

What Small Churches Have to Offer

by Scott Elliot from *Start-to-Finish*

Small churches are sometimes ignored because of their size. We think that larger is better. People are inclined to believe that the best preachers and programs are at large congregations. If a church is large, most people automatically assume it is successful without ever asking any other questions. Large churches often serve as models for smaller churches, but I have never known of a small church serving as a model for a larger church.

Small and medium size churches in rural areas have much to offer. They contribute significantly to the larger body of Christ. Small churches are not better than big churches, nor are big churches better than small churches. A congregation should not be thought more or less of because they are located in a metropolitan area or a small farming community. What we do need to realize is these churches have different things to offer. They are not the same, and it is important that they listen to one another. We often hear about big churches in major cities, but I want to spend a few minutes reflecting on smaller churches located in communities that are not as well known.

Small churches eat together. I'm sure many large churches would do this if they could, but space, time, and logistics prevent them from doing so. It is easier for smaller churches to plan and execute a meal that feeds the entire congregation. This is a tremendous blessing because eating together is a spiritual exercise. Read Luke and Acts and notice how many times meals are mentioned. They are an important part of the church. Meals strengthen friendships. Inviting someone to the table and sharing a meal with them is an act of hospitality. It is a form of ministry. Eating together is essential to the spiritual health of a congregation, and smaller rural churches eat together frequently.

--to be continued next week

Leachville church of Christ
609 S. Main St.
Leachville, AR 72438

LEACHVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST



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 Leachville, AR 72438
 (870) 539-2274
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Elders: Larry Brooks, Rudi Cagle, and Ken Beach
Deacons: Jerry Bolar and Joel Ingram
Ministers: Raymond Lasley and Josh Vires
 (870) 565-5097 (832) 904-2917

Sunday, April 9, 2017

<p>Prayer List Updates</p> <p>Larry Towell – has been hospitalized for dehydration; home now</p> <p>Frankie Towell – got first injection for back pain</p> <p>Kimberly Vires – sciatic nerve pain</p> <p>Peggy McCoy – in hospital in coma</p> <p>Brandi Crawford – Lisa Baldrige’s daughter; tumor on neck attached to spinal cord; surgery on Tuesday at Tulane in New Orleans to remove as much as possible</p> <p>Birthdays</p> <p>Loudeen Nolan April 14 Abi Bolar April 14 Hannah Jordan April 15 Liam Greer April 15</p>	<p>Upcoming Events</p> <p>Tuesdays 10 am Ladies’ Bible study; kids welcome</p> <p>Weds. 6-8 Fwednesday for teens grades 6-12</p> <p>this week Mon-Fri Leachville United Methodist Church has invited everyone to their Holy Week services daily at noon. Former minister Tim Bassing is speaking on Tuesday and Hays Howell on Friday.</p> <p>April 30 fifth Sunday; potluck after morning services, evening singing service</p> <p>May 7 5:15 pm VBS planning meeting</p> <p>June 20-22 VBS</p>	<p>Correspondence Course Ministry</p> <p>week of April 3-8: 9 lessons graded</p> <hr/> <p>April Haiti Needs</p> <p>oatmeal sanitary napkins</p> <hr/> <p>Attendance Last Week</p> <p>Sunday morning: 58 Sunday evening: 34 Wednesday evening: 41</p>
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Weekly Service Assignments

Sunday Morning	Bible class: 9:45 am worship: 10:45 am	Sunday Evening 6:00 pm
First Prayer	Larry Brooks	First Prayer Rudi Cagle
Announcements	Ken Beach	Closing Prayer Matthew Sills
Scripture Reading	Matthew Sills	Lord’s Supper Matthew Sills Ken Beach
Lord’s Supper	1. Donnie Langston 3. Rudi Cagle 2. Raymond Lasley 4. Justin Beach	Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm
Second Prayer	Ken Beach	First Prayer Ken Beach
Closing Prayer	Jerry Bolar	Closing Prayer Rudi Cagle