

# Melbourne

## Church of Christ

*Where You Are Part of God's Family*

**May 8, 2011**

### The Spirit of the Cross

*You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? (Galatians 3:1-3)*

A few days ago, I visited with some old friends who now live in Winchester, California. Their son and his wife have three kids. The oldest kid is about four years old and the twins are two years old. We got to see first-hand the ongoing struggle between parents and growing kids. As kids grow, they seek to do things that they are really not quite ready to accomplish. This is a part of the natural growing process. However, if parents allow their kids to seek to accomplish tasks outside their young capabilities using their own immature and undeveloped abilities, failure is certain. The greater power, the parent, has to step in and assist the immature child so that the child is successful with the task.

Living in the law system that Paul describes in Galatians 3 is like being a two year old with no parental guidance. You are doomed to failure! The law's demands are too great for sinful humans to observe/keep it successfully. That's what Paul said the law should have taught us (Galatians 3:23-25).

The cross is all about trusting what God is doing/has done through Jesus by the power of the Spirit. The law was our parent to teach us and lead us to a better way of living. Returning to a "do it by human effort doomed to failure" approach after being empowered by the Spirit is unthinkable! The power God exerted at the cross through the Spirit is unmatched. Listen to the power of the Spirit in the cross in these verses.

*For to be sure, he was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him to serve you. (2 Corinthians 13:4)*

*I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms . . . (Ephesians 1:18-20)*

*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Philippians 3:10-11)*

*For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. (2 Timothy 1:7)*

—Steve Puckett



*Welcome to worship on Mother's Day, as we offer thanksgiving  
and call on God's name in the presence of our family of faith.*



## Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

(See the bulletin board, bulletin insert, or call the church office for more information)



- 5/8: Happy Mother's Day!**  
**5/8: No** afternoon service at Consulate Health care today  
**5/15: Blood Drive** in our parking lot, 8:45 a.m.  
**5/15: Young At Heart**, lunch at Piccadilly after morning services  
**5/19: Young At Heart**, lunch at Grill's in Port Canaveral, 3 p.m. & watching Disney ship depart, Please see the bulletin board for details and to sign up.  
**5/22: All-church fellowship and high school graduation celebration**, 5:30 p.m. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided - please plan to bring picnic-type sides & drinks.  
**5/29: Service at Consulate**, 2 p.m. with Julio Roman and Melbourne Family Singers  
**5/30: Church office closed for Memorial Day**



## Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

### Do-Over

*In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." John 3:3 (NIV)*

I remember as a little kid playing baseball, a strike wasn't always a strike. If the swing didn't feel right, the sun got in your eyes, bugs flying around, you didn't have your Wheaties or you just wanted another try, you could shout; "do-over." Sometimes you were only allowed a certain amount of "do-overs." You may get seven or eight strikes that way, who knows? Those were the days -- when a mistake could simply be corrected by saying; "do-over." As an adult that isn't always possible. Drive into the back of another car sometime and say; "do-over." It doesn't work. Air Traffic Controllers don't get "do-overs."

I have made many mistakes in my life where others were sometimes affected. They were hurt. If I said, "do over" would that change things? Nope. Sometimes I would try the old stand-by, "I am sorry," but after awhile that got old; no one believed me anymore. It sure would have been a lot easier to yell, "do over!"

I don't like playing word games, so when I say this I am not playing with words here. God would not give me a do-over. God gave me a fresh start. When I came to God with a contrite heart, a repentant spirit and humbled before him, I was given a new life. No "do-overs" necessary or do-over limits. I thought the life I lived had done me in. There were several passages in the Bible that set me straight,. Here is one that has given me the assurance from God that I had been given a fresh slate. John 3:16 (NIV) "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." I have been forgiven and it is time for me to move forward.

So if I believe in Jesus, I can have eternal life. Ahhh, there is the catch -- I have to become a whoever. After close examination and prayer, it turns out that I am a whoever. Good

news -- we are all whoevers. I have also repented and have been baptized for the remission of my sins. This way is better than a do-over; this is total cleansing, a fresh start and a re-birth into Christ.

The mistakes I make now, the sins I commit can be forgiven, and I can start fresh. Peter asked Jesus how many times we should forgive someone, seven times? Jesus said, "No, seventy times seven." That comes straight from Jesus the son of God. That shows the patience God has for me and you. I can go to him when I err and when I sin; I can be forgiven. Peter denied Jesus three times and then was reinstated by Jesus; later Jesus called Peter a rock. He was solid. That's not a do-over -- that's a fresh start.

I have been given a fresh start as a Christian. No do-over, or do-over limit. That doesn't give me carte blanche to go out and sin. It just takes into account my humanness and His knowing that I am not perfect. I will do my very best in life to follow Jesus, to follow God's commands. I will love God, love others, as well as serve and make disciples in the world. I will continue to study God's word, pray and meditate on his word. If I make a mistake, I don't have to freak out and yell; "do-over." I will turn to God with a contrite heart and repentant spirit and through God's grace I will receive a fresh start. Do-overs are nice but you can't beat a clean slate and a fresh start. Ask God for a fresh start and clean slate and you will find peace and assurance.

God Bless  
Ken Jones  
THS <><

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

*Call Ken Jones to schedule an appointment -*

# Family News and Notes



## Shepherd's Corner

It is time for a new article writer for the month of May. I pray that these articles are an encouragement to you in your daily walk with God. This Sunday is Mother's Day and we use this day to let our mothers know how much we appreciate all that they have done for us. Their love and sacrifice is a wonderful example to us of how we should live. I hope you take this time to personally thank the mothers that have influenced your lives and remember those that may have gone on to be with the Lord. I know that I am grateful and give thanks to God for my mother and for the mother of our children. I am also thankful for the wonderful ladies in our congregation who give tirelessly to raise their children in the love of the Lord.

*"A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants. She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Proverbs 31:10-31*

This is a wonderful passage reminding us of the values that God honors in a woman's character. I am not sure that anyone can live up to everything in this passage. But one thing I can do, is rise up and bless the mothers that I know. Will you join me? Let me know what you are thinking about our journey, send me an email at [pat@melbournechurchofchrist.org](mailto:pat@melbournechurchofchrist.org).

Heading for Home, Pat Seamon

Our Melbourn Church of Christ family  
is invited to witness the wedding ceremony of  
Joyce Dawkins & Robert Lara  
on Saturday, May 28, 2:00 p.m.  
Wesley United Methodist Church,  
2075 Meadowlane Avenue, West Melbourne, FL  
Please ~ no gifts ~ just your presence.  
With Love, The Lara's

## Children's Ministry Announcements

5/8 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 Forgiveness.  
\* Please pick up your children promptly after services.

5/11 Wed. 7 PM - All children go to the Children's Worship Room. Our rotation this month is Follow the Light.

### Upcoming Events:

5/14 Wild Wednesday Information Meeting, 9 a.m. This meeting is for anyone interested in helping us with our PandaMania Wild Wednesday Nights this summer.

Wild Wednesdays VBS, beginning June 22-July 20 (6-8 p.m.) Each Wed. evening will be like a day of VBS. Pre-registration is suggested!

### 5/1/2011

CW Contribution \$71.00  
(All CW contributions go to Called & Compelled Honduras Missions)

### Attendance:

Sunday School (Cradle roll-5th gr.)	33
Preschool Children's Worship	5
Elementary Children's Worship	20
Nursery	8

### Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

#### May 8, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Stacy Carter/Alex Heuser

Nursery: Cindy Puckett/Vivian Lara

#### May 15, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Melissa Webber/Mary Parker/Calle Heuser

Nursery: Denise Carter/Aileen Green



## Food Pantry Report

*This past week, 102 families/359 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 Ernie Punzalan, Bob Eckelberry, 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 open to the community on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and is a non-discriminatory facility of The Emergency Food Assistance Program.

**Melbourne Church of Christ**  
**810 Hollywood Blvd.**  
**West Melbourne, FL 32904**  
**(321) 723-8233**  
**www.melbournechurchofchrist.org**  
**office@melbournechurchofchrist.org**

**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 Hounsshell, 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 5/1/11**

**Attendance**

6th grade-Adult Bible Classes:	107
Children's Bible Classes:	33
<b>Total Bible Class</b>	<b>140</b>
Auditorium Worship:	212
Spanish Worship:	na
Children's Worship/Nursery	33
<b>Total Worship Count:</b>	<b>245</b>

**Budget Items**

<b>Weekly Budget 7/1/10-6/30/11</b>	<b>\$ 9,798</b>
Contribution to Budget:	\$ 9,872
Contribution to Special Items:	\$ 2,500
<b>YTD Budget</b>	<b>(\$21,900)</b>

**Order of Worship**  
**May 8, 2011**

Worship Leader	Walter Pierce
<i>All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name</i>	162
Welcome and Announcements	Pat Seamon
<i>O Worship the King</i>	144
<i>Give Thanks</i>	68
Prayer	David Bradley
<i>Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?</i>	324
Communion/ Offering	Rob Ellison
<i>Love Lifted Me</i>	453
Scripture Reading <i>Galatians. 1:3-5, 2:20, 3:1-3, 6:14</i>	Tom Barker
Sermon Message "The Spirit of the Cross"	Steve Puckett
<i>Turn My Heart</i>	803
Shepherd's Prayer	Gary Canup
<i>Hold to God's Unchanging Hand</i>	613

- + A/V Tech: Steve Lindsey
- + Service at Life Care of Melbourne, 9:30 a.m.: David Bradley
- + No Service at Consulate Today

**Worship Coordinators**

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

**Servers:** Jonathon Finlayson (RS)  
 (May.) Robert Bettis (RM)  
 Eulice Curington (C)  
 Jeff Crowe (LM)  
 Jesse Parks (LS)

**Ushers:** Tyler Neidlinger (RS)  
 (May) Norris Bottomlee (RM)  
 Donny Canup (C)  
 Stephen Fennell (LM)  
 Chris Nickens (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (May.): Gary Canup

**Serving Next Sunday, May 15**

Song Leader: Tyrone Carter  
 Opening Prayer: TBA  
 Announcements: Pat Seamon  
 Presiding: Harry Gayle  
 Reading: Cletis Diehl  
 Message: Elders

A/V Tech: Ray Green

Shepherd's Prayer: Gary Canup

- + Service at Life Care of Mel., 9:30 a.m.: Ken Jones