The work of the church meeting at Getwell and Dunn has been ongoing for many years! The work was begun in 1950 and has continued without interruption. Many faithful elders, deacons, preachers, Bible class teachers, and members have been willing to spend and be spent for the cause of Christ and have successfully upheld the Gospel to the lost. Some of these have gone on to their reward in Heaven. Those faithful ones who remain are still striving for the same goal and have every assurance that the end of life will be blessed if we just keep on keeping on (Rev. 14:13).

Some ask at times, “Why don’t you people believe in the Old Testament Law of Moses?” Well, we do believe every word of the Mosaic Law! We just know that it is not the Law in the Christian Dispensation by which Christians are to live. How do we know? The apostle John wrote by inspiration, “For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ” (Jn. 1:17). We have a new law giver, Jesus Christ, and the law He gave is sealed with His blood (Mt. 26:28). He came to abolish (remove the power of) the Old Law so that He might establish His New Law (Mt. 5:17-18). Paul bore witness to the same when he wrote the Ephesian Christians (Eph. 2:15). We are assured that the Old Law has been removed, or “done away” (II Cor. 3:6-11). All people today have been delivered from that Old Law (Rom. 7:1-7). We have a better covenant in the New Testament (Heb. 8:6-7). Jesus came to “seek and save the lost” (Lk. 19:10). He did this by preaching the good news of salvation (Mk. 1:38). Jesus went and preached two days to the people of Samaria (Jn. 1:31-40). Let us follow Jesus’ example so that the lost may know the Father’s Will and be saved (Jn. 8:21, 24; 6:44-45; Lk. 13:3; Mt. 10:32-33; Mk. 16:15-16).
Some today do not believe in the importance of confession of faith in Christ. They talk about faith, repentance, and some mention baptism, but confession is not mentioned. We wonder why! Though the Bible makes it mandatory for salvation, some think it is unimportant for one to make the good confession before men with their mouth to be saved. The vow or confession of faith in Christ has always been a trial of faith, and sometimes of the severest kind! Confession is the dividing line between the world and the church of Christ, or the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light. We suggest that all open their Bible to study the eight links in proof of the need of confession for salvation:

1. Must confess Christ here to be confessed before the Father (Matt. 10:32-33).

2. Jesus said that the confession that He was the Son of God was the rock upon which He would build His church (Matt. 16:15-18).

3. When some found the teaching of Jesus "hard" and departed from the Lord, Jesus asked His apostles if they were leaving also, but they confessed that He was the only Son of God (Jn. 6:66-69).

4. Martha confessed Jesus as "the Son of God, which should come into the world" (Jn. 11:27).

5. Paul stated that Timothy had made the good confession before many witnesses (I Tim. 6:12).

6. The Ethiopian eunuch had to make the confession that Jesus was the Christ before being allowed to be baptized. He did not confess, "I believe I am already saved before baptism!" (Acts 8:37).

7. Belief in the heart, and confession with the mouth that Jesus is the Christ, are both "unto" salvation (Rom. 10:9-10).

8. Baptism is "into" Christ (Rom. 6:3-4).

The good confession that Jesus is the Christ excludes many: The Pagan, the Jew, the Mohammedan, the Atheist, Deist, and Infidel, all of which refuse to confess Jesus as the Christ! It is also true that the good confession excludes the one who makes the unscriptural confession, "I believe that God for Christ's sake has already pardoned my sins." Have you made the good confession, with your mouth, and before men, and been baptized into Christ? We urge you to do so today! One moment after death there will be no more Atheist, Infidels, etc.! Please read Philippians 2:9-11 to learn why this is true.
Many times in this article I have referenced the fact that Getwell through the years has been blessed with many talented people who love the Lord. One such person is Paula Perkins, who has bid farewell to Getwell. She composed an open letter to the congregation that was read from the pulpit Sunday morning. I for one will miss her genteel presence, her effervescent smile, and her willingness to help in any way as needed. Below is her open letter to the congregation:

My husband and I were baptized at Getwell in the early 1950’s. After his death at age 29 I moved away. In 1960 I returned and was married by Alan Highers to Curtis who was worshipping here. He was a deacon and his wife had died.

We raised five children here at Getwell. All were baptized here and three were married here. My mother sat by me until her death. I also was the first grade Bible school teacher for Ron and Stanley Wallace. I have worshipped here for almost 60 years and have so many wonderful memories.

However, I am moving to Olive Branch to be nearer my children. I will worship with the Olive Branch congregation. Two of my daughters worship there along with their husbands. One is the song leader and also an elder.

To my dear friends of so many years and my newer friends, I will not be seeing you every week, but you will always be in my heart and a part of me will always be at Getwell.

Love to all,
Paula Perkins

In other news, Sunday, September 4, is promotion Sunday. We have a wonderful class program with very talented, dedicated Bible teachers. The only ingredient missing are students. Let me encourage you, if you know of a child who needs to be taught about God’s love, take advantage of these Bible classes.

Throughout the month of September we will be taking pictures for our hallway picture board. If you are new to Getwell or have gotten better looking, let me encourage you to have your photo taken. Charles Shappley will be taking the pictures.

The 2016 Spiritual Sword lectureship is bearing down on us, October 16-19. The theme is “Eternal Security.” Remember, we will need plenty of helpers that week. If possible, make plans to be available.

Speaking of lectureships, I was able to attend several lectures of the 2016 Power Lectureship at the Southaven Church of Christ. The theme of their lectureship was “Soldiers of the Cross.” They had a terrific youth day conducted by Kyle Butt of Apologetics Press. Very impressive was their three different daily series: Great Battles, Special Forces, and Weapons of Mass Destruction. They also put out a most useful book with the lectures compiled. We gave a copy of the book available in our church library. I have read several chapters; it is a good book.

—Ron Wallace