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<div><div><div><div><div>By the Numbers:</div><div>Week of 9/16/18</div><div>Contribution – \$2740</div><div>Attendance:</div><div>Friday 9/14 – 74</div><div>Saturday 9/15 – 75</div><div>Sunday Bible Classes – 50</div><div>Sunday Worship* – 80</div><div>Wednesday Night – 39</div></div><div><div>*Total for the day</div></div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div><div>Bible Trivia Question</div><div></div><div>Last Week's Answer: His staff turned into a snake, and his hand became leprous (Exo. 4:1-9).</div><div>Q: Who convinced Moses to appoint other men to help him make judgments for the people?</div><div>Answer to be given next week!</div></div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div><div>Sermon Spotlight:</div><div>AM: Enough?</div><div>1) Will we ever be good enough to deserve salvation?</div><div>2) Is there enough grace available to men?</div><div>3) Why do most people not receive grace?</div><div>PM: When the Going Gets Tough</div><div>1) What tends to happen to people's faith during hard times?</div><div>2) Do you want to be among the faithful?</div></div></div></div></div>
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<div><div><div>THE BEACON OF TRUTH</div><div>September 23, 2018</div></div><div><div>"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17</div></div></div>	<div><div><div><div><div>What Will Build a Strong Church?</div><div>Maxie B. Boren</div><div>Not sensationalism! Not gimmicks! Not more committees, mere programs or a “fun and games” emphasis! These things may be “right-on” for civic clubs, social clubs and country clubs, but not for the Lord’s church! What does it take to build a strong church? I believe with all my heart that the following things are essential!</div><div><div><div>• <b>Strong Bible preaching and teaching!</b> God’s Word, when it is disseminated plainly, forcefully, uncompromisingly and yet kindly, will <b>build up!</b> Paul said, <b>“I commend you unto God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up...”</b> (Acts 20:32).</div><div><div>• <b>Exemplary leadership!</b> Men who make themselves <b>“examples to the flock”</b> and who are careful in tending it (1 Peter 5:2-3) will build a strong church. To grow, the church must have quality leadership—men who know how to lead and will do so!</div><div><div>• <b>Christian living on the part of every member!</b> Unimpeachable conduct clearly evidenced in the lives of Christians will illuminate the way for many in the realm of darkness (Matthew 5:16; Philippians 2:15).</div><div><div>• <b>Congregational warmth and love!</b> The fellowship of the Lord’s church should be so sweet and precious that the whole community takes notice and observes, <b>“See how they love each other!”</b> Without this, a congregation will never be what God would have it to be!</div><div><div>• <b>Compassionate hearts!</b> The church of Christ needs to be known as the most tender-hearted bunch of people in all the world, ready and willing to help all, but especially those of the household of faith (Galatians 6:9-10).</div><div><div>• <b>Evangelistic fervor!</b> The emphasis of the early church was soul-winning! The church will grow when we cease not to <b>“teach and to preach Jesus as the Christ”</b> every day, wherever we have opportunity (Acts 5:42)! (Cntd. on pg. 2)</div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div></div>
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**NEWS AND NOTES**  
**TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME**

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Margie Tippen — Regina Simmons — Wanda Hendrix — Marcia Green — Jerry Tippen (now in room 628 at Ridgecrest Nursing Home) — Ruby Weaver — Wendy Traweck — Tim Green — Harold Myers — Dianne Ortega

**OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- We rejoice that Dianne Ortega was baptized into Christ last Thursday! Please pray for her as she begins her Christian walk!
- Monthly Fellowship Meal — No meal today since we had the meal last Sunday
- Youth & Young Adults — Be on the lookout for monthly get-togethers. (If you would like to help with a get-together, please let Chase know).

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(Continued from page 1)

- **An “I want to serve” attitude permeating the congregation!** People serving the Lord because they love Him, and they want to serve—and not out of a spirit of drudgery—will build a strong church.
- **An atmosphere of happiness, friendliness, cordiality and hospitality!** No stranger should ever come into the midst of the Lord’s church without being graciously greeted and welcomed by a happy, friendly membership! We must reach out to others and not just “visit” with friends only.

It is my conviction that these ingredients will build a strong church! I pray fervently that all eight points will become a reality in every congregation more than ever before!

**Note:** As you consider each of the above attributes, how would you grade the Beacon church of Christ in each category? Which ones do we excel at? Can you think of some things that we need to work on? I believe we need to always be reassessing these things so that we can be the most successful congregation possible! What do you think? — **TCG**

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***Nondenominational or Un-denominational?***  
***Chase Green***

Many of us remember Barbara Mandrell’s 1981 hit, “Country When Country Wasn’t Cool.” In it, Mandrell laments the fact that many supposedly “country-folk” were not authentic, but were simply joining in on the latest fad.

I believe something similar is happening in the current religious climate. What do I mean by that? Have you noticed the increasing popularity of “Community Churches,” “congregational churches,” and such like? These churches typically claim to be **NONDENOMINATIONAL**.

I do not have a problem with the term “nondenominational.” In fact, the Lord’s church certainly is non-denominational. The problem is that many “nondenominational” churches are in fact MULTI-denominational. That is, they are willing to accept people from multiple religious backgrounds without pleading with them to renounce their previous denominational affiliations. So in other words, you might have Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and Pentecostals all coming together into one “Community Church.” Thus, it is not a restoration of the Lord’s Church, but an ecumenical movement of bringing multiple denominations together.

We might say that the churches of Christ were “Nondenominational When Nondenominational Wasn’t Cool!” So how can we explain to our “nondenominational” friends that they need to take things a step further and actually restore the church that we read about in the New Testament?

I don’t think that the answer is to stop using the term “nondenominational.” It is actually a good term, if used properly. What we need to do is explain that true nondenominationalism is **not** MULTI-denominationalism, but rather UN-denominational. It is **AGAINST** the very idea of denominations (see John 17:20ff; Mat. 16:18; 1 Cor. 1:10ff; Eph. 4:4; etc.). True nondenominationalism is PRE-denominational. Long before the first denomination called themselves something other than “of Christ,” Christians simply followed the teachings of the Lord and His apostles. They were simply added to His church (Acts 2:47). We need to capitalize on the current trend of “non-denominationalism,” and we need to plead with these people to forsake denominations completely, and go back to the one church that we read about in the Bible!

With love, Chase

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**THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE**

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

Heb. 11:6

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