

The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!

Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.
Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.



**Melbourne
Church of Christ**
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell Alan Love
 291-3439 243-4608

Shelby Qualls David Brightwell
 291-7424 307-5714

Deacons

Joe Cooper 291-4653

Dalton Grigg 421-6240

Rusty Treat 373-1884

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
 217-1109
 Melbourne CoC
 Box 267
 Melbourne, AR

Family News

- Congratulations to Cody & Sage Cooper! They are new parents to Collins Marie Cooper, born last Tuesday, July 2nd. She weighs 7 lb. 4 oz. and is 18 inches long.
- Brad Teague had to go back to the hospital for another heart cath. No blockage was found and the doctors are still looking for the problem. Please keep Brad and Julie in your prayers.
- Phyllis Gilbreath will have another back surgery on July 10. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Dan Clark passed away last week. Please keep Susie and the Clark family in your prayers.
- Troy Gaston is on Hospice. Please pray for him and the Gaston family.
- Sermons and bulletins available at Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

What is Christian Fellowship and Why is it Important?

by complellingtruth.org

The early Christians clearly emphasized the importance of fellowship. Acts 2:42-47 notes, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers." In the early church, "day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people". But why is Christian fellowship important?

The New Testament word for "fellowship," koinonia, expresses the idea of being together for mutual benefit. Hebrews 10:24-25 shares this idea, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." Two reasons fellowship with other believers is important are because it helps express love to one another and it encourages good works.

A third important reason for Christian fellowship is its impact on unbelievers. Jesus told His disciples, "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35). The love Christians have for one another can influence others toward faith in Jesus Christ.

Still another importance is the ability to pray together. Early believers were committed to prayer, both individually and in groups. In James 5:14-16, elders were called together to pray for the sick as well as for those who had sinned. This required being together.

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OPENING PRAYER Dalton Grigg
CLOSING PRAYER Alan Love



JULY

SHELBY QUALLS **BRENT QUALLS**
SHAWN WORTHAM **ROGER HUMPHREY**

AUGUST

ANTHONY WESTON **DALTON GRIGG**
BRENT QUALLS **CHIPPER LAMB**

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Christian fellowship is also important for church decision-making. In both Acts 6 and Acts 15, the early church gathered to make important decisions about the future direction of the church. This required community, prayer, and close discussion.

Christian fellowship is required for baptism. A new Christian cannot baptize himself or herself. Christians gather together to celebrate a person's baptism and serve as witnesses of the person's commitment to a new life in Jesus Christ.

Christian fellowship is required for communion, or the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper doesn't quite work the same for an online church. This ancient practice requires time together with other believers to remember the blood and body of Christ.

Though many believers today do not recognize the importance of fellowship or local church involvement, Christian fellowship is essential to spiritual growth. Many aspects of our spiritual lives depend on being together with other believers to encourage, teach, serve, grow, and share life together.

Prayer List

Military: Derek & Allison Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Nursing Home: Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman, Ted Kidd

Teecia Brewster	Wilma Cooper	Peggy Hall	Dorothy Teague
Bill Roland	Joe Guiltner	Debbie Crow	Cornelia Summers
Christie Haney	Joanna Smith	Wayne Crosby	Brooke Partin
Toby Weatherford	Sanyia Austin	Charlotte Cooper	John Young
Regenia Gillihan	Regina Master	Shawna Teegarden	John Ward
Boyde Martin	Gage Barns	Ruby Patillo	Vance & Kaicey Little
Joe Anne Hendrix	Paul Womack		

July Birthdays

Sam Cooper 9 th	Tommy Washington 10 th	Ryan Lloyd 14 th
Davis Love 19 th	Dalton Grigg 19 th	Steve Davidson 21 st
Landon Kimble 21 st	Barbara Watson 22 nd	Regina Master 25 th
Katie Gilbert 27 th	Drew Love 27 th	Jack Treat 28 th
Mary Bone 31 st		

July Anniversaries

Chip & Regina Master 5th
 Jim & Lisa Cooper 10th
 Jerry & Dianna Owens 11th

Dates to Remember

Ladies Night Out 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.
 Ladies Bible Study 1st, 2nd, 3rd Monday @ 6 p.m.
 Men meet 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.
 *Family game night will resume at a later time.
 Potluck every 5th Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

Ephesians 2:11-16, "You were once separate from Christ, excluded from Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ, have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Jesus Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, establishing peace, and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross."