

Church of Christ at Ellendale

7365 US Hwy 70 (Summer Ave.)
Bartlett, TN 38133-2631
Church Office: (901) 386-5008
Fax: (901) 384-9312

E-mail: ellendalechurch@bellsouth.net
Web Site:
ellendalechurchofchrist.org

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

February 5, 2012

Announcements. Billy Sharp
Lead Singing. Mike O'Guinn
Opening Prayer.. David Dement

Lord's Table:

James Bennett Steve Elrod
Jerry King Kim Nance

Sermon. Mike Mays
Closing Prayer. Ed Williams

P.M. Services

Opening Prayer.. Aaron Anderson
Closing Prayer. David Schlafer

(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

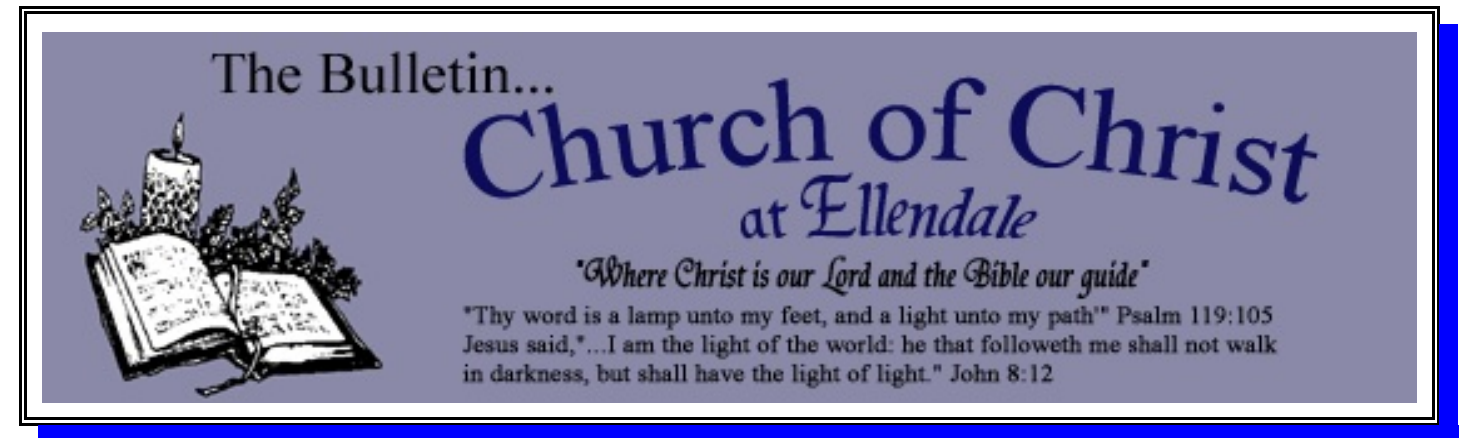
Haiti
Hungary
India

Milledgeville church of Christ
David Nance (India work)
Paragould Children's Home
Prison Ministry

FOR THE LORD'S SERVICE

January 29, 2012

Budget. \$2,900.00
Contribution. \$3,100.00
Attendance. 80



February 5, 2012

A Strange Thought

The writer said, "Life on earth would not be worth much if every source of irritation were removed." Now that's a strange thought. Given my choice, I would like to kick every one of them in the teeth and be done with it. But come to think of it, a true pearl is simply a victory over irritation. The oyster has taken an irritation and made something beautiful of it.

Could it be possible that every annoyance that gets into our lives today is simply an opportunity for pearl culture?

I remember the startling words of James, "Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." (James 1:2-4). Did I hear him right? Did James really say that when we meet trials we should "count it all joy"? Is it possible that struggling against difficulty and opposition produces spiritual stamina?

G. Coleman Luck tells how a young minister, realizing he lacked patience, once asked an older man to pray that he might have more patience. The aged man knelt beside the young preacher, and began to pray that God would send trouble and difficulties upon the youth. After a while the younger brother tapped the older minister upon the shoulder and whispered: "You must have misunderstood me; I asked that you would pray that I might have more patience, not more trouble" Then the older man replied: "The Scripture says, 'Tribulation worketh patience.' That is the only way.

Oh, the blessings of irritations and trials! From such come opportunities of growth and development.

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

Our **Ladies Appreciation Dinner** will be this Saturday night at 6:00. We owe our ladies a great debt of gratitude for the service they render in the church and in our homes. A great void would be left in the work that is done if we did not have our ladies. While we want our ladies to know throughout the year how much we appreciate them, this gives us a special opportunity to say "thank you."

"Something is frightfully wrong"

Vance Havner said: "Something is frightfully wrong when we have to beg most Christians to come to the services of the church to hear the gospel, God's Word, taught." He's right.

In virtually every congregation of the church there exists a disparity between the Sunday morning worship attendance, and the number who attend Sunday morning Bible classes and the Sunday night worship service. If we lose our appetite for food, a trip to the doctor to be checked out would be in order. In the same way, if we lose our appetite for studying God's Word, a spiritual check-up from the neck up is urgently needed.

Contrast that attitude with that of some of God's devoted servants:

"I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food" (Job 23:12).

"O how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97).

"Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so" (Acts 17:11).

"Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation" (1 Pet. 2:2).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied" (Matt. 5:6). Hungering and thirsting for learning and living God's Word should be standard equipment for those of us who wear the name of Christ. If we want to know God, the place to start is His Word, which reveals His heart, mind, and will. We can know the Book without knowing God, but we cannot know God without knowing the Book.

I read that 20 percent of 18 to 25-year-olds say they have no religion, and many of them want to instill their faith in atheism and secular humanism in their children. To do that, Atheist Sunday School has been established at the Humanist Community Center in Palo Alto, California; there are similar programs in Phoenix, Albuquerque, and Portland. They know that the key to instilling atheism in their children and others is through Sunday School. If we are wise, we will utilize our Sunday School and other Bible classes to instill faith in God in our children and to strengthen our own faith.

What does your Bible class and worship attendance say about your spiritual health? If something is frightfully wrong, it is not too late to change.

News & Notes

OUR SICK & HOMEBOUND

Edd Marie Agnew, Jim & Birdie Arnold, Virginia Bennett (Meth. Germantown, Rm. 314 So.), Martha Harris, Larry Mays (Gallaway Nursing Home. If you wish to send cards, please send them to Mike's address and he will take them to Larry.), Barbara Nance, Kim Nance, Charles & Lucille Neal, Carolyn Quick, Evan Raspberry, Ron Raspberry, 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. Please let the office know of any additions, corrections or deletions that need to be made.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Feb. 5 - Elders/Deacons' Mtg., 2 p.m,

Feb. 5 - Worship in Song, p.m. service

Feb. 5 - Elders/Ladies Mtg. after evening service

Feb. 5 - Ed Williams' C.A.R.E. Team #1 after evening service

Feb. 11 - Ladies' Appreciation Dinner, 6 p.m.

PRISON MINISTRY

Good news from the Prison Ministry! Last Sunday 8 women were baptized into Christ:

Amanda Abrans #478123

Sharon Barnett #252194

Claudia Craime #484152

Ginger Davis #393027

Michelle Kirby #238282

Tiffany McNeal #326212

Monique Murray #430494

Jennifer Simcox #447284

Their address is:

Mark H. Luttrell Correctional Center

6000 State Road

Memphis, Tn 38134

"Going to church regularly is like making a path through the forest—the more often you use it, the less obstructions you find in the way."

Sermon Outline

The Point of No Return

Hebrews 6:4-6

Three ways to reach the point of no return.

1. _____ God's _____.
 - a. Sin is _____ and _____.
Isa. 5:20; 59:2; Heb. 3:12-13
 - b. Sin works _____ to take _____ of our _____.
2 Tim. 3:13
 - c. That's the way people _____ from _____ and the _____.
Rev. 2:4
 - d. Sin _____. John 8:34
2. By being a _____.
Heb. 6:4-6
 - a. A _____ Christian is someone who is a Christian in _____. Rev. 3:1
 - b. We cannot take Christ _____ without suffering _____.
Matt. 25:29
 - c. Many professed Christians are suffering from _____ of the _____.
due to _____.
2 Peter 2:20-21
3. Delaying _____ to the _____.
 - a. Continued _____ of _____ the _____.
Prov. 29:1; Luke 8:5, 12; 1 Tim. 4:2
 - b. Each time a person _____ and does not _____, he moves closer to the point at which he _____.