

March 8, 2026

**Announcements**  
Kevin Shackelford

**Song Leader**  
Keith Newby

**Scripture Reading**  
Parker McAlister

**Opening Prayer**  
Larry Wood (A.M.)  
Tripp Yancey (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**  
Andy Reese (A.M.)  
Gene Yancey (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**  
Danny Shackelford

**Count and Usher**  
Michiel Criswell & Dale Vandygriff

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**  
Brock Lindley (03/11/26)

**OUR RECORD**  
**March 1, 2026**

Sunday Bible Study: 88  
Sunday Morning Worship: 96  
Sunday Evening Worship: 79  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 80

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:  
office.chapmanchurch@gmail.com

[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

**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  
250 COUNTY ROAD 550  
RIPLEY, MS 38663

**THE**  
**CHAPMAN**  
**CHALLENGER**

Published Weekly by  
**Chapman Church of Christ**  
Ripley, Mississippi  
**(662) 502-2806**  
[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

**ELDERS:** Terry Chapman, Brad McAlister,  
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade

**DEACONS:** Bryan Davis, John Hopper, Rickey  
Loveless, Chris Moore, Kevin Shackelford,  
Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood

**PREACHER:** Mark Lindley

**Work of Baptism**  
**Brian Haines**

In the Bible, there have been many baptisms (meaning "immersion"). There is the Baptism of Moses mentioned in I Corinthians 10:2; there is the Baptism of John found in Matthew 3, Mark 1, Luke 3, and John 1. There is a Baptism of the Holy Spirit mentioned in Matthew 3:11 (and seen in Acts 2:1-4) and in the same place a mentioned a Baptism of Fire (the same as the previous, although possible a baptism of trial as mentioned Mark 10:38). Today there is only one baptism, the immersion in water for the believer commanded in Mark 16:16 and afterwards (Ephesians 4:5 - *one Lord, one faith, one baptism*).

The purpose of the one baptism are numerous; hence, when referred to as a fundamental principle in Hebrews 6:2, it is pluralized to emphasize its purpose. The purpose of the believers baptism is: to add to the church (Acts 2:47); to remove the sins of the flesh (Acts 2:38, 22:16); to contact the blood and death of Christ at the cross (Romans 6:3-5); to "put on Christ" and receive the adoption by Grace (Galatians 3:26-27); to be justified and sanctified (1 Corinthians 6:11); to be born again into the kingdom (John 3:5). Sometimes we sum it up with Peter's statement in I Peter 3:21: "baptism now saves you", indicating that baptism is the moment when, according to God's plan, we are saved.

It seems clear from Scripture how important baptism is for the believer. However, many still do not believe, saying that "baptism is a work, and works do not save" (by works they mean anything you could do for God). They then point to Paul's statement in Ephesians 2:8: "*For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast*".

Before we try to reconcile this passage and others, let us first point out that USUALLY when we are told we are not saved by works, it is a reference to the Law of Moses, and of that the reference of works is usually one particular work, circumcision. We know that this was a major issue of contention among brethren in the early church, and we can understand that Paul would repeatedly tell us that works of the Law of Moses are pointless.

That being said, we must acknowledge that works CANNOT purchase our salvation (Ephesians 1:14, Acts 20:28) or merit our salvation (Daniel 9:18). We cannot earn our eternal reward, as it is a gift of God. He has paid the price for it, it is free. This does NOT mean that it is unconditional. The Bible clearly and repeatedly tells us that our works are necessary to be saved. We need to understand that the Bible says that there are things we must do to be saved; even those who deny baptism's part in this accept that something must happen. What they do not know is that they in fact seek a works based salvaiotn, since we are told that faith (belief) is a work (John 6:29, Romans 10:17), confessing our faith is a work (Romans 10:9-10), and repentance is a work (Acts 26:20).

However, here is something that they utterly miss: baptism is NOT described as a work. How is Baptism NOT a work of men? Consider our language in how we express this: "I hear", "I believe", "I confess", "I repent", "I **am** baptized". I do not "baptize", I "am" baptized. In this case, who does the work? It is NOT the one being baptized, nor is it the one baptizing (although some think as much, according to the clergy system of belief). If neither of the people in the process are "**doing**" the work, who is?

The answer is found in Titus 3:5: *He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit.* Consider what this passage says. It says we are saved by God, so where are we saved (I Peter 3:21)? It says we are washed; where are we washed (Acts 22:16)? It says we are renewed by the Holy Spirit; where do we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38)? The answer to these questions has already been covered; these things happen in baptism. So then GOD saves us in baptism; we are being told that this work is not done on our part, but by God. Our point? GOD works in Baptism!

Conclusion: We can clearly see what happens at baptism. We also know that we are not saved because of meriting works, although we also see that works are necessary for salvation. Yet it has been revealed that baptism is NOT the work of men, but instead it is the work of God.

**SINGING WITH THE SPIRIT AND UNDERSTANDING**  
**James Pilgrim**

1 Corinthians 14:14 says, "I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also." It is not enough for us to show up at a worship or any other service, and sing. We are told what singing God has ordained, that is, sings in a way that harmonizes with what the Holy Spirit has taught. I will sing in a way that gives understanding to all accountable attendees, including myself. Lending support to this is John 4:24, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." Therefore, we need to understand the words of the songs we sing. When "in the midst of the church...I sing praise unto thee" (Hebrews 2:12), I need to know that I am singing proper (Biblical) praises. Colossians 3:16 admonishes, "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." The word of Christ must be studied often and much to dwell in us richly in all wisdom. Singing is a means of "teaching", and is as much in need of being truthful as is any preacher or teacher's teaching. (1 Peter 4:11). We are teaching people about God, and how to honor Him. Let us study to do so properly. Let us ("make melody") ("singing with grace") "in your hearts to the Lord." (Ephesians 5:18, 19; Colossians 3:16). Our singing is to be done because of our joy over the understanding of God's grace (Ephesians 2:8-10), extended to us through Jesus. (Titus 2:11, 12; 1 Timothy 3:16).

James 5:13, says, "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms." The book of Psalms were sung by those under the law of Moses. A reading of the psalms will bring many merry moments. So will a reading and understanding of the New Testament. This will be true, even under adverse times, such as those Paul and Silas experienced. (Acts 16:19-40). Read Acts 3-5, and do not miss Acts 5:41, "And they departed from the counsel, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name." Some are being beaten and killed for the name of Christ today. It is unlikely that any readers of this article will suffer anything but the loss of a friendship. However, we ought to rejoice in whatever the future may hold, and **SING AND TEACH WITH GREAT JOY!**

Final thoughts. Of the scriptures one may read in the New Testament, did you see the mention of any mechanical instruments in any of these? If so, where? Read Matthew 26:30 (Mark 14:26); Acts 16:25; Romans 15:9; 1 Corinthians 14:14; Ephesians 5:18, 19; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 2:12; James 5:13. If one speaks where the Bible speaks, and is silent where the Bible is silent, what will one do: Sing? Play? or Sing and Play? Beloved, there is a way that is right and cannot be wrong. Here, it is **SING!**

Make it as sure as you can. Since God said, "Sing," will singing be acceptable at the great judgment? (Matthew 25). Can one go to that same judgment with the same assurance who has used mechanical instruments of music, or attended where they did?

Some say, "They were used in the Old Testament. Psalm 150." True. However, Read Amos 6:1-5; Leviticus 10:1-3. Additionally, Colossians 2:14-16 informs us that the Old Testament was blotted out, took out of the way. We are no longer judged by any part of it. Cf. also. Hebrews 8:6-13; 2 Corinthians 3, esp. verse 13; the book of Galatians, esp. 5:4.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SPRING CLEAN DAY

**Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**At 9 AM**

*If rains will do 14<sup>th</sup>.*

### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

#### TIME BEGINS

**Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead before you go to bed Saturday night, March 7<sup>th</sup>.**

### L2LS LUNCH & PRACTICE

**Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Between services**

## GOSPEL MEETING

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>**

*Speaker: Eddy Gilpin, Pulaski, VA*

**10:00 a.m. Sunday Bible Study**

**10:45 a.m. Sunday Worship**

**Fellowship Meal To Follow**

*\*Egg Hunt After Meal\**

**1:30 p.m. Sunday Evening**

**7:00 p.m. Monday-Wednesday Evening**

**Evening Meals for Monday – Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.**

*Sign Up Sheet in foyer*

*START INVITING – Flyers in foyer*

### TEXT ALERTS

Text **chapmancoc** to **8779897012** to receive Chapman's Text Alerts.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Remember count your blessings, pray for our lost ones, the sick, the world and the broken-hearted.*

❖ **SICK SUNDAY:** Rickey Loveless, Richard Stephens, Pat Shackelford, Mickey Chandler, Montana Lindley

❖ **HOSPITAL:** Gearline Cissom, Rose Lewellen (Brenda Shackelford's Sister), Debra Moore

❖ **SURGERY:** Danny Shackelford

❖ **REHAB:** Marsha Criswell- send her a card: Union Health Care Center, 111 Bratton Road, New Albany, MS 38652

❖ **EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Jerry South, Kathy Ratliff (Stroke), Juan Stroupe, Caleb McAlister, Garrison Coats, Thad Berryman, John Walker Perry

❖ **CANCER:** Dewayne Morgan, Teresa Rhea, Kye Elliott (Sharon Pannell's Nephew), Rosie Marie Greer (Jane Morrison's Sister), Belinda Lucy (Jane Morrison's Niece), Marilyn Harrell, Vince Jordan, Jane Childs, Kelly Foster, Paula Curtis, Maverick Speck (3 yr. old), Cindy Moffitt, Kenny James, Chris Grisham, Benny Wallis, Billy Gross, Wade Carmichael, Tiny Willis, Billy McBryde (Rita Smith's Father), George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Loxlee Eaton, David South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Tish Clark, Kevin Clifton

❖ **SHUT-INS:** **Home:** Janie Chapman, Juanita Michael **Tippah County Health & Rehab:** Romia Palmer, Mike Stroupe

**Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube**