

Those to Serve

Sunday 05-09-2010

Sunday Morning Worship:

Announcements..... Wayne Charlton
 Song Leader..... Randy Eubanks
 Opening Prayer Jim Duncan
 Closing Prayer Royce Armstrong

Month of May 2010

Sunday Morning Lord's Table

South Side:

Royce Armstrong
 Frankie Sargent
 David Neal

North Side:

Jim Duncan
 George O'Neal
 Tim Jones

Sunday Evening Lord's Table

Fred Harkrider, Jr. Wayne Charlton

Sunday Evening Worship

Announcements..... Wayne Charlton
 Song Leader..... Hal Roper
 Opening PM Prayer..... Rance Robison
 Closing PM Prayer..... Brian Ferrell

Serving Wednesday Night—May 12—2010

Announcements Wayne Charlton
 Song Leader..... To Be Announced
 First Prayer..... Ronald Traugher
 Closing Prayer..... Ronnie Stewart

*If you plan to be out of town or are not physically able to serve, please call someone to take your place ... or call the church office.

Attendance for the week of 05-02-2010

Bible Classes..... 99
 Morning Worship..... 141
 Evening Worship 97
 Tuesday Ladies Class 08
 Wednesday Night 94
 Regular Contribution \$ 3,900.25
 New Construction Fund Contributions.....\$ 180.00

Averages To Date This Year

Bible Classes..... 95
 Morning Worship.....135
 Evening Worship 90
 Tuesday Ladies Class 09
 Wednesday Night 92
 Regular Contribution.....\$ 4,090.25

New Construction Fund Contributions to date. \$ 89,861.29
 (Also includes transfers and interest earned)

TIMELINESS

Everyone is to be reminded and encouraged ... to be in your seat or assigned area if you have designated duties ... watch for the men who approach the front that will be offering communion and the first song begins. This is a time we need to cut off our visiting and become quieter as we enter into our worship service. We need to focus on the worship to our Lord.



Today's Sermons

AM: "Honoring Father and Mother - Obedience to Parents"
Kris Groda, Preaching

PM: "The Role of Parents in Church Growth"
Kris Groda, Preaching



"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him"
 Proverbs 25:13

Volume 12 No. 10

Founded on the Word—Focused on the World

May 09, 2010

The Church Trumps

By Kris Groda

If we are talking about a card game, the trump cards or suit is that which is chosen to be the highest in value. If something trumps another, it proves to be a valuable asset, especially if that thing plays a decisive role in its success. But we are not talking about card games, we are talking about the church - a serious matter indeed.

"I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,) That ye submit yourselves unto such, and to every one that helpeth with us, and laboureth" (1 Cor. 16:15-16). I just love this passage. I really like the word "addicted" and at first glance thought it meant "couldn't get enough of" but it really means "devoted". I suppose if we really feel that we 'can't get enough of our church family' we will be "devoted".

We are to be like the house of Stephanas - devoted or addicted to the ministry of the saints. There is servitude in teaching, edifying and admonishing in the Word. Going to the homes of our brethren, waiting rooms, hospitals and nursing homes to pray with our brethren is a way we minister to the saints. There are also menial tasks (house hold chores and food preparation) that can be done under the "visitation" commandment of James 1:27. Widows and the fatherless need our attention and our help. These things are under the umbrella of pure and undefiled religion.

However, while the personal work is important. One of the unique and identifying marks of New Testament Christians is their practice of assembling together. Hebrews 10:24-25 states: "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day ap-

proaching." So, lets think of the church and Christian activity as being a trump card.

The church and its work would then trump:

1.) **Family** - "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:37). "While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. (Matthew 12:46-50).

2.) **Friends and the Entertainment of Guests** - But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her. (Luke 10:40-42)

3.) **Personal Pursuits** - Sometimes we forsake the assembly because we are chasing money. We know its God's will that we worship and serve Him first, then we can pursue our job opportunities. "Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. (James 4:13-15). If life is that uncertain we

Assembly Times

Sunday
 Bible Classes9:00AM
 Worship10:00AM
 6:00PM
Tuesday
 Ladies Bible Class ..10:00AM
 (September—May)
Wednesday
 Bible Classes7:00PM



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 Gene Campbell
 Weldon Miller
 Wayne Pickrel

Deacons
 Grady Duncan
 Jim Duncan
 Jerry Freeman
 Bob Hedges
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 Hal Roper

Gospel Preacher
 Kris Groda

Secretary
 Rhodney Freeman

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Address Correction Requested

should live by Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you (Read Luke 12:16-21 also).

4.) **Ball Games, Sports, the arts:** It is a little known truth, but your ball team *can live* without you when there is a church function! Yes, its true! In fact, the Super Bowl can be played and a team will win or lose whether you are sitting in front of your TV (yelling and/or cheering) or not! God invented worship before man invented ball games, play practice and social clubs. We shouldn't be ensnared by our gaming and hobbies or any of the arts. Recreation has its place - but not before the Lord and His people and certainly not on Sunday's (9AM, 10AM and 6PM) and Wednesdays.

Mature Christians clear their schedule so that church functions are the priority and trump all other activities. We may not be able to make everything in the brotherhood, but we should be able to give our attention to the home congregation! Amen?

"AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS"

Michael Bonner I

One of the greatest lessons taught in holy writ is found in Matthew and Luke's account of the model prayer. The disciples petitioned Jesus to instruct them on how to pray. The Lord then methodically navigates them on how to approach God in sweet communication. He taught them to beseech God for forgiveness of their trespasses and faults committed in their lives. It is in this model prayer that His followers were being educated in humility, reverence, piety, provision, and direction. This prayer which was given to the apostles still benefits man today in his quest to have the Almighty One pardon him of his sins. The apostle Paul stated that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Rom 3:23). He also stated that the wages of sin is death. **Therefore man is in need of the the LORD's forgiveness** (Rom 6:23) Trespasses must be forgiven if man desires to go to heaven (John 8:21-24).

And forgive us our trespasses should be man's constant longing in life. Why? Because man is subject to trespassing against God and his fellow man, thus needing to be cleansed through the blood of Christ (I John 2:2; 1:7). Children of God must recognize that approaching the Ancient of Days is an awesome task that must be done with all holiness and must not be taken lightly. It was the sins of man that caused our

Lord to have to die for man. It is truly amazing that God desires us to be free from sin and therefore is ready to forgive us of all trespasses. The scriptures are replete with examples of men begging God to forgive them. Because of his sin with Bathsheba, David was confronted by Nathan, and David begged the Lord for forgiveness (2 Sam 12:1-15; Ps 51:11ff). In the New Testament, Simon the sorcerer, after being rebuked by Peter for wanting to purchase the Holy Spirit, sought forgiveness from the Lord by asking the apostle to pray for him as well (Acts 8:22ff).

God desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Tim 2:4). God has no pleasure in the death of the wicked (Ezek 33:11). Even the sinner can obtain forgiveness from the Lord for his trespasses, when the requirements of pardon are met. What an amazing God we serve, Who has created this great plan of salvation! So how can the sinner call on the Father to have his sins remitted? The sinner must obey the Gospel in submission to water baptism thus *contacting* the blood of Jesus Christ (Rom 1:16; 1 Cor 15:1-9; Heb 9:16-22; 10:22).

Spending eternity with God is a result of one's recognizing his transgressions and humbling himself to draw near to the Father, thus asking Him for forgiveness. Let us be mindful to allow the Word of God to govern our lives so our coming near to Him can be enjoyable instead of embarrassing and tough. God is ready to forgive when we are ready to repent and confess our faults to Him (1 John 1:7). Let us never take for granted the forgiveness and mercy of God, for He is longing for that relationship with us.

*Mike Bonner is a 2006 graduate of SWSBS, preaching for the 5th & Grape congregation in Abilene, TX.
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May Birthdays

Brian Ferrell—May 01

Betty Abbey, Gene Garner, Lawanta Garner —May 06

Kent Cooper, Marty Newman, Linda Ferrell—May 09

Linda Jones—May 15 Wayne Charlton—May 19

Kaitlin Grimes—May 25

Makayla Zacarias—May 26

Kathy Zacarias—May 27

Patsy Duncan, Frances Neal, Steve Thomas—May 31

(If we missed anyone please let us know.)

Please Remember These in Your Prayers:

Justin Barker, Rachel Barker, Doris Bell, James & Sue Browning, Billye Campbell, Gene Campbell, Suzanne Charlton, Randy Cooper, Jim Duncan, Barbara Duncan, Irene Duncan, Patsy Duncan, Myrtice Grissom, Bob Hedges, Wade Miller, Wayne Pickrel, Thelma Reed, Helen Roper, and Rebecca Tippitt.

Also: Ozroe Bush, Carolyn (Katy) Cabell, Odis Duncan, Denise Hess, Cato Jones, Margaret Laurence, Mary Jo Lee, Janice Lineberger, Mike Norfleet, Kristen Powell, Kent Stephenson, Kaitlin Taylor, Wayne Tippitt, and Charles Whitney

Congregational Shut-Ins:

Pleasant Springs Assisted Living: Doris Jean Bell, Annah Brown, **Home:** Irene Duncan, **Villa Assisted Living:** Georgia Lide.

HEALTH UPDATES

Myrtice Grissom has been moved to Pleasant Springs Healthcare, Room 169, 2003 N. Edwards, to continue her rehab. and is not doing very well. Remember her in your prayers. Phone No. 903-572-5511

Ann Carter had Cataract surgery on May 05 on one eye and will have the other done on Wednesday May 12. She asks for our prayers.

Suzanne Charlton is in Room 1106, CICU, ETMC, Tyler, Texas. She had four (4) stents put in this past week. As of Friday she was scheduled to have a scope to see what was causing her stomach pain. She is showing some signs of improvement.

Wayne Tippitt has been having some health issues. Please remember him in your prayers.

Jim and Barbara Duncan's son, **Odis Duncan**, visited his neurologist last Monday and has been diagnosed with "clustered migraine" headaches. Plans are for him to enter the hospital the first of the week for a special IV and 3 days for treatment and rest.

Mike Norfleet, son of Betty and Melvin, is at home, but has to go back to Tyler this week to see his doctor about closing the hole in his heart. We need to keep the Norfleet family in our prayers.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING TONIGHT following evening service. All the men of the congregation are encouraged to attend this important meeting that deals with the works of the local congregation.

REGARDING LADIES BIBLE CLASS: TUESDAY, May 11 will be the final Ladies Bible Class until September. We will be eating lunch together at "**Special Touch Tea Room**" following class on that morning.

Prom Alternative

Friday May 14, Tyler Rose Garden, beginning at 7:00 PM, sponsored by Mount Vernon Church of Christ, a catered formal banquet open to all high school students.

Next **VBS Planning Meeting** will be Sunday, May 16 at 5:30 PM in Multi-Purpose Room.

Devotional at Dellwood

The Park Pavilion has been reserved for Sunday evening May 16 following evening worship. Join us at Dellwood Park for supper, singing and a Bible Devotional. Bring your Bibles. Be sure to bring sports gear, lawn chairs, your meat (for grilling), chips, sandwiches, bottled water, canned soft drinks, ice chests with ice, etc. Bring enough for own family and extra for those who may not have enough. The BBQ Pit will be ready for grilling. **Invite a friend.**

May 23rd —Rance Robison will preach on Sunday morning. Please be here to here his thought provoking lesson. This will be his last Sunday with us before leaving for Colorado.

Wednesday Night Supper is from 5:45pm to 6:45pm in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please contact Keely McCary at (903) 563-7895 by Tuesday of each week to see how you can contribute to the meal or sign up today at the table in the foyer!

Summer Youth Series (SYBSNET)

Begins June 07, 2010, and each Monday at 7:00 p.m. thereafter. Our Topic will be **Fact or myth: "Religion—One church is as Good as Another?"**
*Pick up a SYBSNET schedule in the foyer.

Marriage Enrichment Seminar

June 17 and 18th - DeKalb church of Christ. With Glenn and Cindy Colley You wont want to miss this!

VBS/Lectureship/Friends Day

Family VBS/Lectureship/Friends Day happens August 13th thru 15th (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) with classes on Friday 7:00 p.m. for 2 hours and on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., concluding on Sunday. Noon Lunch. There will be something for all ages.

Our Fall Gospel Meeting is scheduled for November 14—17 with Bro. Dan Manuel preaching. Please mark your calendars. Times and topics to follow.