



Melbourne

Church of Christ

Where You Are Part of God's Family

September 11, 2011

God Is Self-Sacrificing

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." (John 15:13)

For many of us, understanding the need for God to become human and die on the cross is difficult to accept or understand. Paul acknowledged the difficulty that people in his day had with this idea, "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing . . . but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles" (1 Corinthians 1:18, 23).

Maybe we can get a glimpse of understanding from the cycle of nature. Towering oaks and beautiful tomato plants all come about the same way, from a tiny acorn or seed—very tiny in comparison to the tree or the plant. Yet, that oak or that tomato plant could not live without the seed dying. The seed's greatest power is shown in its death.

Similarly, God's great power is demonstrated in the death and resurrection of Jesus. His action was a one-time sacrifice and the death of Jesus, like the acorn and the seed, bring about new life.

But to understand the spiritual cycle of life, we also need to know that sin is the killer that wants to destroy the entire cycle of spiritual life. Every time someone dies, we are reminded of the power that sin has to destroy. However, every time someone dies in Christ, we are reminded of the power God exerted at the cross to save us from eternal death. Every time we attend a funeral of a Christ follower, we are sad to lose someone we love, but we rejoice that sin and death do not have the final say because of the life-giving death of Jesus on the cross.

Nothing in nature survives without something dying. Not one of us will survive past the death of our physical bodies without the life-giving power of the sacrifice of Christ. We thank God that he provided the key (the seed) for life through Jesus.

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:44b-49, 55-57).

—Steve Puckett



Voltaire, an 18th-century French philosopher, wrote, "Friendship, gift of heaven, delight of great souls . . . is the marriage of the soul."

We welcome all who have come to worship as either friends or potential friends, or better still, as brothers and sisters in Christ.



Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

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

- 9/11 Happy National Grandparents Day!
- 9/11 Worship at Consulate, 2 p.m. - Don Hall & Melbourne Family Singers
- 9/13 Ladies Bible Class, 10:30 a.m. in the church office
- 9/14 Mid-week Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. (*no Wed. night dinners until further notice*)
- 9/18 Blood Drive, 8:15 a.m.-1 p.m., *north* side of our parking lot
- 9/18 Teen Parents Meeting with Walter, after morning service; lunch provided
- 9/18 Young At Heart, lunch at Piccadilly in the Melbourne Square Mall
- 9/25 All-church Fellowship, 5:30 p.m. (this activity is pending)
- 10/15 Ladies Day at Florida Ave. C of C
- 11/3-6 16th Annual South FL Lectureship, Palm Beach Lakes C of C, Palm Beach Gardens



Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

Chipping Away

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. Titus 2:11-12 (NIV)

I have heard it said that Michelangelo looked at a giant rock and saw the statue, David, within the rock. All Michelangelo had to do was take a hammer and chisel and chip away at the rock until David was brought out. Michelangelo chipped away at all the rough edges until he created his masterpiece. He chipped away until he was satisfied that he had brought out exactly what he saw within the rock. When he was finished, he stood back and marveled at his masterpiece. Today we look at the statue of David and still marvel. This masterpiece was created by the master and we are amazed at his creation.

Isn't that what God does with us when we turn our lives over to him through Jesus? When we first turn our lives over to Jesus, repent and are baptized, our sins are washed away; we are a new creation in Christ. Many of us, after baptism, still have some rough edges. God sees the masterpiece within and begins chipping away

until we become what the Master wants and creates. The rough edges being chipped away are all the worldly passions that remain in us. The worldly passions of greed, lust, self-centeredness, gossip, and judgmental behavior, are all behaviors that stand in our way of becoming Godly. God chips away at everything that does not bring him glory and stands in his way. Today, let's allow God to chip away at us and not try to hold on to anything that serves neither us nor God. Let God create the masterpiece he sees within us.

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 - church office, 723.8233 or cell, 501.2014.*

Family News and Notes



Shepherd's Corner

EXPLANATION OF GOD:

"One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times besides bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important. You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides, the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

But...you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.

And...that's why I believe in God."

(Submitted by Al Womack - written by an 8-year-old from Chula Vista, CA for his third grade homework assignment to 'explain God.' I wonder if any of us could have done as well.)

Children's Ministry Announcements

9/11 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 grade) will go directly to the Children's Worship room after Bible class. Our virtue this month is Knowledge
* Please pick up your children promptly after services.

9/14 Wed. PM - Classes at 6:30 PM All children age 3 years-5th grade go to the Children's Worship Room (nursery is provided for younger children). Our theme this semester is Jesus of Nazareth.

9/4/2011

CW Contribution \$111.00
(All CW contributions go to Called & Compelled Honduras Missions)

Attendance:

Sunday School (Cradle roll-5th grade)	32
Preschool Children's Worship	9
Elementary Children's Worship	29
Nursery	7

Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

Sept. 11, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Bonita Potts/Juliette Adams/Callie Heuser

Nursery: Stacy Green/Melissa Webber

Sept. 18, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Pam Mason/Katy Stapor/Callie Heuser

Nursery: Mary Parker/Cheri Tate



Food Pantry Report

This past week, 106 families (306 individuals) were served with food through our food pantry!

Donations of non-perishable items (*there is always a special need for cereal!*) or money to purchase them are always welcome and appreciated! Thank you to Bob Eckelberry, Lorraine Prieto, Stephen Fennell, our dedicated staff of volunteers, and to all who continue to support our pantry in any way! Back-up help is frequently needed -- if you would like to serve our community through the pantry, contact one of the folks above.

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

Order of Worship
September 11, 2011

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes All Ages 9:30 a.m.
 AM Worship 10:30 a.m.
 ** PM Worship 6:00 p.m.
 (Alternative Care Group meetings various times - see list below or contact Ken Jones)
 4th Sun. all-church fellowship, 5:30 p.m.
 2nd Sun. TORCH fundraiser pancake breakfasts will resume in Oct.

Tuesday

Ladies' Bible Class 10:30 a.m.
 In the church office
 Men's Prayer Meeting 1st Tues. 7 p.m.
 In the church office

Wednesday

Classes for all ages 6:30 p.m.
 ** Care Groups:
 Don Nickens (795-4223); Calvin Potts (725-4679); Gary Canup (952-0558); Bob Eckelberry (984-3927); Walter Pierce (327-3684); Steve Puckett (432-9932);

Worship Leader	Walter Pierce
<i>We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise</i>	54
Welcome/Announcements	Pat Seamon
<i>Sing Hallelujah to the Lord</i>	242
<i>Our God, He Is Alive</i>	23
Shepherd's Prayer	Calvin Potts
<i>When I Survey the Wondrous Cross</i>	315
Lord's Supper/Offering	Don Hall
<i>Victory in Jesus</i>	470
<i>In Christ Alone</i>	Overhead Slides
Scripture Reading <i>John 15:13</i>	Bill Pinch
Sermon Message "God Is Self-Sacrificing"	Steve Puckett
<i>No Not One</i>	396
Closing Prayer	Bob Eckelberry
<i>You Are My All in All</i>	484

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 Hounschell, Financial Secretary
 Ken Jones, Involve. Min./Counseling
 Debby Nickens, Children's Minister
 Walter Pierce, Youth Minister
 Steve Puckett, Senior Minister
 Cheri Tate, Secretary

- + A/V Tech: Ray Green
- + Service at Life Care of Melbourne, 9:30 a.m.: Tyrone Carter

Family Record 9/4/11

Attendance

6th Grade-Adult Bible Classes:	94
Children's Bible Classes:	32
Total Bible Classes:	126
Auditorium Worship	186
Children's Worship/Nursery:	45
Total Worship Count:	231

Budget Items

Weekly Budget 7/1/11-6/30/12	\$ 9,784
Contribution to Budget:	\$12,078
Contribution to Special Items:	\$ 1,073
YTD Over/Short:	(\$ 1,934)

Worship Coordinators

Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl

Servers: Taylor Neidlinger (RS)
 (Sept.) Eulice Curington (RM)
 Chip Carothers (C)
 Jorge Lara (LM)
 Alex Heuser (LS)

Ushers: Keefe Roman (RS)
 (Sept.) Dave Stover (RM)
 John Hounschell (C)
 Hedison Mui (LM)
 Andrew Zima (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (Sept.): Calvin Potts

Serving Next Sunday, Sept. 18

Song Leader: Josh McGough
 Announcements: Pat Seamon
 Shepherd's Prayer: Calvin Potts
 Presiding: Calvin Potts
 Reading: Alex Zima
 Message: Steve Puckett
 Closing Prayer: Robert Bettis

A/V Tech: Rich Mason

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