



# The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ  
Vol. XXXVI February 7, 2010 No. 5

## Confidence Corner

John F. Board

In today's world, attacks on our faith can come from almost anywhere; they are saddest when they come from those who claim to be a part of us. If you have not done so, turn and read the article on the inside of the

bulletin. This week's *Confidence Corner* will further address some thoughts based upon the article in *The Tennessean*.

For some time now certain elements of congregations of the churches of Christ have been moving away from the Scriptures. Consider the words of religious historian Glenn Carson regarding the Otter Creek church, the church featured in the article from the Nashville area. Carson indicated, "...congregations like Otter Creek are creating a fourth stream of the Restoration movement, distinct from Churches of Christ and other groups. One of the first so-called progressive congregations was Woodmont Hills in Nashville. Another is Richland Hills Church of Christ, near Fort Worth, Texas. They are all larger, urban congregations, who are operating in a community church mode, rather than a Church of Christ mode," Carson said. "And they are in the process of opening up to other denominations."

Should we follow suit? That is, should we begin to open up to denominations? In order to do so we would have to believe that Christ believed in more than one set of believers (denominations suggests by its very name more than one group of believers).

But Christ clearly taught that He would build His Church (singular Matt. 16:18). Peter taught that as people were saved through their baptism to have their sins washed away, the Lord added to "the being saved ones" (Acts 2:38ff). Paul taught that there is one body and that the one body is the church (Eph. 4:4ff and Col. 1:18) which has Christ as its head. If there is one body, and the body is the church, what is the conclusion? There is one church! What is so serious about this subject is the fact that like in Noah's day, when salvation was only found in the ark—today salvation is only found in the one true church—the ark of God today.

jfb

## ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE

John F. Board

Is the Bible a book we can trust? So often people have tried to question and challenge the Word of God. Time and time again, the Bible has withstood the test of time and the attacks of men. Consider the following from Abraham Negev:

The Dead Sea Scrolls are perhaps the greatest archaeological discovery of the present century. The seven scrolls were found by a Bedouin in a cave near the northwestern shore of the Dead Sea, in 1947. Some of these were acquired by E.L. Sukenik for the Hebrew University while the rest were sold in the United States and later bought by the Government of Israel; all are now kept in the Shrine of the Book in Jerusalem. Shortly after the first discovery, several scholars and larger numbers of Bedouins, began the hunt for more scrolls. Numerous additional ones were found in the vicinity of Khirbet Qumran, and some in four other caves to the north of that site.

The scrolls were mostly written on parchment (Leather); only a few were on papyrus (Writing materials). The writing was mostly in ink made of powdered charcoal, though a metallic ink was also used. The scrolls were written in the Hebrew square script (Inscriptions). Certain words, such as the names for God, were sometimes written in the ancient Hebrew script.

The importance of the discovery of these scrolls is that some of them are copies of certain books of the Bible made between the 2nd century BC and the 2nd century AD, and are thus earlier by about a thousand years than any previously known copy of the Bible. They are of great value in tracing the process of codification of the books of the Bible.

Source: *The Archaeological Encyclopedia of the Holy Land* (3rd ed.) New York: Prentice Hall Press (1996).  
(edited to fit jfb)

## Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — *The Power of Faith, Luke 17:5-6*  
*Daniel Capshaw will speak.*

P.M. — *David, Goliath, and Noah: A Lesson*  
*for the Children, 1 Samuel 17:4-11*

## CHRIST DROPS ISOLATIONIST VIEWS, JOINS HANDS WITH JUDAISM

Hold on to your horses for a minute. You **did** read that title correctly. Of course it is written “tongue in cheek” in response to another headline that Steve Higginbotham forwarded to me through email. In the January 31st issue of *The Tennessean* an article written by Bob Smietana appeared entitled *Churches of Christ drop isolationist view, work with other faiths*. If that is not shocking enough, look at how the article begins, immediately setting its prejudice tone:

When he was growing up, Doug Sanders learned there were two kinds of people in the world. Those who belonged to the a cappella [Churches of Christ](#), who were going to heaven. And those who didn't who were going to hell.

"In the Church of Christ, we had all the answers," said Sanders, associate minister at [Otter Creek Church](#) in Brentwood. "And if we had the answers, that meant everyone else didn't. It's kind of embarrassing to admit it, but that's the way it was."

Yes you read that correctly—another approach to attack those who are sincerely putting forth effort to look at what God has authorized through His Word. Because they are firm in their beliefs they are ridiculed by others who have “decided” that God would be accepting of all faiths.

Those who believe God is accepting of all faiths seem to have an insurmountable difficulty—how do they prove to the world that what they claim about God is true. Well of course the obvious answer is that they would turn to God's Word—His revealed written revelation—and show where God has revealed this information to man. The problem is that when they turn to God's Word for their information, they cannot find anywhere that reveals God is accepting of people of all faiths.

Oh contraire, even Jesus Himself indicated that there would be many who cried out to Him, “Lord, Lord” but would not do those things of which he approved (Matthew 7:21-23). How would such a one meet or not meet the Lord's approval? The answer is found in Jesus words, “...he that doeth the will of my Father in heaven.” In other words, in order to have the approval of Jesus, one had to follow God's will in their lives.

Now examine this for just a minute. Jesus implied there is a right way and a wrong way (Matthew 7:13ff), that one had to follow the will of the Father in heaven in order to meet with Christ's approval (Matthew 7:21), and that the result of failing to follow God's will in concern for the needy (specifically) and in any area in which He had revealed His will (implied) would lead to eternal punishment (Matthew 25:46).

Even if the bias case of the writer be accepted as fact—that is that the members of the church thought they were the only ones going to heaven—in light of God's Word what is more loving? Is it more loving to teach people the serious condition of their souls if they are outside of Christ (Galatians 3:26-27) or to provide a false acceptance for them allowing them to continue deceived until they face the Lord in judgment?

What would Jesus do? Would He teach an open acceptance of all those who believed in His Father, thus accepting the Jews or would He say “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to the Father except by Me” or “You will die in your sins, except that you believe that I am he, you will die in your sins?” If you read your Bibles you know the answer.

Was Jesus an isolationist? Perhaps not in the negative sense that the writer of the newspaper article intends. He was an exclusionist though; He excluded from salvation those who chose not to follow His Father's will in their lives. If we attempt to help others to see the plain teaching of Scripture, are we isolationists? Call us what you will in your attempt to discredit. I still believe the most loving thing a person can do for another is to show them the condition of their soul. I know I am glad someone loved me enough to do so!

John F. Board  
Elizabethtown, KY

# News and Notes

**MARY WOODRING** underwent surgery Wednesday at Hardin Memorial. **GALE RADFORD**, Mayford Spear's daughter, underwent surgery Wednesday in Lexington. **ROY MITCHELL**, nephew of Janice Hardin and Mary Woodring, is in Mayo Clinic in Arizona with bone cancer and is undergoing a procedure to cleanse parts of his bone marrow. **CHRIS MUNCY** was injured Sunday afternoon and has a fractured elbow. **CHARLES HARDIN** underwent an emergency appendectomy Tuesday night at Hardin Memorial.

## MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	Andy Nevins
Carl & Delsie Axton	Rosa Lee Norman
Neil Burden	Ruby Keister
Howard Gardner	Helen Raby
Faye Guess	Pansy Sells
Dorothy Hawkins	Grace Speer
Roy Johnson	Oleta Stranahan
Betty Lawson	Kay Thomason
Ron Lemasters	Barbara Underwood
Diane Lewis	Lonnie Underwood
J Martin	Dorotha Weaver
Carl Mercer	Lawrence Wells
Tom Morgan	Jim White

**Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers:** Robert E. Wooten, Kelly Leverett, Korry Leverett, Joe Betterton, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Nathan McClain, Ronald O'Bryant, Roni Reed, Hector Meza, Aaron Wellman, Michael Morrow, Israel Fox, Barry Barclay, Brian Wilkins, Nathan Miller, Dan Sloat, Gregory Stack, A. J. Anderson, Travis Clonch (Afghanistan), Drew McAlpin (Iraq)

## Mission News

Joe & Dorothy Brothers are in Panama this week on a mission trip. Please pray for the success of their trip and for their safety. We are collecting garden seeds for our brethren at the Central congregation in Donetsk, Ukraine. Please bring these by February 21 and put them in the box in the lobby under the mission board.

## Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Dorotha & John Weaver in the death of their nephew, Bill Cyrus, who passed away last weekend.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **5TH GRADE & UNDER** and their parents are invited to "I Made It" pottery studio from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Saturday, **February 6**. Cost will range from \$10 and above. Any questions, please see Monica Bybee.
- **FHU LECTURESHIP, February 7-12**
- **SUPER BOWL PARTY**, Sunday night, **February 7**, at the home of Terry & Tracy Nowland.
- **SUPER SAINTS TRIP** to FHU Lectures, **February 9-12**.
- **CHURCH WORKERS WORKSHOP**, Monday, **February 15**, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 10.
- Mark your calendars for the **SWEETHEART DINNER** on Saturday, **February 20**, 6:00 p.m. in the South Wing.

## Thank You

The family of Bertha Hardin appreciates your kindness shown our family with the beautiful flower basket. The many people who visited the funeral home and attended the funeral, so many cards and phone messages were received. Thanks so much. Our blessings to all of you.  
*Charles & Janice Hardin and Family*

Thank you so very much for the continued prayers, cards and calls on my behalf. All have been so very uplifting. I would especially like to thank the 5th graders and younger children and the ladies Bible class.  
*In Christian Love, Faye Guess*

Thanks to the membership of the Elizabethtown Church for your outpouring of love during my stay in the hospital, especially the visits by John Board and Peggy Johnson. You have made me, Kari & Denny so welcomed. May God richly bless you!  
*Helen Raby*

## Pantry Items of the Week

Week of 2/07/10—Canned pork'n'beans and soup

BENEVOLENT CENTER UPDATE JANUARY 2010	
Food Center	168 families helped
Clothing Center	68 families helped
BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE JANUARY 2010	
Courses graded	205
New enrollees	40

OUR RECORD FOR January 31, 2010	
Sunday Bible Study	139
Sunday Morning Assembly	177
Sunday Evening Assembly	130
Wednesday Bible Study	127
Ladies Bible Class	18
Contribution (Budget -- \$6,888)	\$6,868
<b>Elder/Coordinator for February Rick Whobrey</b>	

## Bible Question

*This Week's Bible Question: What king's hand dried up?*

*Last Week's Bible Question: Name at least three different colors of horses named in the Bible. The correct answers are red, sorrel, white, black, bay, speckled, and pale found in Zechariah 6:2-3 and Revelation 6:2-8. Those who answered the question correctly are: Mary Walker, Trey Clark, Edna Ashlock, Joyce Pack, Nadine Fulkerson, Bloria Taylor, Helen Raby, Rick Eiler, Lorene Harris, Reagan and Samuel White.*

*Please write down your answer and put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to [chofchrist@windstream.net](mailto:chofchrist@windstream.net) 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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### Elders:

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Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

### Minister:

John Board	763-1677
	cell # 505-3925

### Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
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Email: [chofchrist@windstream.net](mailto:chofchrist@windstream.net)

Visit us on the World Wide Web:  
[www.etowncofc.org](http://www.etowncofc.org)

Daily Bible Reading Schedule  
Feb. 6 — 5th Grade & Under "I Made It!"  
Feb. 7 — Super Bowl Party, Nowlands  
Feb. 7-12 — FHU Lectureship  
Feb. 9-12 — Super Saints Trip to FHU Lectures  
Feb. 15 — Church Workers Workshop  
Feb. 20 — Sweetheart Dinner  
Feb. 26-28 — CYC, Gatlinburg  
Feb. 28 — Singing at Atria  
March 13 — Etown Ladies Day

Are You Part of the  
PARTICIPATION

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Elizabethtown Church of Christ  
P. O. Box 652  
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