

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 25, Number 31

July 31, 2006

Baptism

This past Sunday was another great day at South Green Street. At the invitation, Natalie Dugger came forward, confessed her faith in Christ and was baptized. Natalie is the daughter of Jonathan & Amada Dugger and the granddaughter of Freda Dugger. We're very proud of Natalie for the decision she made to serve the Lord, and we rejoice with her family.



5th Sunday Contribution

I want to commend everyone for their part in the sacrificial giving that was done this past Sunday. The contribution totaled, "\$24,848.98! This money will immediately be applied to our bank loan and will significantly reduce our indebtedness. This contribution represents more than 3 and a half times our regular weekly contribution.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make this special effort such a success. Your sacrifice should enable us to retire this debt before the year is out, which will also enable us to become involved in a number of new and good works. Your response to the challenge of our elders is greatly appreciated!

This, you have done...

"But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you about in this grace [the grace of giving *S.H.*] also" (2 Corinthians 8:7)

CHRIST IN Youth

David Burleson, Youth Minister

This past Sunday we got to be a part of some great things. Not only did we get to worship our Lord together but on Sunday night we were led in our worship by some of our young men. I would like to thank all of the guys that lead the services. Thank you for your great example of what it means to be a leader in the church.

After our services on Sunday night several of us gathered together to sing and eat some ice cream. We sang some of the songs that we have known all of our lives and a few new ones as well. This is similar to an event that will be held during the school year. During this fall we will meet after services to sing. This event will be called Firesides and will be held every other week.

Can you believe that it is time for the back-to-school lock-in? This Friday night at eight o'clock come prepared not to sleep and to have a ton of fun. This event will go from Friday night until Saturday morning at seven. Everyone is encouraged to bring a friend.

No more SPAM (Service Project and a Meal). I know it is sad. But do not fret because there are plenty more service project opportunities this fall. In fact, on the 26th of August we will have an opportunity to serve the senior members of the congregation. This date will be our annual Senior Members Banquet.

I am blessed to be able to work with such fine Christian people. Our God is an awesome God!

August 16—Meal for teens and their parents.
20—Monthly Devotional

Give Till It Hurts

By Steve Higginbotham

You've probably heard the story about a man who had just purchased a brand new Mercedes-Benz automobile and while he was driving home, he lost control of his car. His new car rolled three times, fortunately throwing him from the wreckage just before the car plummeted several hundred feet over a cliff. As he regains consciousness, and others arrive on the scene to give him aid, he looks over the cliff and says, "Oh no, my brand new Mercedes!" At that point, a man who was giving him first aid said, "Mister, that's the least of your worries. You can always get a new car. You're just lucky you're alive. You haven't seemed to notice that your left arm has been completely severed in the accident." To which the man said, "Oh no, my Rolex!"

Ok, so the above story is not true, but only a caricature of the attitudes some people have toward wealth and possessions. As Americans, we have been blessed with so much prosperity, yet we remain unsatisfied. We have so many hi-tech gadgets that make our lives easier, yet we remain unfulfilled. We have the money to "do" and to "have," yet we remain unhappy. Regardless of how much we have, our thirst is never quenched. We want more and more!

Running counter to this cultural mind set are the commandments of our Lord who said to be content with food and clothing (1 Timothy 6:8); to be rich in good works, ready and willing to share (1 Timothy 6:17); and not to fall in love with money (1 Timothy 6:10). We're warned against covetousness and greed, yet people never see themselves as guilty. Since we seem to have a blind spot in this area, how can I determine whether I am greedy or covetous?

I think a good illustration is seen in the book of Haggai. The Lord asked the people if it was good that they had their paneled houses while the temple of God laid in ruins? In other words, when we have everything we need and nearly everything we could possibly want and the Lord's work suffers, something is wrong. Priorities need to be changed. Budgets need to be re-evaluated. And emphasis needs to be shifted from self to the Lord.

I've heard people in an attempt to affect greater giving to God say, "Give till it hurts." But I don't know about that. God loves and wants us to give "cheerfully" (Greek - hilaros, from which we get our English word, hilarious). Serving the Lord shouldn't be a pain, but a delight! God doesn't take pleasure in painful giving, but in "hilarious" giving.

The way some people give may indeed be hilarious, but not for the right reasons. It must be a "funny" thing to God to watch one lavish upon himself the world's finest, but have little more than crumbs to give to Him. Listen, be aware of subtleness of greed in your life. Don't let the Lord's work suffer when you live in luxury. Periodically, re-evaluate your giving to God and give in such a way that your giving is "hilarious" for all the right reasons.

Again, thanks for your "hilarious" giving this past Sunday.

Family Matters

Sick List

- Dickie Barrick is recovering at home following surgery last week in Nashville.
- Eugenia Groce is ill at home. She has the shingles.
- Wendell Britt, brother-in-law of Gladys Thomas, is in the Community Hospital, room #213.
- Prayers are requested for Ken Russell, son-in-law of Mary Peden. He is now recovering at home after being hospitalized in Louisville.
- Peggy Fudge, mother of Robbie Fudge, is recovering at her home following surgery.
- Jonathan Bellamy is in the Community Hospital. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Continue to remember: Brooklyn Alexander, Mary Anderson, Ruby Anderson, Wendell Britt, Shawn Bryant, Andrew Carson, Ruby Cloyd, Dorothy Coffey, Margaret Cox, Jim Dunaway, Grayson Furlong, Eddie Gerald, Kathy Hamilton, Eugene Harlow, Becky Hatcher, Sally Henry, Fred Hensley, Reba Heriford, Amanda Hinton, Preston Jolly, Stacey King, Jeanette Krume, Amanda Lockhart, Mary Lynn, Dr. George McKinley, Charles McDonald, Samantha McPherson, Shannon Noal, Marney Nunnally, Linda Pedigo, J.C. Polson, Frances Searcy, Shelley South, Donald Smith, Ed Staley, Dixie Strode, Al Tennyson, Helen Pedigo Tucker, Ronnie Walker, James Williams and Orry Wood.

Birth

Crismon Cofer announces the birth of her sister, AnnaKate Browning, on Wednesday, July 26. AnnaKate weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz. The proud parents are Rob & Stephanie Cofer.

Visitation Team #1

Visitation Team #1 will meet Sunday morning, August 6, following services for a potluck meal and meeting. Leaders are Tom Edwards and Ronnie Turner. Members are reminded to bring their visitation records to turn in.

Back To School

Donations for the annual Back to School Ministry will be accepted until August 6, 2006. With your donations basic school supplies as well as other essentials will be purchased for children in need that attend Red Cross Elementary. Please place donation in an envelope marked Back to School and give to Rollin Simmons or Gary Edmunds

New Classes/Teachers

Beginning Sunday, August 6, two new Bible classes will begin. A class for college students will be meeting in the old teen classroom. This class will be taught by Scott Bradford. A young adult class will be meeting in the basement and will be taught by Chris Page. The 7th and 8th grade class will now be taught by Tommy Gumm. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this period of Bible study.

Thank You

Thank you for all the prayers, phone calls, and beautiful cards. It is a blessing to be a part of this caring church family.

Orry Wood

Senior Members Banquet

The Seniors Members Banquet will be held on Saturday, August 26, at 5:30. If you and/or your spouse are sixty years and above you are cordially invited to attend. This annual event is hosted by the Youth of South Green. Sign-up forms have been placed in the foyer and near the rear entrance. You are asked to complete one of these forms if you plan to attend so that adequate preparations can be made.

Coming Soon...

Friends & Family Day

Sunday, September 17, 2006

