



Cumberland

connection

Today's Order of Worship

Welcome - Alan Blackwell

Call to Worship - Don Moss (congregation)

Opening Prayer - Aaron Leung

Song before Communion - Don Moss (congregation)

Communion - Josh Harris (presiding)

Scripture Reading - Scott Francis

Song before Sermon - Don Moss (congregation)

Message - "Laodicea" - Alan Blackwell

Song of Invitation - Don Moss (congregation)

Offering / Announcements - Stark Davis

Closing Song - Don Moss (congregation)

Closing Prayer - Rod McAninch

Scripture Reading - James 1:22-25

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Church Events

- Dec 9th - Alzheimer's Support Group, 6 PM - Fellowship Hall - Group meets the second Monday of each month. This is a community group where anyone is welcome.
- Dec 10th - Secret Sisters, 6:30 PM - Fellowship Hall - All ladies are invited. There will be an ornament swap, food, fun, and fellowship.
- Dec 14th - Men's Gathering - 6:00 PM - Home of David Stewart - Caravan from our building leaving at 5:30 PM.
- Dec 25th - No Mid-Week Service
- Jan 10th - 24 Hours of Prayer

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Friday 12/6

Loretta Morgan

Friday 12/13

Lisa Millstead

Saturday 12/14

Alan & Ninette Blackwell

Monday 12/16

Skye Fortenberry

Tuesday 12/17

Wally Johnson

Wednesday 12/18

Colleen (Ruby) Eldridge

Friday 12/20

Bill Bryan

Tuesday 12/24

Freddie Fields

Roger & Glenice McAninch

Thursday 12/26

Hank Snow

Tuesday 12/31

Darren & Regina Wesley

Prayer Requests

Members:

- Wally Asher - Health Issues
- Shelva Burton - Health Issues
- Wanda Carman - Fell last week
- Gracie Fortenberry - Health Issues
- Pauline Kahlert - Leukemia Treatments
- Charles Kahlert - Colon Cancer
- June Osborne - Health Issues

Family & Friends:

- Della Asher - Losing Sight (mother of Wally Asher)
- Donny Ayers - Health Issues
- Joe Baltimore - Health Issues (former member)
- Braxton Ballou - Kidney Issues from infection (grandson of Ben & Ruby Eldridge)
- Helen Colwell - Health Issues (cousin of Pauline Kahlert)
- Jesse Hammock - Health and Spiritual Healing (brother-in-law of Scott Francis)
- Ron Howes, Sr. - Physical & Spiritual Healing (brother of Darlene Myers)
- Geraldine Kidd - Dementia (Mother of Janie Meece)
- Caleb Kimbler - Type 1 Diabetes - (5-year-old great-nephew of Bill & Regina Antrim)

- Meredith Lauffer (50) - Battling MS (niece of Darlene Myers)
- Mike Mann - Prostate cancer (brother-in-law to Bill & Regina Antrim)
- Josh McKibben - Diagnosed with cancer (former preacher at Lakeside)
- Anthony Miller - Son diagnosed with colon cancer
- Lena Miniard - Health Issues (cousin of Pauline Kahlert)
- Ross Morrow - Brain Tumor
- Brittany Moss - Physical & Spiritual Healing
- Harbor Moss - Health Issues
- Victoria Peters - Breast Cancer (mother of Pete Peters)
- Junior Phelps - Cancer (friend of the Proudfoot family)
- Sharon Reynolds - Health Issues
- Rhonda Saylor - Cancer (mother of Justin Napier)
- Shannon Slone - Lymphoma, MS, Breast & Bone Cancer (friend of the McAninch Family)
- Kelsey Sullivan - (daughter of Margaret Sullivan)
- Sheila Thurman - Hospice care
- Caleb Wallace - Diagnosed with MS - (son of Darrel & Robin Wallace. Darrel was the former preacher here at Cumberland)
- Ronnie Wilson - Health Issues - (uncle of Donna Kislán)

Dear Laodicea:

The Faithful Church

Revelation 3:14-22

December 8, 2024



Well, here we are at our final LifeGroup for 2024. While this year has gone by really fast, hopefully you have been able to form some new or stronger relationships, and help each other grow spiritually.

As we wrapped up a year long study in how to “walk a walk worthy of the calling to which we have been called” (Eph. 4:1), we did so learning about the seventh and final church that Jesus writes a letter to, Laodicea.

1. Why do you think in His letters Jesus used so many historical and geographical references that were specific to each city?
2. Does Jesus starting all seven of His letters by pointing out His authority tell us anything about our tendency to lose focus upon His authority?

In His letter to Laodicea, Jesus tells the church they are “neither cold nor hot.” Then He says something that can catch us off guard, “Would that you were either cold or hot!” (Rev. 3:15).

3. Discuss why Jesus would say He would be happier with them being either cold or hot. How would we take for granted, but why would He say cold?

The comfort surrounding Laodicea seems to have played a major role in the status of this church when Jesus writes this letter.

4. What are some areas where comfort in the world around us could be affecting the status of our church?

In his lesson Alan pointed to this church in Laodicea leaving Jesus out of the equation as being their major issue.

5. What are some ways an active church could still be leaving Jesus out of the equation?

The remedy that Jesus lays out for Laodicea is not unusual in that it involves repentance. We have seen that in each letter where admonishment or condemnation was present.

We often think of repentance as an emotion, feeling, or an internal thing.

6. Discuss how what Jesus says in Revelation 3:18 might give us a different or better understanding of what repentance actually looks like.
7. In verse 19 Jesus calls His followers to be “zealous to repent.” Why do you think we are so reluctant to allow others to know we need to repent?

One of the most comforting and sad things that Alan pointed out in this lesson is the picture of Jesus standing at the door of His Church knocking to be let in (Rev. 3:20).

8. Discuss ways local churches can help to make sure Jesus is a part of their activities.

Jesus closed every letter to these seven churches by encouraging “those with ears to hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Today’s lesson was the 48th lesson of this year where Alan focused our attention on walking the walk.

9. Thinking back through these lessons what is something you have heard that the Spirit has said?

Alan has also announced that moving into 2025 our focus will be heavily on “hope and joy.”

10. What is something about the future of Cumberland Church of Christ that gives you great hope and joy?

Over the last two years our LifeGroups have really begun to make a difference in the lives of many. This has been especially true for those who have embraced opening up and living life together.

Moving into 2025 our LifeGroups may look a little different with different facilitators (leaders), or different locations and times available. We will have more to come on this in the coming weeks.

11. If you were LifeGroup King/Queen for a day and could automatically implement one thing into next years group that you are involved in, what would you choose to implement?

Have a great Christmas and we can’t wait to see what God accomplishes through our groups in 2025!

