



# Melbourne

Church of Christ

*Where You Are Part of God's Family*

**April 3, 2011**

## Freedom Bought on the Cross

*But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves. 2 Peter 2:1 (NIV)*

We have looked to the cross in awe for over 2000 years. Today the cross is used as jewelry, to write songs about, hang on our walls, put on and in our church buildings, paint pictures of, kneel in front of and use in many other ways. The cross is used as a symbol to remember the death of Jesus. Some say the cross removes sin. In ancient times the cross was used for the worst of the worst criminals; it was used for capitol punishment. The cross was a torturous death. Jesus went to that death freely. Is there really power in that old rugged cross? Does the cross remove sin? As we know the answer is no. The power is in God, the power is in Jesus Christ.

Our freedom from sin and evil was put on that cross in the person of Jesus. Jesus sacrificially bore all the sin of each person in the world and bought our freedom. Yes, he was on that cross and died the excruciating death of crucifixion, but it was Jesus and the power of God that paid the price for our sin while on that cross. We look to the cross to remember that sacrifice. As we look to the cross we can imagine and remember Jesus' sacrifice when he bought our sin debt. While Jesus was on that cross, he was still teaching us. He taught us how to die without fear and he taught us how to continue forgiving. He forgave the thief hanging next to him; he asked our Father to forgive those executing him and to forgive us. Our freedom was bought on that cross by Jesus. We meet that death and find eternal life in Christ when we submit ourselves to him in the waters of baptism.

But did that cross kill Jesus? Yes, and as we know, he came back to life, a new life through resurrection. As Peter tells us, this is not a fairy tale. It is not fiction, it is the truth, it happened. Here is what Peter said; "*We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.*" 2 Peter 1:16 (NIV) Jesus not only showed us death, he showed us what happens for those who believe and follow, a new and wonderful life. We will be welcome to the eternal life in Heaven.

Jesus paid our sin debt on the cross with his own life. Our freedom was not free -- Jesus bought it for us through his death on the cross. So as we look to the cross to remember, let us remember that the power is not in the cross itself -- the power is in Jesus who hung on that cross and our Father who sent him.

God Bless  
Ken Jones



*We welcome everyone to worship today. Let us all love and accept one another, just as Christ unconditionally loves and accepts us.*





- 4/3: **Worship at Indian River**, 2 p.m. with Walter Pierce and Melbourne Family Singers
- 4/5: **Ladies' Bible Class/Luncheon**, 10:30 a.m. in the church office (lunch will be at Olive Garden)
- 4/5: **Men's 1st Tuesday Prayer Meeting**, 7 p.m. in the church office
- 4/5: **ScreamFree Parenting Class**, at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays at the church building
- 4/8: **Young At Heart Breakfast**, 9 a.m. at Morning Star Café (3700 N. Wickham Rd.)
- 4/10: **Worship at Consulate**, 2 p.m. with Steve Heuser and Melbourne Family Singers
- 4/10: **TORCH Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast**, 8:30 a.m.
- 4/17: **Young At Heart Lunch**, at Piccadilly in Melbourne Square Mall after morning services
- 4/23: **Children's Easter Party** (ages 2-10) - 10 a.m. at the church building



## Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

### Do You Know God? No, Really?

*My dear friend, do not follow what is bad; follow what is good. The one who does good belongs to God. But the one who does evil has never know God. 3 John 1:13 (NCV)*

Have you ever been in the military? Did you take an oath and follow it? What happens if you don't? Have you ever had a job? Did they have a policy for employees? What if you don't follow it? Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, team sports, cheerleaders, and many other organized groups also have an oath. The point is, it is not all about me. Did we follow that oath and policy proudly? Did we know our place, what to do and how to behave? Did we really know what we had signed on for? Or did we just do our own thing and do whatever we wanted, right or wrong?

In John's letter to his friend, Gaius, he applauded his behavior, work and attitude toward being a follower of Christ. Gaius followed what he had been taught. Gaius knew to do what is good and not what is evil. Gaius knew it was not all about him. Gaius knew to love God and love others. John even said; *"My dear friend, it good you help the brothers and sisters, even those you do not know."* 3 John 1:5 (NCV) It was a matter of his heart. Gaius did these things because he really knew and loved God.

John told Gaius in his letter about another one of the brothers, Diotrephes, who was also teaching a body of

believers. John said, Diotrephes loves to be a leader, but he does things his own way. He lies and does what is evil. He kicks people out of the church who do not believe or follow his teachings. It is clear Diotrephes knew of God and knew of God's word but was not following or living it. John was pointing out that Diotrephes and people like him do not really know God. To know God is to follow his commands. It is not just following God's commands, but because we know and love him. It is a choice.

So, I was wondering, do you know God?

God Bless  
Ken Jones  
THS <><

*Counseling is available, free of charge, for any of our members, your families, and any referrals you want to make.*

*Call Ken Jones to schedule an appointment - church office, 723.8233 or cell, 501.2014.*

# Family News and Notes



## Shepherd's Corner

### Food Pantry Ministry

As we say "good-bye" to Harold and Betty McGee as they move to Oklahoma, I was thinking about how the food pantry got started and how many people we have helped through the years.

In October of 2001, Mary Larson and Kathy Simpson asked me about starting a food closet. After some discussion, Mary convinced the elders of the value of this work. Instead of a closet, she was given a room to use in the church building. At that time, it was the small supply room. Since then, it moved into a larger room.

In 2001, Mary asked for \$100 a month to purchase food for the pantry. By February of 2002, the program had expanded so that more money was needed. I looked at the elders' meeting notes for March 20, 2002. It says, "food pantry is bare, have been helping a lot of people."

Through the years, the food pantry's service to the community has grown. The food pantry serves over 100 families a week, which comes to over 300 individuals a week. They gave out 220 turkeys for Thanksgiving.

The food pantry budget for the year is \$9,000. We receive many special contributions from individuals (at last count, \$3,553.62.) Thanks to all who have helped make this ministry one of the best that this church family does to glorify God and help the community.

I don't think Mary Larson envisioned what a wonderful ministry she started and how successful it would become.

*Tom Fennell*

### Fit For a King

A crown of thorns is around his brow, as if he were a King. And truly he was a king, and he never was more kingly than in that hour.

- + He was kingly in his bearing. He made no plea in his own defense.
- + He was kingly, too, in his love. There had not been a shade of bitterness in his heart, under all the cruelties and sufferings he had endured. ....
- + He was kingly also in his suffering. His was a crown of sorrow, for he was the Redeemer of sinners.

Thorns were the fruit of sin, and he took our curse upon him — that we might receive a crown of life. He was subjected to shame in the eyes of the world — that we might be welcomed to glory. Never was he more kingly than he was on that dreadful, yet glorious day.

—J.R. Miller

## Children's Ministry Announcements

4/3 Sun. AM - Nursery is provided during adult worship for infants and toddlers up to age 3. Preschool Children's Worship is available for preschool children age 3-5. Elementary children (K-5th) will go to the CW room right after Bible classes. Our virtue this month is Humility. \* Please pick up your children promptly after services.

4/6 Wed. 7 PM - All children go to the Children's Worship Room. Our rotation this month is Resurrection Revealed.

### Upcoming Events:

Children's Easter Party (age 2-10) - Sat., April 23, 10 a.m.

3/27/2011

CW Contribution (9th Sunday) -0-  
(All CW contributions go to Called & Compelled Honduras Missions)

### Attendance:

Sunday School (Cradle roll-5th gr.)	24
Preschool Children's Worship	6
Elementary Children's Worship	In auditorium)
Nursery	4

### Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

April 3, 2011

**Pre-Sch. Worship:** Holly Carothers/Holli Zander/Benjamin Heuser

**Nursery:** Vivian Lara/Wanda Curington

April 10, 2011

**Pre-Sch. Worship:** Ray Green/Lorraine Prieto/Alex Heuser

**Nursery:** Bonnie Seamon/Stacy Green



## Food Pantry Report

*This past week, 110 families/322 individuals were served with food through our food pantry!*

Donations of non-perishable items or money to purchase them are always welcome and appreciated! Cereal continues to be a staple need. Thank you to Harold McGee and our dedicated staff of volunteers, and to all who continue to support our pantry in any way!

*The Melbourne Church of Christ Food Pantry is a non-discriminatory facility of The Emergency Food Assistance Program.*

**Melbourne Church of Christ**  
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**office@melbournechurchofchrist.org**

**April 3**  
**Order of Worship**

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**

*Bible Classes All Ages 9:30 a.m.*  
*AM Worship (Eng/Sp.) 10:30 a.m.*  
*PM Worship 6:00 p.m.*  
*(Alternative Care Group Meetings various times - contact Ken Jones)*  
*Pancake Breakfast 2nd Sun., 8:30 a.m.*  
*All-church fellowships on 4th Sun., 5:30 p.m.*

**Tuesday**

*Ladies' Bible Class Tues. 10:30 a.m.*  
*(lunch on 1st Tues. of month)*  
*Men's Prayer Meeting 1st Tues. 7 p.m.*

**Wednesday**

*Bible Study All Ages 7:00 p.m.*

**Serving as Elders:**

**Gary Canup, Tom Fennell, Don Hall,  
Mike Lovelace, Don Nickens,  
Calvin Potts, and Pat Seamon.**

**Serving On Staff:**

**Tom Fennell, Pastoral Care**  
**Linda Hounshell, Financial Secretary**  
**Ken Jones, Involve. Min./Counseling**  
**Debby Nickens, Children's Minister**  
**Walter Pierce, Youth Minister**  
**Steve Puckett, Senior Minister**  
**Cheri Tate, Secretary**

**Family Record 3/27/11**

**Attendance**

6th grade-Adult Bible Classes: 94  
Children's Bible Classes: 24  
**Total Bible Class 118**  
Auditorium Worship: 197  
Spanish Worship: na  
Children's Worship/Nursery 10  
(no elem. CW - 4th Sun.)  
**Total Worship Count: 207**

**Budget Items**

**Weekly Budget 7/1/10-6/30/11 \$ 9,799**  
Contribution to Budget: \$ 5,833  
Contribution to Special Items: \$ 334  
**YTD Budget (\$20,589)**

Worship Song Leader	Walter Pierce
<i>Majesty</i>	266
Welcome and Announcements	Gary Canup
<i>Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah</i>	3
<i>I Will Call upon the Lord</i>	63
Opening Prayer	Jeff Crowe
<i>Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?</i>	382
Lord's Supper/Offering	Bob Eckelberry
<i>Have You Seen Jesus My Lord?</i>	214
<i>Just a Little Talk with Jesus</i>	959
Scripture Reading <i>1 Cor. 1:18-24</i>	Norris Bottomlee
Sermon Message "The Cross, The Cure"	Tom Fennell
<i>Yield Not to Temptation</i>	905
Shepherd's Prayer	Gary Canup
<i>The Greatest Commands</i>	448

- + A/V Tech: Christa Pierce
- + AM Nursing Home Service, 9:30 a.m.: David Bradley
- + Service at Indian River, 2 p.m.: Walter Pierce & Melbourne Singers

**Worship Coordinators**

**Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl**

**Servers:** Ian Hames (RS)  
(Apr.) John Hames (RM)  
Glen Wirsch (C)  
Bill Pinch (LM)  
Robert Lindsey (LS)

**Ushers:** Doug Hoffman (RS)  
(Apr.) John Hounshell (RM)  
Cletis Diehl (C)  
Adam Wimpee (LM)  
Robby Grassman (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (Apr.): Pat Seamon

**Serving Next Sunday, April 10**

Song Leader: Tyrone Carter  
Opening Prayer: John Gibson  
Announcements: Pat Seamon  
Presiding: Steve Lindsey  
Reading: Austin Diehl  
Message: Steve Puckett

A/V Tech: Ray Green

Shepherd's Prayer: Pat Seamon

- + Service at Life Care of Melb., 9:30 a.m.: Tyrone Carter
- + Service at Consulate, 2 p.m.: Steve Heuser & Melbourne Singers