



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXIV August 26, 2007 No. 34

From Where I Sit

Michael D. Greene

It is good to be home after a two week trip to the western states of Arizona and Colorado for some R&R. Mary and I saw some beautiful country and met some interesting people along the way, but it is always good to be back home.

Many thanks to all who communicated in any way their condolences at the death of my niece, Jamie Hopkins. Such a tragedy (she was only 33 years old) is a vivid and stark reminder of the frailty and brevity of life. While we all anticipate living a full life to a ripe old age, the reality can be very, very different.



On other trips out west, Mary and I have flown to a destination and then rented a car. This time we drove across the country. Going and coming we traversed twelve different states. I must say that driving certainly gives a different view than does flying. You see things that you would never see from an airplane.

Some who read this will be old enough to remember the Burma Shave signs that once lined our highways. For those who don't, Burma Shave was a once popular brand of shaving cream. They advertised alongside the highways of mid-twentieth century America with verses on four to six small signs, the last one always had "Burma Shave" on it. One of those verses went like this: "The whale... Put Jonah down the hatch...but coughed him up...because he scratched... Burma Shave." (More information wanted on Burma Shave signs? Google it!)

Well, we saw several of those signs along old route 66 in Arizona. I am sure that they were put up by some society or agency intent on helping folks remember the "good old days" when route 66, not interstate 40, was the "mother road" from the Midwest to the promised land of California.

What is the point of all that? It can serve as a reminder that very few things of this world achieve any permanency. As one drove the highways and byways of America in the 1950's few would have thought that within a very few years Burma Shave and "See Rock City" signs would be so rare as to be the occasions of wonder for young folks and nostalgia for older folks.

The nature of this world seems to be change. Can this be one reason God calls upon us as Christians to love not the world for it is passing away (1 John 2:15-17)? The only things that will last through life and into eternity are those things that pertain to God.

The advertising fads and products of the early 21st century will soon be as forgotten as Burma Shave and those signs. But remember that God, His Word, and the things of God are unchanging and eternal.

Ray's Ramblings

Ray Pack

A new chapter of life has begun for Kay and me. Stephanie is now all grown up and has moved away from home to further her education in Lexington. All parents with older children have experienced this I suppose. Many would call this phase the

beginning of the empty nest syndrome. I am not really sure about that title, due to the fact that I feel it is the empty feeling syndrome. As our children grow into adulthood we must remember we have done all we can do for them. They must now put into practice all the lessons we have taught them through the years. My words of encouragement for all parents with young children is to prepare your child or children to face life with a deep faith in the Lord. Even with the best of upbringing nothing can prepare them more than to have faithful parents who are great teachers, as well as examples. While my empty feeling will go away at some point that doesn't mean that I will not miss Stephanie and Lauren when they are grown and gone from home. Who knows, someday they may return home to visit with additions in their life. Kay and I have.



Thanks to Rick and Kim Whobrey for hosting our monthly devotional last Sunday evening. I know they planned for us to be able to go outside and enjoy some cornhole. I didn't mind not playing because we really needed the rain that fell Sunday night.



I am excited about being able to work with Terry Nowland, our deacon who will work with the Youth, 6th grade and older. We have already begun working on some future plans and activities. Young folks are encouraged to bring suggestions to us and let us discuss them. You never know, we might just participate in that activity.



Don't forget to sign up for Bible Bowl 2008.

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. - *The Christian Walk*
Ephesians 2:10

P.M. - *A God of Our Choice, Psalm 24:1-10*

Contentment

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say:

Contentment is something most people desire but few find it.

To be content is to be satisfied and few of us are. It seems that it is the nature of mankind to be discontent with what they are or what they have. We are trained from a child to never be satisfied with our current situation. Better and more are put into our vocabulary very early in life and these words stay with us until death do us part. Our greatest goal should be to advance in those things that are important and be satisfied with those unimportant matters. This is not an easy task for it requires us to place priorities in our lives.

*"The LORD is my helper;
I will not fear.*

What can man do to me?"

Hebrews 13:5-6

"Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content." (1 Tim. 6:6-8). Do we believe what Paul says? Do we accept the concept of being content with food and clothing because we cannot take anything with us? Americans are not taught to accept this fact. Job accepted the fact that he brought nothing into the world and could take nothing out and we have an advantage over him in that we have the whole word of God to encourage us.

Hebrews 13:5 says, "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: for he has said, I will never leave you, nor forsake you." Psalm 23:1, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" These two verses suggest our total dependence upon God. As a sheep is totally dependent upon the shepherd, so should we be upon the Lord. The expression, 'the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence' is what gets us in trouble. We covet that grass and wander away from the shepherd and become a lost sheep.

Paul was a great example of one who had attained contentment. He wrote in Phil. 4:11, "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." A very important word in this verse is 'learned'. It was not natural for Paul to be content with his state but he had to learn it. God gave Paul a 'thorn' in the flesh to buffet him lest he be exalted above measure. (2 Cor. 12:7) He wrote in 1 Cor. 9:27 that he disciplined his body and brought it into subjection, lest when he had preached to others, he should become disqualified for heaven.

These passages indicate that Paul was always on guard to keep from becoming discontented. It is one of Satan's tasks to make us become discontented with our lot in life. For the rich, no matter how much they have, they want more. The poor look at the rich and want to become rich. As we converse with people today, we can see that Americans may have become the most discontented people in the world. We complain about taxes, the weather, our homes, our cars, our schools, our churches and whatever else seems to be the topic of the day. At times it seems that advertisers and the media are the instruments of Satan. The advertiser is supposed to make us discontented with what we have so that we will go out and purchase what his client is selling. The media has a need to make us discontented with our government.

You may have said or heard someone say, when observing someone living in a condition that is less than desirable, "I couldn't live like that." Yet that person may be much more contented than we are. It has been observed that many homeless people are very content to live that way because they don't have the problems that others have. Experiments have been made to take a homeless person out of his environment, give him a job and find him a home and try to make him live as others do. This is often unsuccessful since he was content with food and clothing and did not require anything more. We worry about many things because we are not content with having food and clothing.

—Article from: *Chapel Glen church of Christ bulletin,*
9001 West 10th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana
submitted by: Jason Dunn

News and Notes

J MARTIN was to be released from VA Hospital Wednesday or Thursday. **JAN ALLEN**, Scott Allen's sister in law, has been diagnosed with cancer.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	Roy Johnson
Alyenne Bates	Doris Martin
Neil Burden	J Martin
Elonda Crafton	Tom Morgan
W. C. Davis	Marie Rose
Joyce Fulkerson	Terry Showers
Howard & Millie Gardner	Grace Speer
Bernard Gillim	Wilma Stull
Jacob Gringle	Barbara Underwood
Faye Guess	Lonnie Underwood

Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers: Justin Burg, Dave Fulbright, Scott Allen, Robert E. Wooten, Justin Gardner, Kelly Leverett, George Edwards, Joe Betterton, Myles Brothers, Dale Martin, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Mike Chandler

Additional Prayer List: Delsie Axton, Darcie Bergeson, Gil Berry, Christa Bradley, Sue Cantrell, Conner Casey, Carolyn Gaston, Sydney Dover, Ellen Duvall, Kevin Fox, Sadie Gentry, Betty Goheen, Renee Green, Jane Hack, Tonya Harper, Louie Hodge, Michelle Lawson, Lina Lee, Gayle Massey, Erman McClaskey, Lucinda McCune, Terri McDonald, Bobby Montgomery, Donald Montgomery, Phil Noltemeyer, Joe Pawley, Stephen Pitcock, Charles Pottinger, Patsy & Joe Richter, Roge-Ge-Neal Smith, Florence Stull, Darrell Tade, Reiko Tarasavage, Patsy Taylor, Juanita Tillery, Andrew Verble, Laura Walker, Kevin Weaver, Kendell Whisenant, Joseph Wise

Thank You

Dear Christian Family,
I just wanted to say thank you to everyone for the calls and cards that were sent to me after my back surgery. I really appreciated every one of them. Thanks again.

*In Christian Love,
Caroline Pence*

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 8/26/07 Canned green beans

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **August 26**, at 3:00 p.m.
- **AUGUST BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY GET-TOGETHER**, Sunday night, **August 26**, after evening services. CSG #3 will host. Please bring finger foods, desserts and drinks.
- **AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**, Tuesday, **August 28**, from 3:00-7:00 p.m. We have been asked to collect 25 units. Please check the bulletin board for the sign up sheet to make an appointment.
- **MONTHLY PHONE CALL** to Central brethren in Donetsk, Sunday morning, **September 9**, at 8:30 a.m.
- **CHURCH WORKERS WORKSHOP**, Monday, **September 10**, at 10:30 a.m.
- **FALL GOSPEL MEETING**, **September 21-23**, with Mel Futrell, minister of the Shades Mountain Church of Christ in Birmingham, Alabama
- **TEACHER TRAINING SERIES**, **September 24-25**, at South Green Church of Christ, in Glasgow. Information is posted on the bulletin board. Mike Greene will be one of the speakers.

New Addresses

Please make these changes to your directory.

Jerry & Angela Carter

805 Partridge Way
Elizabethtown, KY 42701
Phone #862-5769

Jon & Holly Walker

6655 Rineyville Big Springs Rd.
Rineyville, KY 40162

OUR RECORD FOR

August 19, 2007

Sunday Bible Study	147
Sunday Morning Assembly	225
Sunday Evening Assembly	138
Tuesday Ladies Bible Class	14
Wednesday Bible Study	112
Contribution (Budget -- \$5,885)	\$6,196

**Elder/Coordinator for August
Mike Pence**

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
1211 N. Dixie Ave.
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Church Office: 765-6446
Fax # 737-0491

Elders:

Ron Carter	358-5792
Dennis Hogan	234-0705
Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

Ministers:

Michael D. Greene	862-9971
	cell # 735-6908
Ray Pack	982-3460
	cell # 723-7564

Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
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Email: churchofchrist@kvnet.org

Visit us on the World Wide Web:
www.etowncofc.org

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: Who was awakened with orders to pray, the purpose being to save his life and the life of others?

Last Week's Bible Question: What wicked woman was from a valley of Sorek? The correct answer is Delilah, Judges 16:3-4. Kay Thomason, Edna Ashlock, Joyce Pack, Kay Pack, Bloria Taylor, Mary Walker, and Betty Bray correctly answered the question.

Please write down your answer and give it to Ray, put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to **rpack119@bbtel.com** by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
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Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
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Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Week 31

1. Nehemiah 1-3; Luke 22:31-53
2. Nehemiah 4-6; Luke 22:54-23:12
3. Nehemiah 7; Luke 23:13-46
4. Nehemiah 8-10; Luke 23:47-24:12
5. Nehemiah 11-13; Luke 24:13-35

Aug. 26 — Singing at Atria
Aug. 26 — Birthday/Anniversary Get-together
Aug. 28 — Red Cross Blood Drive
Sept. 21-23 — Fall Gospel Meeting

PARTICIPATION

Are You Part of the

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
Elizabethtown, KY 42702

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