

**December 28, 2014  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Jarvene Shackelford

**Song Leader**

Keith Newby

**Scripture Reading**

Jordan Staggs

**Opening Prayer**

Gene Yancey (A.M.) Jodie Criswell (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Chase Chapman (A.M.) Jack Harris (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Terry Chapman (Presiding),

Andy Reese, Logan Yancey, Britt Lindley

**Count and Usher**

Chance Criswell & Eric Melton

**Prepare Communion**

Angela & Kristen Bridges

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Larry Wood (12/31/14)

**OUR RECORD**

**December 21, 2014**

Sunday Bible Study: 129

Sunday Morning Worship: 145

Sunday Evening Worship: 130

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 102

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$6,594

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)

**What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

1. **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17).
2. **Believe** the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16).
3. **Repent** of Sins (Acts 3:19).
4. **Confess** Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37).
5. **Be Baptized** for Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38).
6. **Be Faithful** (Revelation 2:10).

CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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RIPLEY, MS 38663  
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# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by  
**Chapman Church of Christ**  
Ripley, Mississippi  
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[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

**ELDERS:** Barrett Chapman, Jodie Criswell,  
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade  
**DEACONS:** Terry Chapman, Bryan Davis,  
Rickey Loveless, Brad McAlister,  
Joel Moore, Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood  
**PREACHER:** Mark Lindley

## IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!

by Lawrence Barr

I always get excited this time of year! Though the warm weather lately has seemed a bit strange, there is still a festive air around us. Though I grew up in a home where Christ was often spoken of, we still did not observe a "religious holiday" on December 25. We did thank God for all the good food we had and we were cognizant that the idea of giving to others first came from God. He is the Great Giver.

Through the years I have observed the practices and teachings of others concerning Christmas.

Though the date and many of the trappings come from a pagan origin, I am sure that people do not intend any of the pagan ramifications as they remember the birth of Jesus on that day. Factually, we do not know the date (nor even the year) of Jesus' birth. The date, December 25, has a 1/365 chance of being the right date. So we would be wrong to teach that date as the actual birth date of our Lord.

But would we be wrong to remember His birth on that date? Well.... would we be wrong to remember his birth on any other date? Of course not! His birth is a major event recorded in scripture. His birth is important because to be the Divine Son of God and human at the same time would require that He be born in the way the Bible tells us He was. God never gave a command, though, about birthdays. There are many parts of the world today where the anniversary of one's birth is never remembered. Birthdays are a cultural matter.

So what do we do about people observing December 25 as a special day unto the Lord? In the words of Romans 14:5-6, "One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God." So, we rejoice that people observe a special day, or that they observe all days as the same, unto the Lord. We will talk to our neighbors on this special day and observe to them how thankful we are that Jesus was born (and died, was buried and raised from the dead)!

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## One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in still another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. Then for three years was an itinerant preacher.

He never wrote a book.

He never held an office.

He never had a family or owned a house.

He didn't go to college.

He never traveled 200 miles from the place where he was born.

He did none of these things one usually associates with greatness.

He had no credentials but himself.

He was only 33 when public opinion turned against him.

His friends ran away.

He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial.

He was nailed to a cross between two thieves.

When he was dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure of the human race, the leader of mankind's progress. All the armies that have ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on earth as much as that One Solitary Life.

Author unknown

## Lack of Desire by: A. C. Quinn

Paul expresses, in simple terms, the meaning of the term "desire" in his letter to the Romans: "Brethren, my hearts desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved" (Romans 10:1). The salvation of his Jewish countrymen was his most ardent wish. He really wanted to see them saved. He had a longing--an insatiable craving for that outcome, and his works throughout his life attest to that desire.

The Lord's church suffers immensely today for lack of desire in those who should be the stalwarts in the faith. For instance, it is not a matter of not having qualified men to serve the church as elders. It is a matter of men not having the desire, which is a qualification in itself (I Tim. 3:1). . Too many men just don't want to serve.

The same is applicable to teaching and preaching. Capable people just don't want to do it. They don't have the desire (I Pet. 2:2). Failure to give, attend services, and all the other things that Christians should do have the same underlying problem--a lack of desire. To the contrary, God's people are to be peculiar and zealous of good works (Titus 2:14). A lack of desire kills initiative for all future growth of the church and her mission (Mark 1:15-16).

## Life Is What You Put Into It by: Kevin Rayner

Life is what you put into it. It is what you dream and how hard you work to make those dreams come true. What you make of your life is no one's responsibility but yours.

In 1974 doctors discovered that Quincy Jones had two brain aneurysms.

"Please, God, not now," he cried. Quincy had played trumpet for years, and he still had too many dreams to let it all end now. One of America's top black jazz artists, he had worked with Lionel Hampton's band and eventually formed his own group. Quincy had worked on Broadway and still had a promising career ahead of him as a trumpeter when medical problems forced him to face the reality that he could not return to his beloved instrument. He would have to apply his musical talents elsewhere.

Quincy Jones is a perfectionist. He channeled his formidable musical ability into composing, directing, and producing, and soon began to attract the attention of some of the entertainment industry's most influential people. His attention to detail is legendary. He works and works to make the music just right, then works some more to see if he can make it perfect. Jones produced and conducted the "We are the World" recording, wrote the score for Roots and The Color Purple, and also produced Thriller with Michael Jackson, one of the most successful record albums of all time. He has been nominated for sixty-eight Grammy Awards and has won nineteen. Stephen Spielberg summed up Jones's intensity of life in a Sixty Minutes interview: "He takes a minute and finds two minutes of enrichment out of one minute of living."

"I recommend that you take care of the minutes, for the hours will take care of themselves." —Chesterfield  
You think about it!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### HOLIDAY SERVICES:

The Wednesday Night Bible Study for December 31st will be moved to Monday night - 29th.

### CHAPMAN FOURTH QUARTER BIRTHDAYS (October, November & December)

The Lads to Leaders would like to invite those who have a birthday in the Fourth Quarter of 2014 to stay after church services Sunday Night- **December 28th** for cake and ice cream for you and your family in the Fellowship Hall. Please make plans to attend.

## PROGRAMS OF WORK

### The Bible Broadcast

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM • WKZU radio 104.9 FM

### Southern Sentinel Article

Every other Wednesday

### Correspondence Course

Study the Bible in your home, at your convenience, by enrolling in a free Bible correspondence course.

To enroll: call (837-7012), write (250 CR 550, Ripley, MS 38663 ) or e-mail (chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net).

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Audrey Box, Jamison Staggs, Larry Newby, Mickey Chandler, Emily Mann

•**IN HOSPITAL:** Tony Morrison (Tupelo), Sam Warrington (Son of Ryan and Pam Warrington) in Children's Hospital in Birmingham -cystic fibrosis and is very sick right now. Westin Walker (Son of Tyler & Allie Walker) in Children's Hospital of Birmingham - new born, Bonnie Chapman (TCH)

•**HAVING SURGERY:** Sharon Pannell, Brandon King (29th of December), Christian Martin (tubes in ears)

### •EXTENDED ILLNESS:

Ronnie Massey (Heart Problems), Terry Jumper (myasthenia gravis), Glen Moore (Joel's Brother), Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Fagin and Johnnie Carpenter, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** *Deborah Gullick* (Mother of Stephanie McAlister, Bo & Brian Chapman), *Eva Crawford, Elaine Mauney, David Barkley* (Kelly Brewer's Uncle), Yater Shinall (Dawn Jackson's Father), *Bob Shelton, Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges*, Jennifer Pannell (Niece of Sharon Pannell), Grey Roberson, Merida Bane (*Barrett & Starrett Chapman's Sister*), Beth Kuykendall, William Thrasher, Donna Daniel (Clint Stroupe's Mother), Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Rhonda Shannon, Ann Bennett, John Tiesney, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno, Ruth Greer

•**SHUT-INS:** *Resthaven:* Oleta Phillips (*Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663*), *Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home:* Lorene Willis, Geraldine Benefield, Christine Chapman, Billie Floyd (*Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663*)

\*Please notify Karen Yancev(chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net) of any

