. We love y'all!

In Christian love, **The Romsdals**

INFO and REMINDERS

1. At least through April 12, we will not assemble at our building for services or activities. For the next two Sundays, April 5 and April 12, at 10:30 a.m., the elders, Jacob, and Jeremy will be leading an abbreviated **worship service**, which will be **live streamed** from our auditorium using **Facebook**. The Sunday morning services will be **aired at 6 p.m.** on Sunday evenings over **the radio** at least through the duration of this pandemic. To listen to the broadcast, tune your radio to 106.1 FM (Lawrenceburg), 93.1 FM (Loretto), or 590 AM (Lawrence County). You will also be able to access the broadcast through the X Radio App on both Apple and Android. Our main target group for the radio airing are those in our church family and sister congregations who do not have access to the internet, Facebook, etc.

On Wednesday evenings, Jacob will be live streaming a devotional message from his Facebook page at 7 p.m.

Please share this information with anyone you might know who could benefit from it. We're doing all we can to stay connected to our church family from the youngest to the oldest.

2. We have **personal communion kits** (PCKs) on hand at the church office. Drop by anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays to pick up your portion of PCKs.

3. Your **weekly contribution** can be mailed to the church office at 247 Pulaski Street, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464, or it can be delivered to the church office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays.

4. Pulaski Street's **Ladies Day** has been **rescheduled** for next year, **April 17, 2021.**

5. The **Dorcas Sewing Group** will not meet during the month of **April.**

6. The **Secret Sisters** program is **on hold** for now. Don't worry about getting out to purchase or deliver any gifts right now. Once we are all assembling at church again, we will resume the program, and we can continue past May if need be.

7. We are helping provide **food for Ingram Sowell students** while school is out. At this time, donating money is the best way to help with this project. You can drop that by the church office between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. weekdays.

8. **Graduates**, remember to e-mail your photos and info to us soon.

9. Now is a great time to check on your fellow church members, family, and neighbors, especially the elderly, and see how you can help.

YOUTH NEWS

There is currently a popular "game" of sorts going around on Facebook where you list 10 things that you dislike that everyone else seems to like. My wife even got in on the action, which is a little out of character for her. There are so many things about this game that are neat. It gives you an opportunity to learn things about others that you may not have known. It can be interesting to see the differences and similarities between yourself and others.

It reminded me of an excellent series of lessons that Jacob did at Pulaski Street in the past: "Uncommon Common Convictions." He went through several specific things that we hold as truths about salvation, worship, etc., that are common among us, but not so common among the majority of professing believers. I want to point out two subjects that Jacob has also discussed in other lessons.

First, what the Bible teaches regarding salvation, which we promote, is not practiced by the majority of people that claim to be followers of Christ. We often in the Churches of Christ talk about the "steps of salvation." While I am not the biggest fan of that terminology, it is clear after a thorough study of the New Testament that there are multiple conditions that must be met in order to obtain salvation.

Many teach the "ABCs of Salvation," wherein people are called only to accept, believe, and confess Christ in order to be saved. Additionally, many teach that once you have been saved, you can't forfeit that salvation. That, however, leaves out some things that God's Word expects. According to Scripture, we must meet the following conditions:

- Hear the Gospel of Christ (Romans 10:13-17)
- Believe the Gospel of Christ (John 8:24; Hebrews 11:6)
- Repent of our past sins (Acts 2:38; 17:30)
- Confess the name of Christ (Romans 10:9-10; Acts 8:37)
- Be baptized into Christ (Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Peter 3:21)
- Continue to live like and become more like Christ (Colossians 1:21-29)

Second, many today want to have a relationship with Jesus Christ without having anything to do with the church. Defying all logic, some churches will even promote this thought! However, the Bible is clear about the fact that the church is Christ's body. Christ is the one and only head, and the church makes up the body. Trying to have Christ without the church that He shed His blood for is fundamentally impossible. Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, and many other passages prove that Christ and the church **MUST** be together. You can't have one without the other. This is so simple to understand from a physiological standpoint. If someone is beheaded, they die. There is no way around it. In the same way, if we only want Christ (the head) without the church (the body), we will not have life!

With our current situation because of COVID-19, I believe that we can agree about how much the body means to all of us! Just as Christ gives life to the church, the church brings life to itself. It hurts to be apart physically at this time, and we look forward to things being back to normal.

You may be learning new things about people through this current fad on Facebook, but don't forget the things that we know from Scripture that may be unpopular, but are still necessary.

Until next time,
Jeremy Gargis

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

As of Tuesday, March 31:

KYM BILBREY BROWN is confined to her home most of the time, and she continues to battle ongoing health problems. Kim would appreciate cheerful and encouraging cards. *105 Graves Drive, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

NELL DIXON had been scheduled to have knee replacement surgery next week, on Wednesday, April 8, in Columbia. The surgery has been postponed due to the COVID-19 situation. Nell has been in a great deal of pain since injuring her knee in late 2019. *1505 Massey Ave., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

DONNA HELTON was in STRHS, Rm. 172, as of Tuesday, March 31, for physical therapy/rehab as she continues to recover from a recent upper respiratory infection and injuries from a fall. She is gradually improving with therapy, and she expects to be hospitalized for at least several more days. *219 Waterloo St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

CHAD BROWN, father of **Josie Brown** and **Mary Beth Brown**, had surgery on Monday, March 30, for blockages in both legs. The surgery went well, and Chad was able to return home that afternoon. *216 Admiral Circle, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

BOBBY and MARY ANN CURTIS, uncle and aunt of **Eric Nutt**, are both battling health problems at their home. **Bobby** has advanced COPD and is oxygen dependent, and **Mary Ann** has advanced congestive heart failure. Their two daughters are helping care for them. *1007 Whitehall Rd., Murfreesboro, TN 37130.*

NORA GIST, grandmother of **Katelyn Romsdal**, is improving after being hospitalized with a brain bleed. She is adjusting to medications, doing physical therapy at home to improve her arm movement, and making progress. *14 J.H. Bates Rd., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464.*

KYLEE HOBBS, niece of **Vangie Gieske**, recently injured her back and is still having discomfort. *532 N. Main Street, Loretto, TN 38469.*

Please continue to remember: **Mary Louisa Belew, Willodean Campbell, Lorene Chandler, Ruth Goff, Donna Marston, Michael Mashburn, Thelma McCloud, Ruby Welch, Shannon Cotton, Phillip Gattis, Dustin Haltom, Martha Hampton, Kevin Huckaby, Linda Jenkins, Clifford Doyle Johnson, Linda Kelley, Keith Mattox, Jackie McCord, Emma Moore, Macie Rose, Jay Thomas**, and all those recently mentioned.

But those who wait on the LORD
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31



For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7