

The Prattmont Church of Christ is just what the name suggests, a church that belongs to Christ. We are not a denomination; we are simply a group of Christians trying very hard to practice the teachings of our Head, Jesus Christ. The New Testament offers a complete pattern for what each local church should be like—its organization, its worship, its work, etc. We are committed to following that pattern. We cordially invite you to attend our services. We would also welcome any comments or questions about this bulletin.

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday

Bible Classes.....9 A.M.
 Worship 10:00 A.M.
 Worship/Bible Study..5 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.



Weekly Bulletin
 August 22, 2021

Designated Sitter

by Edward O. Bragwell, Sr.

I once overheard some young men discussing their baseball little league careers. One of the group had been a catcher, another had played second, etc. One was asked, “What did you play?” “Well, I was a designated sitter”, was the terse reply. Not a designated *hitter*, but a designated *sitter*.

Now, you will have to admit that was a clever way to avoid saying, “I was a bench warmer.” Sounds more important, too.

Upon reflection, I have concluded that his position was really more important than it sounded. Any good sports coach will tell you that to have a really good team that you need a “strong bench”—that battery of “designated sitters” who avidly support the “starters” and are ever willing to step in and do the job whenever needed. They are essential to the team and are often the real heroes of the game.

Contact Information

	Mailing Address	P.O. Box 680872 Prattville, AL 36067
	Phone Numbers	(334) 365-5887 (334) 868-0801
	E-Mail Address Web Address	prattmont@gmail.com prattmontchurchofchrist.org

In the church, certain positions are more visible than others. Everyone cannot play the same position (read 1 Corinthians 12). The strength of the church is too often measured by the perceived strength of the more visible members—the preacher, the elders, the song leaders, class teachers, etc. Oh, these are important positions. They should be filled by those qualified to do the work. As important as they are, the real strength of the church may not be in those who regularly perform these functions. It often lies with the “designated sitters”—those who hold up the hands of the “regulars” and are willing to step in whenever needed to do the best they can in whatever role the occasion calls for. As in a play, the success of the production often depends as much on the supporting cast, working behind the scenes, as it does on those who are seen on stage.

For several years following World War II, there was a flurry of “missionary” activity around the world. A number of brethren were announcing plans to go to this or that country. They were rightly receiving notoriety as their plans were announced in the various papers published by brethren. I heard one preacher, who was justly proud that two of his sons were among those willing to leave the comforts of home and go into the foreign work, make an appeal for brethren to support all those men who, like his sons, were willing to go. Then someone asked the brother, why he, too, was not planning to join his sons in going, if it were so important. He answered, “Because someone needs to stay at home to help provide and encourage support for those who are going?” I think he was right.

While we must have those who are “on the field” or “at bat”, we also need the strong support of “designated sitters.” Men like Onesiphorus (2 Timothy 1:16), who may not be as visible or as well-known as others, but are always there lending whatever service and support they can to the team effort. When good men are publicly doing their best to promote and uphold truth and carry on the Lord’s work in general, they are there with words of comfort rather than criticism. When those in the public eye are unjustly criticized and persecuted, those “on the bench” are willing to stand up beside them in a show of solidarity.

Thank God for every good “designated sitter.”

