

# RUN 'TIL YOU FINISH

Dan Murphy

The Olympics are special as it brings nations together every four years for athletic competition. The opening ceremonies begin with the athletes entering the stadium behind their country's flag. All are smiling and their hearts are filled with national pride. Their hopes are set on winning a medal. That which motivates these competitors must also encourage us.

A cheering crowd in the stadium motivates all participants to do their best. They run a little faster and swim a little harder knowing the audience is behind them. The Hebrew author reminds us that "since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, ... let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith ..." (Heb. 12:1, 2). This passage compares spiritual faithfulness to an athletic contest of that day. The cloud of witnesses are individuals of past centuries who had a great faith in God in spite of enormous obstacles. They are examples for us and urge us not to give up our faith.

One U.S.A. swimmer after winning said, "When I saw Kobe Bryant and LeBron James in the crowd I didn't want to let them down." In the heavenly crowd, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and even Jesus are cheering us on to victory. These past champions are exhorting us to follow the course patiently striving in Christ.

A personal desire motivates Olympic athletes to win. They have trained hard, disciplined their bodies, and have awaited this opportunity for years. Each wants to stand with a medal around his/her neck and listen to their own national anthem being played. Paul stated: "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain" (1 Cor. 9:24). It would be terrible if we did not give our best. During trials and tiring service we must remember that one day Christ will reward us with a crown of righteousness (2 Tim. 4:8). We will be thankful we gave our all for the Lord. May we remain spiritually determined to finish the course of faith like Christ and others have done

Whatever the obstacles that discourages us, we must not quit. Let us have faith in God and abound in His work.

**The race is not just to the swift ... everyone who finishes wins!**

**TEACHERS MEETING** Sunday morning immediately after worship in the fellowship hall to discuss promotion date and curriculum. All fall quarter teachers through 7th grade are asked to attend.

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## *The Messenger* Rolling Hills Church of Christ

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Kenney Gulley Jim Kelley  
Rod Kendrick Charles Moore  
Paul Robinson Gerald Vinson  
Jerry Willis Tommy Willis  
Don Wilson

August 21, 2008 Volume 27 Number 33

**Sunday**  
Bible Class - 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship - 10:30  
Evening Worship - 6:00  
**Wednesday**  
Bible Study - 7:00 P.M.  
**Visit our Internet Web Site:**  
<http://rollinghillschurchofchrist.org>  
Email us at:  
elders@rollinghillschurchofchrist.org  
dmurphy@rollinghillschurchofchrist.org  
office@rollinghillschurchofchrist.org

## Privileged To Serve

If you can not serve as assigned please contact  
Jerry Willis, James Burden, or Bobby Davis as  
early as possible.

### Sunday A.M. August 24

**Song Leader:** Doug Frazier

**Reading:**

1 Cor. 16:1-4 & Prayer: Robert Garrett

Luke 22:14-20 Wayne Bailey

**Prayer:** Vernon Tipton & Charles Moore

**Foyer Assist :** Brenda Kimbrell

**Greeters:** C. Collins, Ray Johnson, B. Kimbrell

### Sunday P.M. August 24

**Song Leader:** Jim Kelley

**Prayers:** Gerald Vinson & Paul Robinson

### Wednesday P.M. August 27

**Song Leader:** David Donaldson

**Prayer:** Kenney Gulley

### Sunday A.M. August 31

**Song Leader:** Marty Gillespie

**Reading:**

1 Tim. 6:17-19 & prayer: Kelvin Keath

1 Cor. 11:23-29 Rod Kendrick

**Prayer:** Gerald Ingram & Everett Donaldson

**Foyer Assist :** Shirley Johnson

**Greeters:** C. Kimbrell, Brian & Lisa Highley

### Sunday P.M. August 31

**Song Leader:** Jim Kelley **5th Sunday Singing**

**Prayers:** Dwayne Goldy & Ray Johnson

### Wednesday P.M. September 3

**Song Leader:** Josh Moore

**Prayer:** Doug Frazier

### Serve Communion During August

Earl Collins Rob Frederick

Brent Wilson Kenney Gulley

Kenneth Donaldson Michael Willis

Dwayne Goldy (rear) Tom Tipton

**Close Building August:** James Burden

**Announcements August:** Charles Willis

*Contact elder in Aug: Mike Donaldson*

## Remember These In Prayer

“The fervent prayers of a righteous man can accomplish much.” James 5:16

### Sick or In Need of Prayers

**Eureva Donaldson** remains at St. Claire Hospital in Morehead. Remember her and the family in prayer.

**Merrill Hart**, *Bonnie Robinson's* brother, fell from a ladder and broke his back.

**Reva Cody**, daughter-in-law to *Ann & Tom*, has a spot on her kidney.

**Carl Hartgrove** had an accident and is suffering with burns on his face and arm.

**Jason Hunt**, friend of *Tonya Duncan*, has leukemia.

*Ida Mae Shepherd's* friend, **Phyllis Zepernick**, is having health problems.

**Mary Frye**, a friend of Jimmy Johnson in Nicholasville, is having tests for cancer.

**Brandon Mills**, *Charles Moore's* nephew, has been diagnosed with Addison's Disease.

**Joy Dishman**, a friend of the Willis', had a stroke and carotid artery surgery.

**Roberta Moore**, *Tommy Oakley's* niece, is in critical condition in UK Hospital.

Remember **April Vernon & baby, Venus Lane, Bobby Davis, Albon Thompson, Dallas Sutton, Brenda Kimbrell, Ruby Lawrence, Patty Barrett, Willie**

**Thompson, Pearl Thompson, Roy & Naomi Horseman, Pauline Cockrell, Tom & Ann Cody, Dorothy Justice, Barbara Rudd** (*Sharon Willis' aunt*), **Vicky Rogers** (*Stephen's wife*), and **Wanda Flannery** (*Frank Lewis' mother*).

**Serving in the Military: Brandon Coats, Chris Newkirk, and Ray Frederick.**

Remember those in the nursing homes.

## For the Record

Budget: \$6800	Aug. 17 : \$ 6709	
Sunday	Aug. 17	Last Year
Bible Class	200	205
Sunday Worship	359	342
Sunday Evening	183	237
	Aug. 20	Last Year
<b>Bible Study</b>	179	175

**Ladies, don't forget the bridal shower for Sarah Donaldson on Sunday, August 31st at 2:30** in the afternoon in the fellowship hall. They are registered at Wal-Mart, Lowes, and Etc. Etc.

Visitation Group #3 will meet Sunday after evening worship in the fellowship hall. We will be packing up the CARE PACKAGE for **Brandon Coats** so please remember to bring your items.

**Steve and Ruth Lech** thank you for offers to help them unload the moving truck. He wants to remind those who volunteered to come over to help on Friday the 29th.

### Bible Class Cookout and Games

**All students in the 1st through 6th grade** Bible Classes are invited to a cookout and games on **Friday, August 29th at 6 PM** in the Garrett's backyard (125 Collins Ave.). In case of rain, we will have the party in the multi-purpose building. Parents and siblings are invited to join us for the fun, food, and games. Please let the classroom teachers know if you plan to attend so we will have enough food, etc.

## TEACHERS MEETING

Sunday morning immediately after worship in the fellowship hall to discuss promotion date and curriculum. All fall quarter teachers through 7th grade are asked to attend.

### Teachers' Appreciation Dinner

Teachers, mark your calendars for Saturday, September 6th. That is the date of our annual Teachers' Appreciation Dinner. The dinner will start at 6 PM in the fellowship hall. Jerry Carmichael will be our guest speaker. All teachers of Bible classes and Bible Hour are encouraged to attend the dinner with your spouse or *date*.

If you would like to participate in the Secret Pal ministry, please sign up on the bulletin board.

### College Keeping In Touch Ministry

Forms are on the bulletin board for college bound students to fill out for participation in the College **KIT**. Please get the forms turned in to the office or to Tracy Garrett before you leave for school.

**A Class for Song Leaders** will be held in the church library for the next several Wednesday evenings.

We need **two Bible Hour teachers** for the younger children. Please see *Robert Garrett* if you are interested in helping.

## Church Directory Update

Our church directory will be completely redone, so we need you to come and get your family photo made. Everyone who attends Rolling Hills is invited to be part of the directory. The schedule for photos is:

Date	Last Name
<b>August 24</b>	<b>Begins with G and I</b>
<b>And anyone who missed their date.</b>	
August 31	Begins with H and J
Sept. 7	Begins with K, L, O, & P
Sept. 14	Begins with M and N
Sept. 21	Begins with R, S and T
Sept. 28	Begins with V, W, & Y
Oct. 5	Missed scheduled date
Oct. 12	Missed scheduled date

We will be taking elders and deacons group and individual photos in October as well. These will be posted on the church website.

### 99th Birthday Wish

**Debbie Frederick's** grandmother, **Mary Sartin**, is having her 99th birthday on September 1st. The family would like for her to get at least 99 cards. If you wish to send a greeting please give a card to Debbie or mail it to: 619 N. Poplar St. Seymour, IN 47274.

### Reminder to all Teachers.....

If you are unable to teach your class and do not have an assigned substitute, be sure to call **Robert Garrett** as early as possible so he can arrange a substitute. All teachers and substitutes must be approved by the elders, so please call Robert instead of making your own arrangements. Thanks.