

Audubon Baptist, *a Church in the Park*

SO WE, THOUGH MANY, ARE ONE BODY OF CHRIST

1046 Hess Lane, Louisville, KY 40217, (502) 635-2100, www.achurchinthepark.org

August 2020

A DIVIDED HEART

And Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, then follow him.” And the people did not answer him a word. 1 Kings 18:21

In one of the great historical accounts of the O.T., Elijah confronts King Ahab for leading God’s people astray from Yahweh. The prophet challenges Ahab’s prophets of the idol Baal to a winner-take-all showdown, Elijah standing alone against 450 Baal prophets. Elijah suggests each side sacrifice a bull and await fire upon their respective altar. The Baal prophets take the bull that is given, and prepare it, and call upon the name of Baal from morning to noon, “O Baal, answer us!” Approaching noon, Elijah taunts, “Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened.”

The confrontation is, of course, not fair. One side represents what is false; Elijah stands with the true and living God. The people watch. Elijah calls upon God, “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” On cue, the fire falls from Heaven and consumes the offering. The people fall on their faces and turn back, and choose the LORD.

I have occasionally imagined this scene since first hearing of it as a child. The confrontation demonstrates the power of God, so that the people are reprov'd for their vacillation and idolatry, and challenged to choose for the LORD. They must choose fully for the LORD. Elijah insightfully asks, “How long will you go limping between the two different opinions?” Such a question lands squarely in our laps as well. Can we expect to worship God in spirit and in truth while embracing different opinions? We cannot.

We live in what theologians declare the “Already, Not Yet” time of human history. A great battle rages, between that which is false and that which is true. A battle between that which seeks to deceive, stealing our hearts, and that which offers truth and an unabashed demand for worship and obedience from the created.

These are matters of paramount importance that have practical impact upon the way we live our days. Who shall we worship, and will we do so fully? The tempter still tempts, with one overarching goal – to have us take our eyes off our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, dividing our attention.

John Newton, the great Anglican preacher and abolitionist, once wrote “I find no Scriptural evidence that we serve the Lord at all, any farther than we find a habitual desire and aim to serve Him wholly. He is gracious to our imperfections and weakness; yet he requires all the heart, and will not be served by halves, nor accept what is performed by a divided heart.”

In August, Pastor Dan will preach through the culmination text of Ephesians, “The Armor of God”. The word armor rightly brings forth images in our minds of battle. One doesn’t accidentally wear armor; it is worn on purpose, anticipating action, trusting it will serve the wearer well. It protects, aiming to deflect or absorb impacts thrown from one’s enemy with the intention of hurt or fatality.

Beloved, we do not walk in peacetime. The enemy is crafty and intends to deceive us into a divided worship; Ephesians 6:10-20 shall steady us and prepare us for his maneuvers and battletime conditions.

Let us rally under the preaching of God’s Word this month, keeping alert with all perseverance, so that we may be able to stand against the schemes of our enemy.

Following Him,



A TRIBUTE TO MR. RAY FLAMM AT 100!!

With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.

Psalm 91:16

Ray turned 100 on July 27th. We give thanks for Ray and his many contributions to God's people at Audubon. And while I am certain Ray would not deem such an accomplishment per se, I am sure that he would attest to the Psalmist words – a satisfied life found in Him and His salvation.

Thank you, church family! At last count, Ray received 121 Birthday cards and well wishes as he became a centenarian. And they are still arriving. He is enjoying reading, and rereading, them and delighting in your love.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

06	Jeff Akin
08	Joey Dew
10	Marvin Whitlock
10	Katie Hernandez
12	Marsha Mosley
16	Brittney Tolliver
17	Rick Goodlett
20	Bruce Dyer

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

01	Courtney & Vicki Keeling
----	--------------------------

FAREWELLS

We desire to be a church that welcomes into our fellowship that who God sends to us. We seek to love them, to encourage and exhort them, to equip them for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. One of the realities of such vision is that some will be called away, for the blessing of His universal church. While such farewells are difficult (Acts 20), we endeavor to also release those called well, and under the peace of God's Church in the Park.

In July, we farewelled two young men from our congregation that will be greatly missed. We were changed by their presence; they were build up by ours.

Mr. Benaiah Neetz

C/O Hope Community Church
4905 Tennessee Ave
Nashville, TN 37209

Mr. Nate Niemi

C/O Country Bible Church
N5636 U.S. Highway 41
Wallace, MI 49893

CHURCH PRAYER CALLS

Men – 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 7:30AM

Women – 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 8:30AM

WITH THANKSGIVINGS

My sweet Audubon Baptist Family,

There are not enough words to adequately express my love for you and to thank you for showering my family and me with your love and support throughout our journey with my mom's diagnosis with Alzheimer's and through her passing from this earth to the arms of Jesus. The love of God shone brightly through you. Thank you for the cards, the calls, the food, the gifts, and the incredible visits. My heart is so full. I love you all.

Susan Snyder and the Golden family