



Volume 40

May 19, 2020

No. 20

Do You Trust Me?

I've been trimming shrubs. I must say, I think I'm becoming quite proficient at it. (For Lindsay and Terry and others like them, that means "quite good" at it).

As I was trimming recently, I noticed that I had established a pretty good rhythm and could trim the shrub with neat smooth strokes. I was getting pretty good at keeping an even depth and consistent shape.

It occurred to me that trimming a shrub may not be a whole lot different from cutting a head of hair. Using a different tool of course.

So, do I have any takers? Anyone willing to let me cut your hair? Do you trust me?

Well, I wouldn't trust me. At least not with regard to cutting hair.

Hopefully there are some things you can trust me on, but cutting hair is not likely to be one of them.

That raises an important question. Who do you trust with regards to your salvation?

If you trust anyone other than Jesus, you need to rethink your situation. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through him. We need to trust Jesus and him alone. We need to evaluate everything we think about our salvation and everything we have ever heard about it with the very words of Jesus.

Our trust is to be in him, not in others and not in ourselves.

-Dewayne

Upcoming Events:

All events have been cancelled until further notice.

Kidmin Zoom Meetings

Our children's ministry will continue having Zoom meetings this week on Thursday and Friday. We will continue using this time for our kids to see one another and listen to a short Bible story with Mr. Eric.

Our schedule will remain the same:

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. 4 & 5 year olds
Thursday: 11:00 a.m. 1st & 2nd Grade
Friday: 10:00 a.m. 3rd & 4th Grade
Friday: 11:00 a.m. 5th & 6th Grade

If you need the code for the zoom meetings please email eric@riverchasechurch.org

I look forward to connecting with all of you this week on Zoom!

Children's Classroom Renovations

Over the past several weeks we have continued to work on renovating our upstairs children's classrooms. We are excited for our kids to be able to see their new rooms.

Each room is being themed around our Sunday morning curriculum with updated artwork, paint, and furniture. The classrooms have also shifted from their normal spots, so in the future when Bible classes resume we will have signs posted to help our children find their new classes.

We know that during this pandemic we are not able to meet together for Bible class, however, we cannot wait to for you to see the classrooms when we finally meet again.

We are busy making our classrooms and Adventure Club room a new, exciting, welcoming space for our kids and look forward to the day when we can all meet together.

Recognition

Scott Pruitt

Today is a big day at Whitney's school. All the teachers are putting on a drive-thru parade for all the children. They will certainly adhere to the CDC guidelines, but the issue that the teachers were having was that the "children would not be able to recognize their teachers while wearing masks." Teachers are the best around at adjusting and adapting in a moment's notice. Their solution was to make "fatheads" of their own faces without masks so the children would be able to recognize them from a distance. Brilliant, right?

I can not wait to see a video of this parade, because those fatheads are so big that you would be able to see them from space.

Throughout life, we all tend to wear masks from time to time. The freedom that comes from unleashing the disguises (masks) provides the true you.

¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit.

¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

(Matthew 7:16-20 NIV)

When others see or think about you, what do they see? What do they recognize? What fruit are you producing? Reflecting on Matthew 7, I have been challenged by being a transparent Christian. What is the true you?

Masks can certainly be used to prevent sickness and disease, but when we talk about masking our heart and mind, there is no good that comes from that, and we prolong the inevitable. Let's all learn a valuable lesson from the Master...

⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸ Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. (1 Peter 5:7-10 NIV)

Don't Criticize

Romans 14: 11 It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God." 12 So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. 13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister. (NIV)

For a few weeks I have seen on social media some people criticizing the good that some churches and individuals are doing concerning the safety of their families. It reminded me of a story when I worked in fast food. The theme for that week was safety first, I learned so much about how to prepare food properly and how important it was that everyone who handled food knew what to do to keep our customers safe. A couple of our colleagues didn't care to follow all the guidelines. This was my first time handling a situation like this. What could I have done? Tell them these are the rules and we are supposed to follow them? It didn't work. I told them that customers can get sick and we could close the store, that didn't work. After talking to them, they let me know with many words, that they didn't care about the job, they came to work because their parents are kicking them out if they don't. I prayed for them and told them that I didn't want that for them, but I do need their help cause my family depends on me working. That seemed to work. They started following the guidelines! We don't know what people are going through or why they think a certain way until we talk to them. When you feel the need to criticize, pray for them, talk to them and ask how you can help them instead.

David

Reassembly Announcement

As we phase in reopening, the 55+ group is welcome to attend the 10:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, May 24, if they are comfortable in doing so. We will observe CDC recommended social distancing and the use of a face covering. Please watch our video on the website page www.riverchasechurch.org for more detailed information.

Dear Riverchase Family,

We have been totally overwhelmed by the love and support from our Christian family since the loss of Greg's dad. We want you all to know how much we appreciate all the cards, texts, phone calls and the beautiful plant. We love you all very much and feel so blessed to be part of the Riverchase family.

*In Christian Love,
Greg & Jean Coker
and Family*

Drive-By Bridal Tea

Join us for a drive-by bridal tea at Riverchase Church of Christ on Sunday, June 14 from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. and grab a sweet treat to go! We will be honoring Morgan Jones, Bride-Elect of Matthew Pouncey. Morgan is the daughter of Bruce and Kira Jones. She is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond and Wayfair.

Cards of Encouragement

We have two young men who are serving our country and would love cards of encouragement. Below are the addresses for Carson Lester and Zach Temple.

PFC E3 Lester, Carson
B Co. 3rd Plt. 2-50 IN BN, 193rd IN BDE
5422 Jackson Blvd.
Fort Jackson, SC 29207

Zachary Temple
386 ELRS/LGRV
Unit #61408
APO, AE 09855-1408

Riverchase Church of Christ Live Streaming

During this period in which we are unable to meet in the building, worship services and devotionals will be broadcast at the following dates and times:

Sundays: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m.

The broadcasts will be available on [Riverchase's webpage](#), [Facebook page](#), [YouTube](#) and [Vimeo](#). Recordings of all services will continue to be available under the sermons section on our website. www.riverchasechurch.org.

For the Record

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Bible Study	---
Early Worship	---
Late Worship	---
Total Sunday Morning	---
Sunday Night	---
Contribution	\$33,358.77
YTD Average	\$35,409.83
Budget	\$37,500.00

A Message From One Of Our Elders Ron Jackson

I WANT PATIENCE.... NOW!

To encourage the Christians in Rome, the apostle Paul wrote the following: "Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope." (Romans 5:3).

Although Paul did not have Covid 19 in mind when he wrote to the church at Rome, the principles are applicable to us in our current tribulation with this virus that has affected all our lives.

The character that God wants us to develop is both sharpened and demonstrated when we face adversities, great or small. The traits of this character are described as fruit of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Galatians 5:22-23).

Recently, I was in line (socially distanced) behind a man who was making a rather large purchase at a home supply store. His credit card was declined. The customer became increasingly insistent and agitated, but the poor clerk patiently told him over and over that she could not force the system to accept the card. The situation got out of hand, and I thought the police were going to have to be called. Fortunately, someone with the customer was able to produce a card that was accepted for the purchase. Note to self -and I had plenty of time to think about this-be patient! On another note, I have been disappointed with the tone and language that has been used in some of the social media in recent days. With the current distress caused by the coronavirus and no doubt influenced by the upcoming elections, tensions run high and opinions are expressed in strong, and at times, unkind and harsh language.

Today, as in every day, let us be praying for God to use these difficulties to develop in us the fruit of the Spirit which include patience and kindness. The rest of the world, as well as our brothers and sisters in Christ, will take notice and appreciate.

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1868 Montgomery Hwy.
Birmingham, AL 35244
www.riverchasechurch.org

This week at Riverchase:

All Events Have Been Cancelled Until Further Notice

Please continue to remember in prayer:

Patricia Anderson (former member), **Tommie Cleghorn** (Jay's mother), **Joan Harris** (Betz's friend), **Richard Howe** (Steve's dad), **Martha Manwarring** (former member), **Jay Odom** (Kevin Arvin's brother-in-law), **Claudia Sibert** (John's mother), **Barbara Stetler** (Howe/Sims mother), **Kristy Tatum** (Rardin's neighbor).

Please pray for our active duty deployed military:

Zach Temple – Mechanic in Kuwait

Riverchase Family:

John Bearden (#2) will have a heart ablation Wednesday, May 20, UAB Heart and Vascular Center.
Edy Chaney (#4) health issues.
Amanda Korneghy (#3) recovering from COVID 19.
Sean Marks (#1) recovering from COVID 19.
Judy Masoner (#4) at Brookwood hospital with cervical cancer. Chemo.
Denise Newton (#7) will have throat surgery on Wednesday, May 20.
Rick Sirmon (#4) recovering from hip replacement surgery.
Bobby Thomas (#5) recovering at home from knee replacement surgery.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS:

FTG #1: Rejetta Balentine, Lynda Cardwell, Angie Dickinson, Keith Dunn, Ollie Scott, Michelle Whitaker
FTG #2: Glenda Arnold, John Bearden, Victor & Glinda Boone, Vonda Cook, Nina Pitchford, Lance Rushing, Bob Smith
FTG #3: David Bath, Ruth Bath, Becky Carter, Billy Gaines, Angie Guffey, Martha Johnston, Nona Miller
FTG #4: Jeff Carroll, Elaine Evans, Gary Evans, Bill Hester, Alan Jackson, Ruby Lakeman, Everleigh Self, Cindy Snider
FTG #5: Beverly Strange, Ron Waddell
FTG #6: Zane Armstrong, Erick Boggs, Michelle Dichiara, Don & Shirley Genry, Don Greer, Addie Jackson, Grover Jackson, Sarah Wolford
FTG #7: Don & Jan Haefner, Peggy Hendley, Lori Lambert, Candy Parker, Tim Parker, Jerry Sharp

ADD TO YOUR PRAYER LIST OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

Gladys Akers (David Akers mother) health issues.
Noreen Anderson (Jina O'Clair's mother) health issues.
Alice Ball (Michael Ball's mother) acute myeloid leukemia, chemo.
Joe Belmont (Johnny's father) lung cancer.
Toby Blackwood (friend of Ollie and Mary Scott) cancer.
Joy Borland (Twila Bedgood's sister) cancer.
Jessica Brown (Glenda's daughter in law) breast cancer.
Randy Chew (Missy Wright's dad) heart related issues.
Cathy Crittenden (Dee Davis' friend) brain tumor.
Jerry Earnest (Handley's friend) cancer.
Bob Edwards (Ron Steen's cousin) MDS.
G. Estes (friend of Pitchford's) chemo.
Jan Hall (Helen Haskew's sister - in - law) health issues.
Eli Hairston (Teen in Chelsea) brain trauma from a golf cart accident.
Jane Harrison (Peggy Hendley's sister in law) heart issues.
Bob Hull (Howe's brother-in-law) cancer.
Valari Lagrone (Cindy Thompson's cousin) 3rd degree burns on both hands.
Becky Morris (Rodney Morris' sister in law) cancer.
Myra Myrick (Pam Wampol's aunt) ovarian cancer.
Lauren Orth (David Orth's sister) health issues.
Cecil Parker (Rhonda Ball's grandfather) liver disease.
McKenzie Ray (friend of Amber Henderson) leukemia.
Ronnie Rogers (CJ Rogers father - college student) brain cancer.
Pattie Ryan (Sarah Pate's mother) melanoma.
Margaret Seagrest (long time visitor) health issues.
Mary Ella Sirmon (The Sirmon's granddaughter) seizures.
Lisa Wallace (Bath's niece) breast cancer.
Carol Watson (Fred Langdon's sister) lymphoma.
Raymond White (Cindy Thompson's cousin) health problems.
Ann Winsett (Brett Moran's grandmother) heart issues.
Joseph Wright (Stephen Wright's father) health issues.