

Church of Christ at Ellendale

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SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Worship.....5:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class.....10:00 a.m.
Bible Study and Devotional...7:00 p.m.

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

January 8, 2012

Announcements. Billy Sharp
Lead Singing. Mike O'Guinn
Opening Prayer.. Ron Rasberry

Lord's Table:

David Dement Ham Kirk
Justin Kirk Kim Nance

Sermon. Mike Mays
Closing Prayer. Bill Yow

P.M. Services

Opening Prayer.. Jerry King
Closing Prayer. Steve Elrod

(Please meet in the library as soon as possible after Bible Study.)

Our Elders

David Dement
Billy Sharp

Our Deacons

Steve Elrod
Jerry King
Mike O'Guinn

Our Ministers

Mike Mays

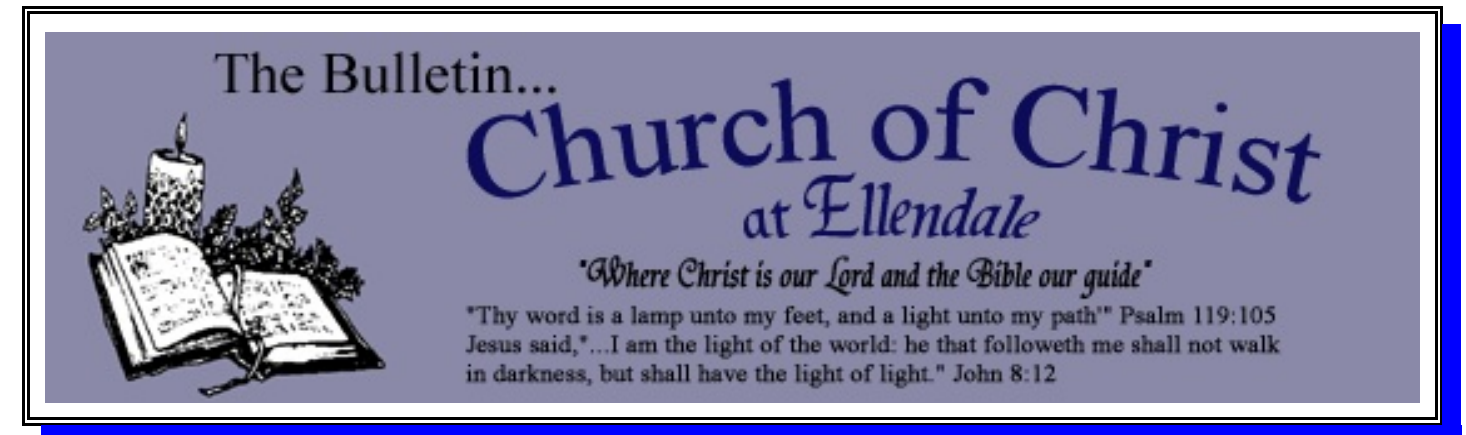
Mission Work

Eastern European Mission
Galloway church of Christ
Haiti
Hungary
India
Milledgeville church of Christ
David Nance (India work)
Paragould Children's Home
Prison Ministry

FOR THE LORD'S SERVICE

January 1, 2012

Budget. \$2,900.00
Contribution. \$3,263.00
Attendance. 81



January 8, 2012

Rummaging Through Old Papers

It was boring going through old papers and throwing them away, but one page caught my attention. It contained notes made to myself after a hospital stay some seventeen years ago. Here is what I found:

Don't be like Job's friends. Be careful what you say to others. Some doctors are "miserable" comforters. One said, "I took one look at you and decided you were probably the sickest man on this floor." Another said, "You have a gallstone lodged in a bile duct. That's the same thing that killed General Douglas MacArthur." I thanked the doctor who failed on the first procedure for going back in the next day and being successful in order that the gallbladder surgery might be performed on the third day. "That's alright," he said, "I really enjoy doing difficult and unusual procedures." There it was: I was just an interesting case! A proverb came to mind: "To make an apt answer is a joy to a man, and a word in season, how good it is!" (Proverbs 15:23). But a word out of season is another matter.

There's a great blessing in silence. I loathed the noise in the hospital. Maybe Carlyle was right when he said, "Under all speech that is good for anything there lies a silence that is better. Silence is deep as Eternity; speech is shallow as Time." Every hospital should post signs: "Please Be Quiet!" Nowhere does the Bible say, "Be energetic, and know that I am God." It says, "Be still and know that I am God." May "the dews of quietness" fall and bless.

Don't be arrogant! I live and move and have my being in God. In arrogance I thought I would speak at a Teacher's Banquet, I would preach a funeral service, I would travel to Vernon, Texas, to preach in a meeting. I would return to Little Rock and preach, and then I would go to York College to teach and preach. Such arrogance! Remember, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and we shall do this or that. As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil." (James 4:15-16).

Though these words were intended to be self-reminders, perhaps they might serve you as well.

John Gipson

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone. We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Please fill out an attendance card located on the back of the pew in front of you and drop it in the contribution plate as it is passed.

Mike's Message

A new year. A fresh start. The opportunity to start over in our resolve to do better and be better for the Lord to His glory. We have been granted, by the Lord's grace, the gift of life, abilities, and opportunities to serve. If it is His will and He allows us to live through the year, we can make this the best year ever in terms of our spiritual growth and maturity, and our effectiveness in serving the Lord by serving others on His behalf.

You might feel like the cartoon that shows a woman looking at her husband making a list of New Year's resolutions. He includes exercise, eat right, get organized. His wife tells him, "Aren't those the same resolutions you made at the start of the last millennium?" Good intentions alone will not make our resolutions a reality.

There's one way to insure that we will not fail - don't make any resolutions. If we aim for nothing, we will hit it every time.

Joe Barnett wrote an article based on 1 Kings 20:40: "As your servant was busy here and there, he was gone." He gives us food for thought that can help us turn our failed resolutions into successes if we will hear and heed.

Resolutions

We are busy establishing New Year's Resolutions.

How did you do on *last* years? Get distracted? Sidetracked?

I heard of a man who bought a new hunting dog. Eager to see how he would perform, he took him hunting. The hound immediately picked up the trail of a bear. After a few steps the dog suddenly stopped, sniffed the ground, and headed a different direction. Now he was tracking a deer that had crossed the path of the bear. Soon he stopped again, and started following the scent of a rabbit that had crossed the path of the deer. The pattern was constantly repeated until finally the exhausted and disgusted hunter caught up with his dog, barking triumphantly at a cornered field mouse.

It's really a matter of priorities - *kept* priorities. In the story behind our text, a soldier had been ordered to guard a captured enemy. This was his primary duty! But as he flitted "here and there" the prisoner escaped.

Some accomplish very little. They are good. Likeable. Talented. They have good intentions. Make good resolutions. But they don't have the concentration and persistence to stay on track until they've completed the task. They flit from one thing to another, never doing any harm. Never accomplishing anything either.

Have a strong purpose? A good resolution? Look neither right nor left. Stick with it.

News & Notes

OUR SICK & HOMEBOUND

Edd Marie Agnew, Jim & Birdie Arnold, Martha Harris, Kameron Kirk, Yvonne Meyers, Kim Nance, Charles & Lucille Neal, Evan Rasberry, Maggie Schlafer, Lorene Watson, Carolyn White

(Please pick up a copy of the Friends & Family sick list and remember them with your prayers and cards, calls or visits. Also, please let the office know of any additions, corrections or deletions that need to be made.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan. 8 - Ham Kirk's C.A.R.E. Team #2 mtg.

Jan. 9 - Truck from Children's Home
Suggested grocery items are: pancake mix, sugar, cream of celery soup, hair spray, men's stick deodorant and snack bars. Clothing and household items are also appreciated.

Jan. 14 - Hal Rounds will give a free lecture on the **Constitution January 14**. This will be in the **Fellowship Hall from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.** For further details check with **Mary Bryson** or **Jowe Albrecht**. Also, there is a flyer on the bulletin board.

Jan. 29 - Congregational Dinner/1 p.m. Service

SIGN-UP SHEETS

New sign-up sheets for Wednesday night devotionals and Ladies' Night are on the bulletin board.

DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Please add the following addresses to your small directory:

Judy Espy
2933 Hogan Lane
Lakeland, TN 38002
921-7504
B-8/19

Greg & Sandra Stevenson
Grant, Greg Jr.
7271 Third St.
Bartlett, TN 38135
237-3460
Greg's cp 828-3007

B-Greg 9/24/ Sandra 4/19; Grant 7/16; Greg Jr. 6/26
A-10/2

Sermon Outline

Doing What You Can
Mark 14:3-9

Practical lessons for us:

1. _____ is _____.
John 3:16; 1 John 4:8
2. _____ are gone forever.
John 9:4; 2 Cor. 6:2; Eph. 5:15-16
3. _____ receives God's _____
and _____.
Mark 14:6; Luke 12:15-21
4. Whatever is _____ for _____ is
_____ - everything else is _____.
Mark 14:9; Matt. 10:42; 2 Tim. 1:12

What does God expect from Christians?

1. _____ than we are _____
of _____.
Mark 14:8; Matt. 13:23; 25:14-30
2. _____ than we are
_____ of _____.
Luke 12:48; Eccl. 9:10; Col. 3:23

Why should we do what we can?

1. The _____ of the _____ depends
on it. Eph. 4:16
2. Our _____ depends on it.
Matt. 25:30