

How Can I Make the Church Grow?

“So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.” – 1 Corinthians 3:7 Every Christian wants to see the Lord’s church grow—not only in numbers, but in faith, love, and unity. The Bible teaches that while God is the One who gives the increase, He works through His people to plant and water the seed of the gospel. If we each do our part, we can help the church flourish for His glory.

Commit to Faithful Worship “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together... but encouraging one another” – (Hebrews 10:24–25). Growth begins with a strong foundation. When we are present for worship and Bible study, we strengthen our own faith and encourage others. A consistent example builds a stronger congregation.


Share the Gospel with Others “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” – (Mark 16:15). Church growth starts with personal evangelism. Invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers to worship. Offer to study the Bible with them. Even a simple conversation or an act of kindness can open the door for the gospel.

Serve the Body with Love “As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” (1 Peter 4:10). Every member has a role in the church’s growth. Whether teaching, visiting, encouraging, or helping with physical needs, using your talents blesses the whole congregation. Love in action draws people closer to Christ.

Pray for the Church Daily “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.” (Colossians 4:2). Ask God to strengthen the leaders, protect the members, open doors for evangelism, and help the church remain faithful. Prayer unites us in purpose and reminds us that growth comes from God.

Live as a Light in the World “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” – Matthew 5:16 The way we live outside the church building influences how people see the Lord’s church. A life of honesty, kindness, and purity points others to Christ and makes them want to know more. Church growth is not a mystery—it’s the natural result of God’s people loving Him, loving one another, and reaching out to the lost. Let’s each do our part to build up the body, trusting God to bless the increase. “From whom the whole body, joined and held together... makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.” – Ephesians 4:16

Brushy church of Christ
774 Hwy 48 South
Centerville TN 37033



The Brushy Beacon

“Let God’s Word Be Our Guide in 2025”

August 10, 2025

Schedule of Services	The church of Christ at Brushy		
Sunday Bible Study 9:00	Elders	Deacons	
Sunday Morning Service 10:00	Ricky Atkinson	Paul Johnston	Terry Banks
Sunday Evening Service 6:00	James Atkinson	Kevin Johnston	Justin Atkinson
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00	Tony Duncan	Caleb Truett	
Preacher: Kevin Johnston			

The Church of the Bible

Many sincere people want to serve God but are uncertain where they should worship. With so many denominations and differing teachings, how can we be sure we have found the church we read about in the New Testament? God’s word gives us the answer.


The Church Belongs to Christ - Jesus promised, “I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18, ESV). The church is His, not man’s, and must belong to Him in name, teaching, and practice. The apostle Paul reminded the elders in Ephesus that the church was “purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28). If a church was started by someone other than Christ or teaches doctrines He did not authorize, it cannot be the church of the Bible.

The Pattern Is in the Word - Paul told Timothy, “Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me” (2 Timothy 1:13). The church of the Bible worships according to God’s revealed pattern, not human tradition. In the New Testament, Christians met on the first day of the week to partake of the Lord’s Supper (Acts 20:7) and gave as they had prospered (1 Corinthians 16:1–2). They sang praises to God (Colossians 3:16) without adding mechanical instruments, prayed together (Acts 2:42), and heard the preaching of the word (Acts 20:7).

Unity in Doctrine and Practice - Jesus prayed that His followers would “all be one” (John 17:21), and Paul urged, “that there be no divisions among you” (1 Corinthians 1:10). The church of the Bible does not divide over human creeds or man-made authority. It simply teaches what the Bible teaches and is content to call Bible things by Bible names.

The Gospel Is Central - In the first century, the church spread the gospel message, calling people to obey the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1–4) by believing in Him (Mark 16:16), repenting of sins (Acts 2:38), confessing Him as Lord (Romans 10:9–10), and being baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27). Any church teaching a different plan of salvation than what is revealed in Scripture is not the church of the Bible.

Finding the church of the Bible is not about looking for what pleases us but seeking what pleases God. Jesus warns, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up” (Matthew 15:13). If we measure every church by the word of God, we can be confident when we have found the one Christ built.



Family News & Notes

Welcome We are so glad you are here and welcome you to a time of Bible teaching and worship. We hope you will come and worship with us again!

Team 2 – Compassion Card Group You will need to sign cards today. Please go to the Ladies Classroom following the morning worship service. It will not take you long. Please see Caleb and Paige if you have questions. *Ella, Mabry, Nolan Ricky & Jo Kevin, Amy, Trey, Caden Devin & Gracie Ed & Teri Paul & Evelyn Braxton, Madison, Houstyn, Oaklynn, and Breelynn*

Wednesday Night Adult Summer Series Join us for our Wednesday Night Summer Series with Dale Jenkins on August 13. The following is his final lesson in this series:

Lesson 4: "Heaven's Warriors: Angels and the Invisible War"

Direction Statement: Behind the veil of this world is a very real battle— and angels are on the front lines. In this lesson, we'll explore how God's messengers protect, fight, and serve within the grand narrative of spiritual warfare described in the New Testament.

Golden Age Banquet Meeting We need EVERYONE under 60 to come and be a part of the planning meeting on Sunday, August 17. It will be in the Ladies Classroom following the morning worship service. After Team three has had a few minutes to sign their cards, we will meet to decide on a date and brainstorm ideas for this year's banquet. This is another great way to serve our community!

Planning Session We will plan for September – January on Sunday, August 24, at 5 P.M. We will meet in the auditorium. Please be thinking of ideas and activities that we can do to grow spiritually and bring others to Christ. If you can't attend give your ideas to Kevin or one of the elders.

Remember to... pray for our Evangelism Efforts, the people you would like to reach, and those who are receiving the compassion cards. Please continue to turn in names for compassion cards. We know that God will add the increase for these efforts.



"The gospel changes lives, but only if it's shared—
be the voice that brings someone to Christ."



God's Plan for Your Life

1. Hear the Gospel - Faith begins by hearing God's Word. – *Romans 10:17*
2. Believe in Jesus Christ - We must believe that Jesus is the Son of God & our Savior. – *John 3:16*
3. Repent of Sins - Turn away from sin and turn toward God. " – *Acts 17:30*
4. Confess Christ - Acknowledge your faith in Jesus before others. – *Romans 10:10*
5. Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Baptism is where sins are washed away and God adds us to the Lord's church. – *Acts 2:38 and Acts 22:16*
6. Live Faithfully - Remain steadfast and committed to Christ for life. – *Revelation 2:10*

Pray for Those Sick Among Us...

Louise Adams is at home with 4 to 6 weeks of recovery and physical therapy.

Paul Johnston is recovering at home and is about the same.

Annis Womack continues to deal with health issues and does not feel well.

James Bryant will have hip surgery on August 13.

Lois Gilbert is doing about the same while under hospice care.

Jett Owsley 5-year-old with a rare brain cancer, is in the hospital in Chicago with pneumonia.

Elaine Jones Sister of Louise Adams, treatments are working/will have surgery in Dec. to remove a knot.

Tori Bowers (Brice Taylor) is in Vanderbilt Hospital until their twins are born. They request our prayers.

Grady Gilbert brother of Ann & Shirley, is in NHC in Columbia and may come home this week.

Continuing Prayer Requests

Dealing with Cancer - Glen Herrington, Rodney Tune, Tina Kvapil, Christopher Hall

Special Requests - Chris Allen, Miranda Smith, Judy Goodman, Randy Dotson, Colleen Perkins

Alaina Rylie, Annis Womack, Blake Furr, Karen Bowen, Vera Woods, Brad McGee

Pray for Those in Nursing Homes

Community Living Center in Murfreesboro... Fred Bowman

Ongoing Prayer Reminders

- All in the military and civil workers overseas and their families right.
- All those Preaching and teaching the Good News all over the world.
- Our Government Leaders – Local, State, and National (1 Timothy 2:1-2).
- Our Elders and Deacons who oversee, care for, serve, and feed us spiritually. (Hebrews 13:7)

Upcoming Events*

*Wednesday, August 13 ~ Adult Wednesday Night Summer Series with Dale Jenkins

*August 17 ~ Golden Age Banquet Planning Meeting after A.M. Worship– All Under 60

*August 24 ~ Planning Session for the next 6 Months at 5 P.M.

*August 31 ~ Special 5th Sunday with Mark Blackwelder – Setup Emily & Paige

For the Record

Sunday Morning Bible Class

Sunday Morning Worship

Sunday Evening Worship

Wednesday Evening

Contribution \$2077

Consider how you can be kind this week! ~ Kindness Reflects God's Character



"But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us..." — (Titus 3:4-5). When we are kind, we imitate God Himself. Growing in kindness helps us become more like our Savior.