

Melbourne

Church of Christ

Where You Are Part of God's Family

February 5, 2012

**Space of Grace:
A Pause to Allow You to Speak and Act from a Christ-Centered Place**

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! (Philippians 2:3-4)

I grew up in a church culture where church families often split over “principle.” Reflecting back on those experiences, I so wish more of the participants in these splits could have practiced the “space of grace.” This is a term used in *The Good and Beautiful Community* to describe time ranging from a few seconds to several days where one reflects on how to offer an answer that fairly represents Jesus and what he would do in the same situation.

But our selfish needs so often get in the way of the “space of grace.” For whatever reason, looking outside of ourselves to the needs and interests of others instead of focusing exclusively on our own needs is difficult. “I want what I want, when I want it, and how I want it” is a common refrain that is repeated over and over again in our church families.

Think for a minute about the “space of grace” that was required before God could sacrifice Jesus, his only son, for a selfish and rebellious people. God’s decision was centered in the concern for others’ needs beyond his own. God’s decision considered the worth of people above the actions of people. God’s decision valued relationships more than personal preferences.

Now consider how our church families could grow and mature if we behaved like God and Jesus. What would happen if you took some “space for grace” time to consider the value of the person behind the words and actions? What would happen if you set aside your own personal preferences for the greater good of the other person(s)? What would happen if you spoke and acted out of relationship rather than speaking and acting as a reaction to someone else’s words or actions?

Join with me this week and remember these treasured words of Paul from Romans 14: “For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by others.”

—Steve Puckett



*“How good it is to sing praises to our God!” (Psalm 147:1, NRSV).
Welcome to worship, as we join our voices in song to God our Father.*



Melbourne Church Family Calendar/Area Events

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

- 2/5 Worship at Indian River, 2 p.m. with Walter Pierce and Melbourne Singers
- 2/7 Ladies' weekly Bible class in the church office, 10:30 a.m.; lunch out on 1st Tues. of the month
- 2/11 MOceanside devo at the home of Walter & Christa, 6:30 p.m.
- 2/12 TORCH fundraiser pancake breakfast, 8:30 a.m.
- 2/12 Worship at Consulate, 2 p.m. with Jorge Lara and Melbourne Singers
- 2/13 Men's monthly prayer meeting (2nd Mon. of each month), 7 p.m. in the church office
- 2/16 Young At Heart "Welcome to Winter Visitors" brunch, 9:30 a.m.
- 2/16-19 Youth to Winterfest in TN
- 2/25 Ladies' Day, Orange Ave. C of Christ "Faces of Faith" 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- 2/26 All-church potluck fellowship, 5:30 p.m.
- 3/30-4/1 Youth area-wide retreat at Camp Ithiel
- 6/10-15 Puckett/Walker Bible Camp at Camp Ithiel
- 6/17-28 TORCH mission trip to Honduras
- 6/28-7/1 Spiritual Growth Workshop in Orlando



Ramblings From the Tilted Halo Society

Satan's To Do List

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. John 8:42-44 NIV

The Bible has many names for Satan; most include names like deceiver, father of lies, snake, and many other names that are derogatory and away from God. Satan manipulates people into not finding God or getting them to leave God. We must all keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the cross, and God our father. Be aware, Satan has a "to do" list today.

I found a portion of Satan's list (not really, but play along). I want to share it with you; you may know more on his list:

Tell people that a little sin is okay. God will forgive us anyway.

Tell people "Go ahead, you can judge this person. God doesn't like them anyway."

Tell people "God won't forgive me this time."

Tell people God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are just a lie to make them feel better. Tell people God is just a crutch for the weak.

Tell people go ahead, because some controversy and division in their church and the body as a whole is okay; things need to be shaken up a bit anyway.

Tell people "Hey, she/he looks good. You are consenting adults. No one will get hurt."

Tell people foul language, dirty jokes, and gossip are okay. No one will get hurt.

Tell people it is okay to check out pornography. No one will get hurt.

Tell people "Come on, God really didn't mean it that way."

Manipulate people's hearts and minds. Cause distractions. Baffle people's minds with meaningless details.

Help people believe things like: I am tired. I don't need church. I am too busy. I have no time for church events, fellowships, and studying God's Word. God is too busy for me. He isn't listening anyway.

I know you can add to this list. Satan is alive and working in this world to keep us away from God. I am not talking about Flip Wilson's Satan, "the devil made me do it." I am talking about a very real Satan, a very real force in the world. I can be very vulnerable if I am not praying, studying God's Word, or open to correction from God and other mature disciples.

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

Jumping to Conclusions

A man sitting at his window one evening casually called to his wife, "There goes that woman Charlie Smith is so terribly in love with." His wife in the kitchen dropped the plate she was drying, ran through the door, knocking over a lamp, looked out the window. "Where, where?" she cried. "There," he said, "that woman in the red dress on the corner." "You idiot," she hissed, "that is his wife." "Yes, of course," he replied.

Make sure you get all of the facts before judging.

Not a Guest

A little girl of five was saying grace at the table. She prayed as she had heard others pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, be my guest." Then turning suddenly to her mother, she said, "But, Mother, I do not want Jesus to be our guest!" "Why dear?" asked the horrified mother, to which the little one replied, "Well, a guest is one who comes here *sometimes*. I want Jesus here *all* the time!"

How about you? Jesus just on Sundays, or all of the time?

Hypocrisy

Some people who say "our Father" on Sunday go around the rest of the week acting like orphans.

Tom Fennell

Young At Heart Brunch *Welcome, Winter Visitors!*

When: Thurs., Feb. 16, 9:30 a.m.

Where: Melbourne Church of Christ Building

What: Food, Singing, Fellowship

*Please sign up on the bulletin board by Feb. 12
and indicate what you will bring to share.*

Children's Ministry Announcements

2/5 9:30 AM - Bible classes for babies-5th grade
10:30 AM - Nursery available for babies & toddlers 0-2 y/o
Preschool Children's Worship (3 y/o-pre K)
Children Worship (K-5th Grade)

2/8 Wed., 6:30 PM
All children (3 y/o-5th grade) meet in the CW room
Children 0-2 y/o go to the nursery

Scream Free Parenting Class - Week 3

1/29/2012

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

Attendance:

Sunday School (Cradle roll-5th grade)	nc
Preschool Children's Worship	nc
Elementary Children's Worship	nc
Nursery	nc

Pre-School Worship & Nursery Assignments

Feb. 5, 2012

Pre-Sch. Worship: tba/Alex Heuser

Nursery: Vivian Lara/Mary Parker

Feb. 12, 2012

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

Nursery: Shirley Bradley/Bonnie Seamon



Food Pantry

This past week, 121 visitors (368 total in families) were provided with food through our food pantry!

Thank you for your continued donations of non-perishable items to be shared through our food pantry! *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

Order of Worship
February 5, 2012

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; next breakfast on 2/12

Tuesday

Ladies' Bible Class 10:30 a.m. in the church office; lunch out on 1st Tues.
 Men's Prayer Meeting (2nd Mon.) 7 p.m. in the church office

Wednesday

Pizza 5:30 p.m.; classes 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);

Song Leader	Walter Pierce
<i>We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise</i>	54
Welcome and Announcements	Pat Seamon
<i>Majesty</i>	266
<i>Give Thanks</i>	68
Shepherd's Prayer	Mike Lovelace
<i>Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?</i>	382
Communion/Offering	Bill Pinch
<i>More About Jesus</i>	678
<i>Humble Yourself</i>	745
Scripture <i>John 12:23-26</i>	Jessie Hewett
Message "Jesus Is Lord of His People"	Steve Puckett
<i>Turn My Heart, O God</i>	692
Closing Prayer	Jesse Parks
<i>Jesus, Hold My Hand</i>	412

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: Steve Lindsey
- + Service at Indian River 2 p.m.: Walter Pierce and Melbourne Singers
- + Service at Life Care of Melbourne 2 p.m.: David Bradley

Family Record 1/29/12

Attendance

6th Grade-Adult Bible Classes: 123
 Children's Bible Classes:
Total Bible Classes:
 Auditorium Worship 257
 Children's Worship/Nursery:
Total Worship Count:

Budget Items

Weekly Budget Need \$ 9,784
 Contribution to Budget: \$ 8,162
 Contribution to Special Items: \$ 3,126

Worship Coordinators

Ken Jones/Mel Green/Cletis Diehl

Servers: Chip Carothers (RS)
 (Feb.) Alex Zima (RM)
 Glen Wirsch (C)
 Doug Hoffman (LM)
 Larry Frazier (LS)

Ushers: Manny Thomas (RS)
 (Feb.) Austin Diehl (RM)
 Jorge Lara (C)
 Donny Canup (LM)
 Mike Wagner (LS)

Shepherd's Prayer (Feb.): Mike Lovelace

Serving Next Sunday, Feb. 12

Song Leader: Tyrone Carter
 Announcements: Pat Seamon
 Presiding: Steve Lindsey
 Reading: Stephen Fennell
 Message: Steve Puckett
 Closing Prayer: Bob Eckelberry
 A/V Tech: Rich Mason
 Shepherd's Prayer: Mike Lovelace

- + Service at Consulate 2 p.m.: Jorge Lara & Melbourne Singers
- + Service at Life Care of Melbourne 2 p.m.: Ken Jones