#### **INVESTING IN ETERNITY**

The Silk Road was one of the greatest trade routes in history. It linked Europe with India and Asia, allowing merchants to travel and trade safely across continents. But everything changed in 1453, when Constantinople fell and the Ottoman Turks rose to power. The route to Asia was suddenly closed to Christian traders, forcing European nations to find a new way to import and export goods.

With the land route blocked, explorers turned to the sea. Sailing, however, was long, dangerous, and uncertain. Among those who dreamed of a better way were two Italian men, Christopher Columbus and his brother Bartholomew. They believed they could reach Japan, China, and India by sailing west across the Atlantic. So, In 1482, Columbus went to King John II of Portugal, seeking ships and funding for his voyage. The king and his advisors listened but ultimately rejected his proposal. Contrary to popular belief, educated Europeans of Columbus' day did believe that the world was round. However, the king of Portugal and his advisors believed that Columbus had underestimated the distance and risk. Three years later, in 1485, the brothers tried again, this time appealing to King Henry VII of England. He also refused.

Then, in 1492, King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain saw something the others didn't. They believed in Columbus's vision and chose to support him. With their ships and funding, Columbus set sail, and on **October 12**, **1492**, he landed in the **Americas**, sparking the **Age of Discovery** and opening a new chapter in world history.

This is a story most of us know well, but there's a powerful spiritual lesson we often overlook. Out of all the rulers Columbus approached, only Ferdinand and Isabella had faith in his mission. How do we know that? By their actions. The kings of Portugal and England claimed to listen—but they didn't believe. If they had, they would have backed their faith with ships, money, and titles, just as Spain did.

This mirrors our own faith in Christ. In **James 2:14**, we're asked, "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?

Can that faith save him?" And verse 17 answers plainly: "So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." Salvation doesn't come from our good works or moral decisions—it comes by grace through faith. As **Ephesians 2:8** reminds us, "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

But genuine faith *produces* action. Our belief in what God has done through Jesus moves us to accept Him as our Savior, to be baptized into His death (**Romans 6:3–5**), and to live transformed lives. True faith doesn't sit still—it acts. Just as Ferdinand and Isabella's faith in Columbus led them to invest in his voyage, our faith in Christ should move us to serve, give, and obey.

And look at what their faith brought. The King and Queen of Spain didn't find what they expected, but their belief opened the door to a new world. From 1500 to 1650, Spain imported 181 tons of gold and 16,000 tons of silver—worth roughly \$11 billion today. Their faith in Columbus brought riches beyond imagination.

Likewise, faith in Christ leads to a treasure far greater than any found on earth—a new world in Heaven. Jesus compared it to a hidden treasure, saying in **Matthew 13:44**, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Our treasure in Heaven is worth more than anything this world can offer. The question is: How much faith do you have to work for it?

As 1 Timothy 6:17–19 teaches, "As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life." When we put our faith into action—trusting God and living out that trust—we are investing in eternity.

**Andrew Spivey** 

# COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Acts 8
Wednesday Read – Review Adam & Noah

Questions for last week's reading of; Acts 6 & 7

Questions:

- 1. Why did the Grecian Jews complain?
- 2. Name the seven men chosen to serve.
- 3. Why did Stephen have to appear before the Sanhedrin?
- 4. What happened to Stephen?
- 5. What did Stephen say about the people who hated him, and what did he say abut Jesus?

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Truth Seekers every Sunday @ 5pm

Oct 16 – Senior Group -5pm

Oct 19-22 Fall Series w/Steve Kirby Fellowship Meal after AM. service

Oct 25- Fall Fest/Trunk or Treat 5pm

Nov. 2- Time Changes/set clocks back one hour

# **FALL SERIES**

This Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> our Fall Series for 2025 will begin and continue through Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Steve Kirby** will be our guest speaker for the series. There will be a Fellowship Meal for everyone after the Sunday a.m. service.

# FALL FELLOWSHIP

Trick or Treaters make plans with mom and dad to come to the Hunt Club neighborhood pool at 5:45 pm., on Friday Oct 31<sup>st</sup>. Jonathan Senn and Garrett Rowlett will be there to go trick or treat with the kids and theirs parents. They will go a few blocks in the neighborhood and end up at the Senn's house, 116 Higginson Place, Gallatin. There will be chili and hot dogs and treats. If you would like, please bring chips, drinks, or desserts. You can bring item to church on Oct 29<sup>th</sup>. Everyone needs to park their cars at the businesses lot and walk to the Senn's house.

# ORDER OF SERVICES SUNDAY October 19, 2025 FALL SERIES 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery - High School upstairs)

Song Leader Opening Prayer Auditorium Lesson	Brent Smith	
10:00 AM SERVICE		
Welcome	Bob Brown	
Scripture Reading.		
Song Leader		
Opening Prayer		
Lord's Supper	Ken Veale	
ServersR. Buck, M. I	•	
J.D. Senn, J.		
Sermon		
Closing Prayer	Tony Butler	
5:00 PM SERVICE		
Welcome	Bob Brown	
Song Leader	Matt Ellis	
Opening Prayer	Jim Cherry	
Sermon	Steve Kirby	
Lord's Supper	Bob Sever	
Closing Prayer	Cory Nelsen	
Monday 7pm	Steve Kirby	
Tuesday 7pm		
WEDNESDAY		
October 22, 2025 @ 7:00pm.		
Welcome		
Song Leader		
Opening Prayer		
Lesson		
Closing Prayer		
Ushers for OctoberTim Cummins / Eric Stephenson		
Communion Care for OctoberBob /Tarina Brown		
Door Greeters -West DoorZach a	and Alyse Tooley	

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Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Sherry Perry

East Door.....Brent and Marila Smith

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# **SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

#### SICK LIST

Shirley Ralph is now home after suffering a heart attack. Larry Hammock, brother n law to Keith Spivey& uncle of Andrew Spivey will have more chemo. Wayne Hunt, cousin of Tim Cummins, had a bone marrow transplant. Roscoe Smith, father of Brent Smith, will be monitored for a few months and then they will decide what is next. Larry Bailey, son of Tina Bailey had some great news from last checkup. Tumor is not showing. He will go back in 3 months for a checkup.



#### PRAYER LIST

Cathy Lemley; Jack & Anita Cato; Wanda Seals; Lena Baggett; Stella Messer; Hugh Fulford; Maddie Andrews; Ottis & Maxine Cothron; Shauna Lockett; Jean Knowles; Mary Ann Reinhart; Sandi Jones; Pat Watson; Frances Catron; Jackie Williams; Pat Crump; Chuck Maxey; Joann Lockett, mother of Darrel Lockett; Max & Pat Lemley, parents of Michael Lemley; Heather Lemley daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley; Jean McCurdy mother of Olivia Nelsen; Ariel Clift, niece of Tarina Brown; Elaine Reynolds, friend of Christie Coleman; Alan Greene, nephew of Carl & Pam Newby; Ty Tyler son of Ann Tyler; Ida Lou Sherrill, mother of Alex Sherrill; Taylor Lackford, niece of Brenda Veale; Dustin Lackford, nephew of Brenda Veale; Larry Conley, friend of Wanda Proctor; Harold Cole, friend of Lena Baggett; Bobbie Carter, sister of Janice Johnson; Walter Wooten, brother of Wanda Sherrill; Aza Topik, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals.

#### SHUT-INS Jean Deaton

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

### **OUR RECORD THIS WEEK**

CONTRECOND THIS WEEK	
Bible Study	90
Morning Worship	166
Sunday Evening	84
Wednesday Evening	
Contribution	
Youth Group Account	\$5,414.00

#### **Elders**

Tony Butler	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry	615-479-2149
David Johnson	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill	615-289-9935
David Thompson	615-598-6621

#### **Deacons**

Carl Newby Jonathan Senn Brent Smith Eric Stephenson Adam Williamson



# Phone (615) 452-3431

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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister

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