

### New Prayer Concerns:

Tim Russell's brother, Bob, passed away suddenly last Tuesday. You may recall that he lost his mother recently. Tim works with Robby Dittmann's brother, Matt at the new congregation in Chapel Hill. Please pray for the Russell family.

### Others in our Prayers:

C.E. Comerford, Rusty Hatton, Bill West, Louise Williams, Karen Travis, Jesse Brown, Wayne Bonner, Dale Newberry

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Lester & Dora Gatlin, Royce & Nada Whittington, the Hall family, Missy Williams, Sherry West, Robby Dittmann, Pearson Martin, Frank Faircloth, Hilda Barnett

### Prayer List Updates:

If you have prayer list items that need to be added or deleted, please make sure to let one of the Elders know! Names will be removed from the prayer list after 3 weeks if there is no update.

### Upcoming Celebrations:

#### April

3<sup>rd</sup> - Buster Joiner's Birthday

12<sup>th</sup> - Chris Hill's Birthday

13<sup>th</sup> - Chris Hill Jr.'s Birthday

19<sup>th</sup> - Mary Joiner's Birthday

22<sup>nd</sup> - Charlie Hall's Birthday

23<sup>rd</sup> - Kimberly Day's Birthday

### Upcoming Events:

April 19 - Sunday Fellowship

April 19-22 - Gospel Meeting at Hentown Church of Christ - Blakely

### Contribution:

4/5 General Fund - \$871.50

Year to Date - \$13134.61

### Contacts:

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[bainbridgechurchofchrist.home.mchsi.com](http://bainbridgechurchofchrist.home.mchsi.com)

# Welcome to the Bainbridge Church of Christ

1001 Culbreth Street  
Bainbridge, Ga. 39819

**April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009**



### Elders

Lester Gatlin  
Royce Whittington

### Deacons

Mitchell Comerford  
Don Rabon  
Chad Waddell

### Minister

Tim Mahler

### Services:

**Sunday:** 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Worship  
6:00pm Worship/Youth Program  
**Wednesday:** 6:30pm Bible Study

## Practicing the Golden Rule

I read recently about one of the most touching moments in sports I've ever heard about. It took place at a women's softball game on April 26, 2008. Central Washington and Western Oregon faced off against each other, with the winner to receive a bid to the NCAA's Division II playoffs.

Sara Tucholsky, a Western Oregon player, came to the plate in the second inning with the score tied 0-0 and two runners on base. Sara had never hit a home run in her life. However, things were about to change. She connected on a pitch and hit the ball over the center field fence. Due to her excitement, she missed first base. So, she stopped and turned to go back to the base. But when she made the sudden stop and turn, she collapsed to the ground, having torn her ACL.

Her first base coach wanted to run out and help her, but if she touched Sara, she would have been counted out. As Sara lay on the ground, umpires conferred and determined that the best thing to do was to allow Western Oregon to substitute a pitch runner at first base, cancelling the home run.

The coach prepared to make the substitution, when she heard a voice: "Excuse me, would it be OK if we carried her around and she touched each bag?" You see, in softball, a teammate can't touch a player while running the bases, but there is no rule that says that opponents can't touch her. So Mallory Holtman and Liz Wallace, two players on the opposing team offered to carry Sara around the bases so that her homerun would not be counted as a single. These two players gently picked up Sara, and carried her around the bases allowing her to tap each base along the way. After reaching home plate, these girls handed Sara off to her own teammates.

When asked later why she did it, Mallory Holtman said, "Honestly, it's one of those things that I hope anyone would do for me..." In other words, she was practicing the "Golden Rule".

There's not much that can be added to a touching story like that. May it serve as an inspiration to find ways in your own life to look for people who could use a hand. When we are less concerned about winning than we are about helping others, we can truly begin to reflect Jesus Christ in our lives.

*"Therefore, whatever you want men to do for you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets."* **Matthew 7:12**

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## Keeping Your Final Appointment

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I once read this arresting 300 year old epitaph while sauntering through the cemetery at the Old Tennant Meeting House in Manalapan, New Jersey:

Behold and see as you pass by  
As you are now so once was I  
As I am now so you will be  
Prepare for death and follow me.

Reportedly a cemetery visitor once wrote these words in chalk on that very memorial stone:

To follow you I'm not content  
Until I know which way you went.

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## Raintree Village Children's Home Items

Today, please bring *paper plates*.

Next Sunday, please bring *hand soap*.

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The writer of Hebrews speaks even more candidly when he declares that it is "appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment" (9:27 NASB). That is an appointment you and I won't miss!

Do you keep all your appointments?

I'll never forget my chagrin as I suddenly remembered that I was supposed to be speaking to a hundred men at a local church barbeque at the very moment I was teeing up on the public golf course! To my knowledge this was the only appointment to speak I've failed to show up for in forty years.

There is one appointment none of us will miss—our appointment with death.

My cousin lived to 101 years, but he still kept his appointment with death. My young grade school friend did not avoid his appointment with death on the day he drowned in the Missouri river. For this appointment everyone will be "present and accounted for." Thankfully, we only do it once.

But what follows the appointment is the real problem—"After this comes judgment."

Atheist Fredrick Neitzche asserted: "When I die, I rot." True, the body awaits its final state while decaying in the ground, but that's not all there is to it. Judgment is next.

This judgment will result in hell for most people, sadly. They will go there not because they are not respectable citizens, but because they refuse to come to Christ on His terms.

Anglican Jeremy Taylor described the awful eternal aspect of hell like this:

A death without end;  
An end without end;  
For death shall ever live  
And their end shall never begin.

The appointment with death is for a moment in time, but the consequences of our rejection of Christ last forever.

Hell is eternal because those who reside there will never stop sinning. And God, who is sinned against, will never stop being just.

Do you keep all your appointments? You may be known for failing to do so. But your appointment with death followed by judgment will not be missed. And you don't know when that will be.

Be certain you are ready.