

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649
 (812) 944-2305
www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Sundays
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
 Worship.....10:30 AM
 Worship.....6:00 PM

Wednesdays
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

Elders
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536

Deacons
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295
 Mark Maudlin.....502-523-0479

Editor
 Brian Anderson.....317-442-9507

Goals For 2021
Theme
 A Church with a Mind to Work
Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40;
Sunday AM: 50
Sunday PM: 40; Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 130

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service

Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana
Hold A Men's Training Class

Hold One Gospel Meeting

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

Brian Anderson will be preaching today.

We are now in week #40 of our Daily Bible Reading.

Prayer List
 Lynn Maudlin's father
 Pam Caudill
 Sharon Nale, Polly Ward
 Les & Novema Dunn
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)
 Sharon Thompson, Kay Thompson
 The Wards & Beth McFarland
 Dale Kahl, Brooke Thomas
 Cathie Hall, Debbie Lewellen
 Roseanne Denison, Mark Maudlin

Benevolence: Ps. 112:9, Prov. 14:31, Acts 11:29

We rejoice over the baptism of Jennifer Allen.

Lord's Supper Reading
 Is 53:3-6

Scripture Reading
 AM: Acts 2:42-45
 PM: Heb. 10:24-25

Encouragement Tally
 Invites this month: 0
 Invites last month: 8
 Visitors YTD: 14

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649

Place Stamp Here



The Clarksville Beacon

www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.
 Clarksville, IN 47129

Volume 33 Issue 40

Clarksville Church of Christ

October 3, 2021

Church Benevolence

Welcome!
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

Intro: Our theme is a church with a mind to work. This month we're looking at Benevolence. Benevolence is defined as "The disposition to do good; good will; kindness; charitableness, An act of kindness; a good done; charity given."

I Use of Money or Material Things

Col. 3:17, I Cor. 16:1-2

II. Benevolence Among The Local Body

Acts 2:44ff; 4:33ff

III. Benevolence To Saints In Other Locales

Acts 11:27ff, I Cor. 16:1ff, 2 Cor. 8

IV. Specific Demographic Within The Local Church

Acts 6:1ff, I Tim. 5:9

V. Benevolent Limitations

Col. 3:17, I Cor. 16:1, Acts 11:29, I Tim. 5:3-5a, 8, 9-16
 Js 1:27, Gal. 6:10

Benevolence: Brother To Brother

Intro: Our theme is a church with a mind to work. This month we're looking at Benevolence. Benevolence is defined as "The disposition to do good; good will; kindness; charitableness, An act of kindness; a good done; charity given."

I. Stimulate To _____ Works

Heb. 10:24, Ps 27:17, Prov. 24:29, I Cor. 12:25

II Ways To _____ to Good Works

Love: I Thes. 4:9, Jn 13:34-35
Forgiveness: Matt 12, 14-15, Eph. 4:32
Longsuffering: Eph. 4:3, Col. 3:13ff
Unselfishness: Phil. 2:4

III. Helping With _____

Acts 18:24-26

IV. Helping With Those In _____

James 5:19-20, Gal. 6:1

V. Aiding Those Who Are _____

Js 5:14-15, Mt 25:36, 43

VI. Helping In Times of _____ and _____

Gal. 6:2, Rom. 12:15

VII. Helping In _____ Distress

Acts 2:44-45, Acts 11:27-30

Benevolence Misunderstood

Though this word is never specifically used in the Bible, it has become what most associate with Christianity or even religion in general. Most believe that if you adhere to a Christ-based religious belief system that you are obligated to go around doing good deeds or acts of benevolence. While there is some truth to that, there are also some misunderstandings.

When we see the church begin in Acts chapter two, we also see the beginning of the benevolent works of the church. "All those who had believed were together and had all things in common; and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need" (Acts 2:44-45). We see this again in chapter four (4:34-35). There was a need, and those of like faith stepped in to help.

Later, there arose a great famine, and the church would have to step in again to help its own. "Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world... And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea" (Acts 11:28-29). We see this mentioned in other books of the New Testament (Rom. 15:26-27; 1 Cor. 16:1-3; 2 Cor. 8:1-5). They gathered and provided a collection from their own funds to help those saints in Judea. They gave as they were prospered, and some gave even in deep poverty. But all gave, giving themselves first out of love for each other (1 Cor. 13:3). What we see primarily happening is the church providing for its own. We do not see the church opening food banks for the community or worldwide outreach in benevolent works.

Does that mean that we have no responsibility to the world in the area of benevolence? Does that mean that I should have no second thoughts about helping someone I see in need that is not a member of the Lord's church? Consider this, "So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith" (Gal. 6:10). There is some responsibility to help those that we can. Jesus taught the lawyer not who his neighbor was but that he must show himself to be neighborly by displaying a heart of compassion (Luke 10:30-35). These passages however deal with individual responsibility, not congregational.

Are we called to feed the world or our community? No. Our only global obligation is to spread the gospel. Remember that compassion, tempered with wisdom, given the opportunity and the means is the right recipe for good to be done for us individually. There is much that can be said about this, but the idea that the role of the church is benevolence to the community is false