

Melbourne

Church of Christ

Where You Are Part of God's Family

November 20, 2011

Simplicity

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law. (Matthew 7:28-29)

When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles! (Mark 6:2)

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. (Luke 4:20-22)

One of my favorite scenes from the movie *Forrest Gump* is when he says to the woman he has always loved, even though she has not loved him back, "Jenny, why don't you love me. I'm not a smart man, but I know what love is." This is a profound statement by a person who is characterized in the film as "dumb." Even though many of us might not be able to define love precisely, we know love when we see it and feel it. And for those of us who might be "smart," we can be really dumb when it comes to the simple joys and values of life.

When I read the Bible, I am impressed with its profound simplicity. God does not make his will complicated to understand. Most of it, even a child comprehends. Our problem, however, is that we have gotten lost in our own interpretation and understanding of God's will as it has been passed along to us by those in our individual church situations. We've become lost in the complication of the world like Jenny searching for a greater adventure or bigger high while all the time there is something simple and beautiful that surpasses them all.

Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, presents profoundly simple teaching. Everyone who heard him could understand what he said, unlike the complicated interpretations of the rabbis of his day. Everywhere Jesus went the crowds followed him thirsting for his simple, yet powerful teaching.

In another scene from the movie *Forrest Gump*, Jenny reveals to Forrest that her son is also his son. Forrest is overwhelmed and in a moment of deep emotion asks Jenny, "Is he smart or . . . ?" Jenny replies, "He's very smart. He's one of the smartest in his class." But I am wondering, "Is it really a good thing that little Forrest is 'smart'?" I hope that he absorbs the far greater qualities of love, loyalty, and family values that provided his father a sense of peace and joy even though he was not "smart."

My prayer is that we cling to the simplicity of God's will and his values of love, loyalty, and family.

—Steve Puckett



*Thank you for honoring us with your presence
as we celebrate our citizenship in the kingdom of Christ Jesus.*



Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

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

- 11/20 Young At Heart lunch at FIT cafeteria after morning service
- 11/23 No Wed. night service on 11/23
- 11/24-25 Happy Thanksgiving! Church office will be closed Nov. 24-25
- 11/27 All adult Bible classes will meet in the auditorium at 9:30 a.m.
- 12/4 Worship at Indian River, 2 p.m. with Melbourne Ensemble
- 12/4 All-church holiday fellowship, 5:30 p.m.
- 12/6 Men's 1st Tues. prayer meeting, 7 p.m. in the church office
- 12/11 Worship at Consulate, 2 p.m. with Melbourne Ensemble
- 12/18 Worship at Life Care of Melbourne, 2 p.m., with Melbourne Ensemble
- 12/25 Special Christmas service, 10 a.m. - no Bible classes
- 12/25 No Sun. night service at the church building on 12/25
- 12/26-30 Happy Holidays! Church office will be closed this week, and will reopen on Jan. 2
- 12/28 No Wed. night service on 12/28



Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

One Another

When we get together, I want to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours. Romans 1:12 (NLT)

When Paul wrote this letter to the Believers in Rome there was a lot of murder, mayhem and debauchery going on around the world, just as there is today. Believers in Christ were being tortured and killed. We don't see that here in the USA, but it still happens in other countries. Paul had been imprisoned many times. He had been whipped, beaten, tortured, keel hauled, ship wrecked and other things we can't even imagine. The believers in Rome were living a life that began to depart from the word of God. The things of the world intruded on Christian living. Paul wanted to come to Rome, to not only share his faith writing letters, but also to show them what it was like to live as a Christ follower.

Just as Christians of olden times, there are things that draw our attention away from the word of God. There are also things we pay attention to that oppose the word of God. Have you read the news? Watched T.V. and Movies, Listened to the lyrics of songs? Do you realize it is legal to kill the not yet born in this country? These days women's legs getting out of a car, is what sells cars. T.V. shows and movies have people hopping in and out of bed with all kinds of people, people other than their spouse. There is a country song with the lyrics: "Hey baby shake it for me". Have I become a prude? Am I not politically correct? Have I become a hater?

These are but a few examples of the things in the world we are bombard with and divert us from the word of God. No wonder, Paul couldn't wait to get to Rome. Imagine what he

had to go through. Look at what we have to go through. The world is telling us what is important, right and how to think about it. We need each other. That is one of the reasons we come together, to worship and fellowship. We need encouragement to follow God's word and to be a Christ follower. We need to encourage one another.

In order to stay strong in the word of God we must first read it. We must also understand and meditate on it. We must also live it. We must come together to encourage one another in it. We must come together in prayer and fellowship to encourage and strengthen one another. If we stay away from the Body of Christ we are cheating ourselves and cheating each other. Without the encouragement of one another, we can go down the wrong path. Today let's make it a point to encourage one another. When you need encouragement let us know.

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

Which Direction?

Years ago a man was searching for his family roots and had occasion to visit several cemeteries and read inscriptions. There was a tombstone on which was engraved,

“Pause now stranger as you pass by;
As you are now, so once was I.
As I am now, so soon you'll be.
Prepare yourself to follow me!”

Someone had placed a piece of wood next to the tombstone. On it was written,

“To follow you
I'm not content,
Until I know
Which way you went!”

(God says there are two ways to go!)

The Majority May Not Be Right

A danger exists in assuming that the majority is right. The majority, when against the word of God, results in tragedy. Remember the people of Israel responding to the twelve spies. By far the vast majority sided with the ten spies. Only two from the entire nation sided with God. And only those two entered the land and received the blessings. (Numbers, chapter 13)

Giving

A church member angrily complained to the minister that the church had wastefully purchased five new brooms and he felt the expenditure to be unnecessary.

The minister mentioned it to the church treasurer, who responded, “No wonder he was upset. How would you feel if you saw everything you gave in the past year tied up in five brooms?”

Tom Fennell

Children's Ministry Announcements

11/20 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 CW room after Bible classes. Our virtue this month is **Gratitude**.

* Please pick up your children promptly after services.

11/23 NO BIBLE CLASSES OR WED. SERVICE THIS WEEK

11/13/2011

CW Contribution

\$45

(All CW contributions go to Called & Compelled Honduras Missions)

Attendance:

Sunday School (cradle roll-5th grade)	40
Preschool Children's Worship	7
Elementary Children's Worship	27
Nursery	6

Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

Nov. 20, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Debbie Lovelace/Jenelle Hansen/Benjamin Heuser

Nursery: Cindy Puckett/Sandra Neidlinger

Nov. 27, 2011

Pre-Sch. Worship: Ray Green/Penny Sweredoski/Laurel Carothers

Nursery: Pam Mason/Mary Parker



Food Pantry

This past week, 168 visitors (567 total in families) were provided with food through our food pantry!

With the holiday season approaching, extra donations of non-perishable items, *especially CANNED MEATS or VEGETABLES, are needed at this time. Money donations are also welcome and appreciated.* (there is a basket and a collection box near the pillar on south side of foyer for your donations) Thank you to 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 10:30 a.m.
 ** PM Worship 6:00 p.m.

** (Alternative Care Group meetings various times - see list below or contact Ken Jones)
 2nd Sun. TORCH Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast 12/11 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies' Bible Class 10:30 a.m. in the church office; lunch out on 1st Tues.
 Men's Prayer Meeting (1st Tues.) 7 p.m. in the church office

Wednesday

No Wed. Night Service on 11/23

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);

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

Family Record 11/13/11

Attendance

6th Grade-Adult Bible Classes: 99
 Children's Bible Classes: 40
Total Bible Classes: 139
 Auditorium Worship: 236
 Children's Worship/Nursery: 40
Total Worship Count: 276

Budget Items

Weekly Budget 7/1/11-6/30/12 \$ 9,784
 Contribution to Budget: \$ 9,909
 Contribution to Special Items: \$ 3,526
 YTD Over/Short: (\$ 9,389)

**Order of Worship
 November 20, 2011**

Worship Leader	Tyrone Carter
<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	67
Welcome & Announcements	Pat Seamon
<i>Prince of Peace</i>	<i>Overhead Slides</i>
<i>I Exalt Thee</i>	62
Shepherd's Prayer	Gary Canup
<i>In Christ Alone</i>	<i>Overhead Slides</i>
Lord's Supper	Bob Eckelberry
Offering	Bob Eckelberry
<i>Give Thanks</i>	68
<i>We Will Stand (You're My Brother, You're My Sister)</i>	717
<i>How Sweet, How Heavenly</i>	709
Scripture Reading <i>Matthew 7:28-29</i>	Keefe Roman
Sermon "Simplicity"	Steve Puckett
<i>How Deep the Father's Love</i>	<i>Overhead Slides</i>
Prayer	Ken Jones
<i>Thank You, Lord</i>	474

+ A/V Tech: Ray Green
 + Service at Life Care of Melbourne, 2 p.m. (please note time change from 9:30 a.m.): Tyrone Carter

Worship Coordinators

Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl

Servers: Stephen Fennell (RS)
 (Nov.) Donny Canup (RM)
 Jeff Crowe (C)
 Paul Zima (LM)
 Jonathon Finlayson (LS)

Ushers: Ian Hames (RS)
 (Nov.) Doug Hoffman (RM)
 Harry Gayle (C)
 Austin Diehl (LM)
 Manny Thomas (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (Nov.): Gary Canup

Serving Next Sunday, Nov. 27

Song Leader: Praise Service
 Announcements: Pat Seamon
 Presiding: Jesse Parks
 Reading: Alex Zima
 Message: Steve Puckett
 Closing Prayer: Don Nickens
 A/V Tech: Lindsey Tate

Service at Life Care of Melb., 2 p.m.:
 Calvin Potts