



# Rockwood Church of Christ

## The Proclaimer

April 11, 2021

P.O. Box 416  
129 S. Chamberlain Ave.  
Rockwood, TN 37854  
865-354-0855

**Elders:**

Kendall Bear  
Dana Carter  
Don Chandler

**Deacons:**

Larry Brackett  
Aaron Evans  
Larry Hill  
Steve McCreary

**Minister:**

Dale Barger

**Secretary:**

**Service Times:**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 10 am  
Worship Service 10:45 am  
~~Worship Service 6 pm~~

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7 pm

**Email:**

rockwdcc@gmail.com

**Website:**

Rockwoodchurchofchrist.com

## The Church is What You Are!

The church is built of men and women, not bricks and mortar. As such, it can never be any more faithful or effective than the individual members that comprise it. The Lord's church in any community will reflect the sins and attitudes of its members.

- If it is a growing church, it is because YOU attended regularly with your family and actively urged others to attend as well.
- If it is an active church, it is because YOU give your time to the program of work.
- If it is a friendly church, it is because YOU are a friendly Christian and you make an effort to welcome visitors, and make them feel welcome.
- If it is a mission church, it is because YOU are willing to take seriously the command of Jesus to "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."
- If it is a giving church, it is because YOU give generously and sacrificially to the cause of Christ.
- If it is a Biblical church, it is because YOU are determined to do "*Bible things in Bible ways*" and because you are committed to "*speak where the Bible speaks and remain silent where the Bible is silent.*"
- If it is a saving church, it is because YOU are a soul winner in your DAILY life.

Bobby Dockery  
via Graeber Road church of Christ  
Rosenberg, TX

# Unshakeable Faith in the Immoveable Kingdom

In the heat of the Civil War, Moses Lard penned this “*Note to the Brotherhood*” to encourage Christians:

*“More now than ever before in this country; do even Christians need to be placed completely under the influence of Christianity. In mind and heart they are deeply and painfully agitated. Christianity alone can tranquillize and soothe them. In thought they are distracted and unsettled, and in affection alienated one from another. Truth alone can unitize, settle, and reassure them. Their zeal has cooled, their energy lost its ancient tone. Fresh, living pictures of the love of Christ, more than anything else, can rekindle the former, and vitalize the latter. Exciting political news so engrosses their attention that their views of the Gospel are in uncommon danger of becoming dim and unreliable. Nothing can so effectually prevent this as sharp, spirited discussions of the great elementary themes of Christianity. Indeed, never before did so high a necessity exist in our ranks for sound elementary preaching, and sound elementary writing as now. Let such preaching, and such writing, quick with the noble warmth of preacher and writer, be sent home to the hearts of the people, and salvation, and joy, and gladness will be the result...We cannot desert it now in this hour of trial. No: we must work for it with pen, work for it with tongue, work for it with prayer, work for it in hope, work for it the livelong day, and dream of it in watches of the night—work for it and never faint”* (Lard’s Quarterly, September 1863).

These same restless feelings threaten to distract us today and dampen our spirits. If we will learn from history as well as the Scriptures, we will see that the key to our faith’s survival is persistence. We must hold to the things we have learned. We must let the Bible put things into perspective. We must not lose focus. This is not easy especially when we hear so much. In times of great distress we tend to be preoccupied with threats to our physical life. The church must keep teaching the grand foundational truths of the gospel. This is our only protection against something far worse—spiritual death.

If anyone understood stress it was David. It was at those low points that he doubled down in his commitment to God. “*Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I”* (Psa. 61:1-2). “*Be merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast”* (Psa. 57:1). God heard these prayers then. He will hear them today. The only question is whether we will trust Him (Prov. 3:5-6).

Kerry Duke  
West End church of Christ  
Livingston, TN