

Broadmoor church of Christ  
P.O. Box 70368  
Nashville, TN 37207  
**Winter 2018**

To the elders, deacons and saints at Broadmoor,

I hope everyone is doing well and the church is continuing to prosper. This winter we have gone from circulating the cold bugs to circulating the flu, fortunately most everyone is better. I hope we have turned the corner as spring approaches and everyone will be well. We have enjoyed a real winter this year and now getting a lot of rainfall, making spring seem near. I have followed my usual format of including notes from each of the past three months, I hope this will help you all be up to date with what is happening here.

January 2018

The last month has been a bit of a trial for me and my family. My mom has been sick and dealing with water damage to her house and then her brother, my Uncle Glen, fell and had very serious head injuries. He has been in the hospital for several weeks in very critical condition; I really thought he was not going to make it but he keeps pulling through. He has always been very tough having dealt with a chronic bone disease since birth. Your prayers for our sick would certainly be appreciated!

I have been bringing some sermons centered around unity and the dangers of division among Christians. This is not an easy topic but one I felt like needed to be brought to light. I hope my approach will encourage a love for unity as well as truth. My contact with congregations in other places where such love and warm fellowship is exhibited makes my love for unity grow even more. I wish all who follow Christ could enjoy such unity.

We finished our study of Muscle and a Shovel. I think over all we had a very positive response to the study. It certainly stimulated our thinking about how to reach out for opportunities in evangelism and to consider the perspective of someone who has been taught doctrines that contain error even though it was with the best of intentions from loved ones. We are starting a study based around material put together by Matt Henecke on current issues that Christians may be struggling with. I plan on adding some issues that are more personal for our group here.

I am pleased to report that Linda Martin has continued to attend regularly. She is such a sweet optimistic lady and has really connected with our older ladies here. Also, Ryan a young man who has been dating one of our young ladies has been diligent in attending and seems to keep drawing closer to all of us. It is also encouraging that a couple of families that used to be very lax in attendance are coming more regular than they were. I feel we have a really good group of disciples here in our small church; they show lots of love and have recently been very encouraging and supportive of me and my work something that didn't exist in the past. I am so thankful for these Christians and love them so much!

## February 2018

We have continued this month to make improvements to our building for safety concerns and being more able to meet the needs of teaching. Among the repairs and updates, Ronnie Dennis has done a lot to help improve our facilities and make it more presentable to visitors and useful to our members.

On Wednesday evenings we have been studying 1 and 2 Timothy; that study is coming to a close and we will continue to move through the New Testament by studying Titus next. Since I have been preaching here, we have surveyed the whole Bible and then studied the Old Testament in more detail book by book. We are now working through the New Testament. On Sunday mornings we are studying some material put together by Matt Henecke titled Difficult Issues taken from today's Headlines. I plan to add some topics to the study tailored especially for our congregation.

Most of the sermons this month have been focused on the subject of unity and division: the warnings against the dangers it poses to the Kingdom and also realizing the reality of division among those who profess to follow Christ. We also looked at some reasons for these division to exist and some individual changes we could make to work toward unity in our own small way. I will be bringing a few more lessons on Christian denominations on Sunday night to further help us understand why there is so much division and lack of unity among those who all claim to be followers of Christ and how the local church fits into all of this.

I mentioned Linda Martin in previous reports; she came to visit with us from the neighborhood a few months ago. She is still attending regularly and taking a correspondence course and attending a lady's class as well. She is a very positive older lady who used to be connected with the Methodist church. I pray she will continue to feel welcome here and consider the things taught that are different than what she has heard in the past. The young man who has been with us regularly for over a year, named Ryan, seems to be receptive to the truth and because of a difficult home situation has moved in with Mark and Jeanette Ostroff until he goes into the military this summer. I have been getting to know him better but I hope being with this Christian couple will open even more opportunities for us to teach him. Your prayers would be appreciated along with ours to lead these good folks to Christ. We have also had a young man move here from Georgia to start working at Densco in Maryville. He is soon to be married and his fiancé will move here after their wedding.

## March 2018

Most of our members have been back to their normal health and able to attend services. Unfortunately, my wife Becky's grandfather died this past month. We were able to go to the funeral thanks to Mark filling in on the Wednesday night class. Walker Craig served his country in the Navy during WWII and served his community as a science teacher and a Scout Master as well as being a member of the Lion's club. While in Missouri we got to visit the Warrenton congregation where Becky grew up and catch up with several lifelong members of that small church.

Our new studies are doing well so far; the study on difficult issues has been profitable for all and generating good discussion and Bible study. We are just getting under way in Titus but already have learned a lot. I concluded a three-part sermon on Romans 1-3 on the gospel of Christ revealing the power of God, the wrath of God and the Righteousness of God. I also just finished a series on Christian Denominations with a lesson on the local churches needing to be non-denominational and what that means in our practices and interactions with friends who attend churches that are part of a denomination.

Scott Taylor has a new job that allows him to be in town over the weekend and so he can help more with song leading and other worship leading responsibilities. Ryan and Linda are still attending, Michael is out of town preparing for his wedding this month in Georgia and travelling with work. We have had several more visitors from Christians vacationing in the area, the most memorable a young couple just married from North Alabama on their honey moon that made us all rejoice. None of the folks we have invited to visit locally have shown up but you never know when someone might decide to come.

Thank you so much for your support and interest in the work and worship going on here! I never forget that your support helps me to be able to preach here and your love for the gospel motivates your giving. I pray God blesses you all for your good works.

Lon Spurgeon