

# *The Ripley Reminder*



## **RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**1300 HALL DRIVE-RIPLEY, MS 38663**

**PHONE:662-837-9011**

**WEBSITE: [www.rmschurchofchrist.com](http://www.rmschurchofchrist.com)**

### **Service Times**

**Sunday Bible Study..... 9:30 AM**

**Sunday Morning ..... 10:20 AM**

**Sunday Evening..... 5:00 PM**

**Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM**

### **MINISTERS**

**Dr. Donnie DeBord**

**Cole Chapman**

**Tucker Shappley**

### **ELDERS**

**David Cook**

**Michael Harrison**

### **DEACONS**

**Ronald Chapman**

**Rob Elliott**

**Shane Green**

**David Hudson**

**Sonny Meeks**

**Brad Pounders**

**Nathan Robertson**

**Kenny Schmitz**

**Justin Thompson**

**Benny Wallis**

**Bruce Wallis**

### **BULLETIN**

**Announcements ..... 662-837-9011**

**E-mail.....[rmschurchofchrist@gmail.com](mailto:rmschurchofchrist@gmail.com)**

**Reservations**

**[rcocreservations@gmail.com](mailto:rcocreservations@gmail.com)**

LET'S TAKE A MINUTE. . .

### **WHAT IS THE "EBENEZER?"**

"Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I've come;  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home."  
(Written by Robert Robinson, of Wales:1758)

In the beautiful, and familiar old hymn, "O, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," there appears in the second stanza a word which is unfamiliar to many Christians who sing the song worship. The second stanza appears above.

In Hebrew, the word Eb-en-e'-zer is defined as a "stone of help!" After Israel's victory over the powerful Philistine army, Samuel set up a stone (probably in shape of a pillar, not just a flat or round rock) between the cities of Mizpah and Shen, to commemorate Israel's victory – which was not just Israel's. It could not have been achieved the Lord's help, or intervention! (I Samuel 7:7-13) Thereafter, the stone was known as the "Ebenezer": the Stone of Help" from the Lord. "So the Philistines were subdued and they did not come any more into the territory of Israel." (7:13)

***"I will lift up my eyes unto the hills! From whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth."***

***Psalms 121:1***

My minute's up!

James A. Horton

LET'S TAKE A MINUTE. . .

### **WHAT INTERESTS A FROG?**

*“Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things; and revive me in your way.”  
Ps. 119:37*

I have a couple of frogs! No, they are not pets! They appear at night and hang out in my backyard. When, in the twilight, I walk from my house to my office out back, they perch themselves along the edge of my sidewalk and keep an eye on my actions.

I wondered why they do not move when I walk past them and, upon research I learned that these little amphibians are not distracted by movement; they do not consider a danger. So I walk right by them, with only a dim light nearby, without their moving away from me. I have never made a sudden move toward them and, therefore, I suppose they do not consider me a danger.

I think perhaps we need to be more like the frog! We often become so preoccupied with unimportant things of this world, when our attention and desires are drawn to insignificant concerns, and we become distracted from things that should really matter to us! In the verse above, the Psalmist asked God for help in setting his attention on what is good and lasting. In addition, the Wise Man said: “God’s word should not depart from our eyes, but must be kept in our heart always.” (Prov. 4:21) This will help us to better recognize the unimportant matters and clear the way for us to understand what the Lord wants us to do, and to become!

Have you been so distracted by sin that you have reached the point of not realizing what is most important? Then, take a lesson from the frog, and move your attention from worthless things that are truly dangerous to your soul! Center your attention on Christ and His will for your life!

My minute’s up!

James A. Horton

LET’S TAKE A MINUTE. . .

## **JESUS KNOWS MY NAME!**

*“I am the Good Shepherd, and know my sheep, and I am known of mine.”*

*John 10:14*

In this chapter, Jesus is describing His relationship with His followers by affirming that they know Him (the Good Shepherd) and that He knows each of those who make up His flock (His sheep). In verse 27 He says: “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”

Light heartedly, can you imagine a faithful Christian praying to God and He answers back, as if on a telephone call, “Who is this?”

Notice these passages: 2 Tim. 2:19 “The Lord knows those who are His.” Nahum 1:7 God “. . . knows those who trust in Him.” David acknowledged, “How precious are Your thoughts of me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with Thee.”

To further illustrate that God knows each of us intimately, our Lord said, “The very hairs of your head are numbered.” (Luke 12:7) Finally, the faithful are to “rejoice because your names are written in heaven.” (Luke 10:20)

God knows our needs even before we ask them of Him. “Your Father knows what things you have need of before you ask Him.” (Matt. 6:8) And, “Even before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.” (Isa. 65:24)

What a loving and thoughtful God, and His Beloved Son, we serve!

My minute’s up!

James A. Horton

### **Remember In Your Prayers**

- Nellie Wallace was taken to LeBonheur Sunday due to a headache and some vision issues. She was released and is scheduled to go to Semmes Murphy for an MRI this Friday, September 18th. Pray for Nellie, her family and her medical team.
- Brad Brooks, son of Annette Brooks request the prayers of the church.
- Bruce Wallis recently had cataract surgery and will have the second surgery soon. Pray that his recovery is speedy and complete.
- Caroline Jones, sister of Bruce Wallis, received news recently that her cancer has spread to her lungs. Pray that her doctors can prescribe an effective treatment for her condition.

### **Please keep these in your thoughts and prayers:**

Susan Ainsworth, Ann Akins, Ali Rae Barkley, Pattie Box, Annette Brooks, Brad Brooks, Tammy Wammack Bryars, Dianne Butler, Wade Carmichael, Daryl Carter, Cora Chills, Roger Cunningham, Paula Dowty, Alan Graddy, Chris Grisham, Harold Wayne Hankins, Ann Izard, Kenny James, James Johnston, James Allen Johnston, Caroline Jones, Palmer Jones, Johnnie Jumper, David Lipe, Billy Hugh McBryde, Eddie Meeks, Donald McTizi, Sharon Monson, Clint Odom, Steve Robinson, Jan Rooker, Brandie Rutgers, Carol Smith, Trey Smith, Lisa Stroupe, Anna Hearn Thompson, Peggy Tidwell, Nellie Wallace, Peggy Wallis, Austin Wentz, Margie Wilburn, Edward Willingham, Jimmy Willingham, Bryan Wilson

**Diversicare:** Terri Barkley C-9, Cindy Holly D-8

### **NEWS & NOTES**

- We are thankful and overjoyed to announce the adoption of Matther Hugh Tatum. He has been officially added to the family of Darrell, Brittany, and Emry Tatum. They want to thank everyone for all acts of kindness, support, and especially prayers.
- We will be participating in Pine Vale Children Home's Annual Food Drive. We will be collecting assorted broths, water flavor packets, and disinfectant wipes. The deadline is October 18.
- Chapman Church of Christ's Lectureship will be September 20-23. A flyer is posted in the foyer.
- All showers will be in the foyer while repairs are being made in the Annex.
- L2L's fall meeting will be September 20th after morning worship. Please feel free to begin picking up registration sheets in the foyer.
- There will be a meeting November 8th after morning worship for anyone interested in going to El Salvador on the annual trip in May.
- We will have an area wide youth night Sunday night, November 1. Sign up sheets are in the foyer..
- There are signup sheets for Lads to Leaders in the foyer for Puppets and Songs of Praise..
- Brittany and Emry Tatum Will be in charge of keeping the nursery.

### **Worship Service September 20, 2026**

|                                       |                                               |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Welcome.....                          | David Cook                                    |
| Song Leader AM .....                  | Dan Shappley                                  |
| Opening Prayer AM.....                | Paul Macaluso                                 |
| Read Scripture.....                   | Jax Shappley                                  |
| Lord's Supper AM .....                | Sonny Meeks                                   |
| Assisting at the Lord's Table AM..... | Andy Clemmer, Justin Bennett, Stephen Wallace |
| .....                                 | Rob Elliott, Pat Ginn, Mike Bennett           |
| Closing Prayer AM .....               | Robert Elliott                                |
| Song Leader PM.....                   | Josh James                                    |
| Opening Prayer PM.....                | Caleb James                                   |
| Lord's Supper PM.....                 | Ronald Chapman                                |
| Closing Prayer PM.....                | Darrell Tatum                                 |