

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” - Psalm 119:105

October 30, 2005

Which Assembly?

Author unknown

The psalmist of old wrote, *“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go unto the house of Jehovah’”* (**Psalm 122:1**). In **Psalm 95:1-6** David invites, *“O come let us sing unto Jehovah; Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; O come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before Jehovah our maker.”*

Aside from assembling together to worship God, we are also encouraged to study His word and to meditate thereon. *“Oh how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day!”* (**Psalm 119:97**).

In **Acts 4** we find Christians assembled together for times of prayer and study. These saints lifted up their voices to God with one accord (**v.24**), and they prayed together (**v.31**). Peter came to the house of Mary in **Acts 12:12**, and he found many gathered together who were praying.

What I find interesting about these examples is that these Christians were not assembled together on the first day of the week to partake of the Lord’s Supper. Many times Christians today feel they are “required” to attend the worship service on Sunday morning because partaking of the Lord’s Supper is commanded (**Luke 22:14-23; Acts 20:7**). However, their interest does not go beyond the assembling to break bread. The Sunday morning Bible classes, the Sunday evening worship services, and the Wednesday night Bible classes are not important in their minds because they are not “required.”

Consider the attitude of the brethren at Berea when Luke wrote that they *“searched the scriptures daily”* (**Acts 17:11-12**). Not only was David glad to go to the house of the Lord, he invited others to go with him. Paul told Timothy, *“Till I come, give heed to reading, to exhortation, to teaching”* (**I Timothy 4:13**). Surely our “other” assemblies give us the opportunity to fulfill this instruction.

We share a common bond with all the people referred to above. That common bond should be our love for God and for His word. We need to follow their examples and take advantage of every opportunity to assemble together and study from God’s holy word. Time has been set aside (apart from the Sunday morning worship period) for us to assemble with fellow Christians to study, sing, and pray: all done to the glory of God!

Let’s get involved and take part in these times of study so we can *“present ourselves unto God, workmen that need not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth”* (**2 Timothy 2:15**).

Small Groups

Jerry Jenkins, edited

How are you doing in your everyday battles dealing with difficulties? Do you find yourself anxious, angry, or fearful at times? Do you have problems at work with stress? How well do you handle difficult people? Do you have joy and peace everyday or are you miserable most days?

We are going to deal with these issues in a way taught in Scripture. God's word says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" (**Proverbs 27:17**); "Each of you should look not only to your own interest, but also the interest of others" (**Phil 2:4**); "Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up..." (**1 Thes 5:11**).

We are going to divide into small (4 or 5 people) groups and meet once a month at the home of one of the group members. These meetings will be designed to encourage each group member. They will be more intimate than a normal classroom setting. Not that we can solve all problems, but we can talk about them with others we trust and respect. Maybe we can get some insights, and we will certainly pray with one another.

If you would be interested in being involved, then let John Hunt or myself know. Our goal is to have the groups organized to begin at the first of the year.



Preacher's point – Luke writes of the first Christians, "Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,..." (**Acts 2:46**). If the first Christians saw the need to get together on a regular basis in one another's homes, then there must be some value to it. Maybe it contributed to the gladness they experienced. Maybe we would all experience more gladness if we did likewise.

I am looking forward to the small groups and believe they will provide a great occasion for us to be together, to get to know one another better, and to help one another better face the trials of this life. Determine now to be a part of the groups. You'll be glad you did.

"I will hear what God the LORD will say." **Psalm 85:8**

Family News

Sara Brown, who has been attending with us for awhile, wants all of us to know she desires to work and worship with us as a member of Lakeview. Her contact information is: Phone: 851-0815

Address: 206 Churchill Crossing
Madison TN 37115

Virginia Bryant received another pain shot on Tuesday. As a result she is much better. However, the last time the good results wore off over time.

Mary Burnett has been doing fairly well lately.

Remember **Quinton Coppage** who continues to be about the same.

Remember **Metty Fain** who remains about the same.

Remember **Elmo Ferrell**.

Jessica Gore, Ame White's niece, has more surgery this Tuesday.

Estelle Hayes continues to have pain in her hip. It is not better.

There is a new report from **Gary Hunt** in the back of the auditorium. (So far the recovery from shoulder surgery is a little slow. See the report for more detail.)

Sandra Hunt continues to not do very well (she has a high level of pain).

John Jenkins, Robert's father, has lung cancer and continues treatment.

Remember **Richard Jones**, the Boyd's neighbor, who has cancer.

Remember **Debbie Kelley** who remains at Brandywood in Gallatin.

Fran Pickens remains at home.

Laura Reed remains about the same.

Remember **Dustin Simpson** who continues to serve in the Navy.

Doma Stewart, Ame White's aunt, is now home again from the hospital.

Georgia Taylor is not doing very well.

Fred Wenger, Teddy's father, remains in Brandywood. He is a little better and he is now allowed to have visitors. However, he continues to have many ongoing health problems.

Ame White continues to be about the same.

Robert Wray continues to have various health problems. These include some loss of hearing and sight. Also, he continues to have dizzy spells.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **David and Linda Bansermer**

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"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).