

# Weekly Newsletter

Volume 26, Number 47

November 19, 2007

## JAMES 5:16-18

Two very rare things occurred last week in Georgia. First of all, after months of almost no precipitation, it rained. More noteworthy than rain falling in Georgia is what preceded the event – Georgia’s governor, Sonny Perdue, publicly prayed for rain!

When I first heard about this event, I thought about writing an article that highlighted the governor’s failure to publicly pray to God at previous opportunities. But then I thought to myself, “Why criticize someone for doing a good thing?” Undoubtedly, Governor Perdue could have conducted previous prayer services, and he did not. However, he has to start somewhere. Is it fair to condemn a man for failing to pray AFTER he prays? Certainly not. Instead we should be highlighting this man’s very commendable conduct, especially in light of our current sociopolitical climate.

I know practically nothing about Sonny Perdue. However, I do know some things. First of all, he is a prominent figure who knew he would face significant heat and lose votes from those who believe that political leaders have absolutely no right to express their faith in a public way. Secondly, he is willing to publicly pray to his Creator in an age when very few citizens and even fewer public figures are willing to do the same. Thirdly, he puts his approval from God ahead of his approval ratings. While some might claim that this prayer service was a shrewd political move in a conservative state, it was too risky of a decision for a politician seeking his people’s maximum favor.

Instead of condemning Governor Perdue, I highly commend him. Our nation needs more leaders who follow his example. Our communities need more citizens who follow his example. Above all else, the Lord’s church needs more Christians who follow his example.—Blaine

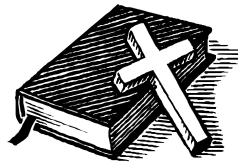
## CHRIST IN *Youth*

### Parents Day Out

For parents looking for some time to do their holiday shopping, a Parents Day Out will be provided on Saturday, December 1, from 9 am to 5 pm (time of potluck meal & parade). Please pack your child’s lunch and whatever snacks that might be needed throughout the day. Games and movies will be provided for entertainment. Should you have any questions, please see Caroline or Blaine.

### Bible Boot Camp

“Bible Boot Camp,” the new curriculum for the Sunday morning high school class, will kick off on Sunday, December 2. Students will be receiving their notebooks this week and will be expected to bring them to class each week. Weekly homework assignments will be posted both in this space and on the forthcoming website. For December 2, students should read John 1, Romans 8 & Philippians 2 and memorize Philippians 2:5-7. If parents or students have any questions, please see Blaine.



### Future Website

A newly-designed website for the South Green Youth Group is currently under construction and should be ready by the beginning of December. If you have any ideas or suggestions for the site, please send them to Blaine’s church email address at [blaine@glasgow-coc.org](mailto:blaine@glasgow-coc.org). The more input we receive from our teenagers, the better our website will be. Thanks!



## Peace, But At What Price?

By Steve Higginbotham

The psalmist said, “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity” (Psalm 133:1). And of course, he’s right. Peace is pleasant, unity is desirable, and civility is honorable. This is at least one truth from the Bible that our society has embraced. Whether it be race relations, partisan politics, or moral issues such as abortion or homosexuality, our society seems to value the concepts of peace and unity.

While I too value these concepts, I am made to wonder if the virtue of these concepts have been pushed beyond their limits? Is peace desirable at any cost? Is unity preferred above truth? Is civility so honored that opposition is frowned upon?

Supreme Court Justice, Clarence Thomas gave a speech in which he addressed some of these issues. I’d like to share some of his insights and have you think of how they apply to the spiritual realm. Justice Thomas said:

“There is not one among us who wants to be set upon, or obligated to do and say difficult things. Yet, there is not one of us who could in good conscience stand by and watch a loved one or a defenseless person--or a vital national principle--perish alone, undefended, when our intervention could make all the difference...If we think that something is dreadfully wrong, then someone has to do something.

I do not believe that one should fight over things that don't really matter. But what about those things that do matter? ...This tendency [to avoid conflict—S.H.], in large part, results from an overemphasis on civility. None of us should be uncivil in our manner as we debate issues of consequence. No matter how difficult it is, good manners should be routine. However, in the effort to be civil in conduct, many who know better actually dilute firmly held views to avoid appearing "judgmental." They curb their tongues not only in form but also in substance.

By yielding to a false form of "civility," we sometimes allow our critics to intimidate us. As I have said, active citizens are often subjected to truly vile attacks; they are branded as mean-spirited, racist, Uncle Tom, homophobic, sexist, etc. To this we often respond (if not succumb), so as not to be constantly fighting, by trying to be tolerant and nonjudgmental--i.e., we censor ourselves. This is not civility. It is cowardice, or well-intentioned self-deception at best.

The Founders warned us that freedom requires constant vigilance, and repeated action...Today, as in the past, we will need a brave ‘civic virtue,’ not a timid civility, to keep our republic. So, this evening, I leave you with the simple exhortation: ‘Be not afraid.’”

Justice Thomas has not only identified a weakness in our society, but also a weakness that is prevalent in the Lord’s church. No right minded person enjoys conflict. No one wants to say difficult things. And no one wants to take a stand that will cause him/her to be branded as a “judgmental crank” by his/her peers. Yet, virtue demands that we must! God calls us to rebuke immorality (Ephesians 5:11), to be morally courageous (2 Peter 1:5), and to be a light to those who are in darkness (Romans 2:19).

What the church needs today is a healthy dose of “Christian virtue,” not “timid civility.” We need to unhesitatingly speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). We need to stop trying to flirt with the world, for we are already spoken for and are the bride of Christ (Romans 7:1-4; Ephesians 5:22-33).

Friends, don’t let the world silence you. Don’t let ridicule and name calling keep you from speaking the truth for the Lord. If we allow the opposition of the world to silence us, then we will forever be silent. For the world, as a whole, will never accept the truth of God’s word. Why? Because they live by different rules, different standards, and they have different goals. For those reasons, the truth will always be viewed with contempt, along with its messengers.

# Family Matters

## Sick List

- Jonathan Belcher, grandson of Levy Belcher, underwent surgery last week at Vanderbilt. He is now at home.
- Diane Jones, mother-in-law of Genelle Belcher Jones, underwent surgery last week. She is now at home.

## Prayer List

- Lucy Byrd Every, Haley Pace and Wilma Williams
- Debbie Gray suffered a fall on Friday and is recovering at home.
- Larry Adwell, brother-in-law of Peggy Adwell, will undergo surgery on December 7, for cancer of the eye
- Blaine Bardin, friend of Norma Dial
- Doug Burgess, member of the Beckton Church of Christ, is in need of prayers and encouragement. Cards may be sent to Doug Burgess, 6961 Old Bowling Green Rd., Glasgow.
- Marie Denton, sister-in-law of Peggy Adwell
- Tyler Estes, nephew of Larry Estes
- J.C. Groce, friend of Jeffrey & Sonya Hogue
- Joan Jones, friend of Patty Brown, has been diagnosed with brain cancer
- Alberta Lafferty, mother of Denny Riddle
- Jean Pardue, sister of Annette Simmons
- Francis Proffitt, grandmother of Pam Smith, has been moved to Barren County Health Care Center, room 19
- Dixie Strode, mother of Charlotte Birge

## Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the friends and family of Wilma Goad. She passed away on Tuesday, November 13. Funeral services were conducted Saturday at the Crow Funeral Home. Wilma was the aunt of Mike Goad.

## Thank You

Delisa and I would like to thank everyone for your calls, e-mails, cards and most of all your prayers during Andy's birth and the loss of Delisa's father. Even though we have been gone a couple of years now, we still consider South Green our family and we miss you all. We plan to bring Andy to meet you all soon!

In Christian Love,  
Dennis, Delisa and Andy Cofer

## Pocket Directory

We are in the process of updating the Pocket Directory for 2008. Please check your listing in the current directory to see if changes need to be made in your address, phone number or email address. Also, check to make sure we have your birthday (month and day only). Changes may be made by contacting the office at 651-5409 or email Nancy at nancy@glasgow-coc.org Changes need to be turned in no later than Monday, November 26.

## College Students

We will once again include the addresses of our college students, who are living away from home, in the 2008 Pocket Directory. Please contact the office as soon as possible if you want you child's address included in this publication. Please have this information turned in to the office no later than Monday, November 26.

## Christmas Parade

Our annual Christmas Parade Dinner will be held, December 1. The potluck meal will begin at 5:00. Following the meal together we will be able to see the Parade as it passed the building. Everyone is invited to attend.

### For The Record

Sunday Morning Attendance .....	408
Sunday Contribution .....	\$6,478.98
2007 Weekly Budget .....	\$6,700.00
2007 Weekly Average .....	\$6,891.39

**Sunday Morning, November 25, 2007**

Deacons in Charge..... Mark Bowman  
 ..... Leslie Wilson  
 Announcements..... Darrell Pitcock  
 Song Leader..... Scott Bradford  
 Opening Prayer..... Tommy Gumm  
 Lesson..... Steve Higginbotham  
 Presiding at the Table ..... David Gray  
 ..... John Weaver  
 Serving the Assembly..... Gordon Kelsay III  
 ..... Shane Walton  
 ..... Kerry Dilley  
 ..... Jonathan Dugger  
 Serving the Balcony..... Darrell Miller  
 ..... Seth Groce  
 ..... Billy Pritchard  
 Closing Remarks..... Rollin Simmons  
 Dismissal Prayer..... Ralph Dunbar  
 Greeters (Front Door) ..... Jimmy Smith  
 ..... Pam Smith  
 Greeters (Back Door) ..... Nancy Botts  
 ..... Sheryl England  
 Greeter (Side Door)..... Helen Horton  
 Assistance (Back Door)..... Glen Birge  
 Umbrella (Back Door)..... Randall Turner

Ushers ..... Guy Simmons  
 ..... Doug Frasier  
 Usher & Serve Basement ..... James Williams  
 ..... Sam Bulle  
 Count Contribution..... Hugh England  
 ..... John Alan Estes  
 ..... Elliot Bowman  
 ..... Glenn Pritchard  
 Nursery Attendant..... Ruth Stephens  
 Bake Bread..... Sherian Gray  
 Bus Driver..... Tony Shirley  
 Pick Up Attendance Cards..... Christopher Staples  
 ..... Spencer Toms

**Sunday Evening Service**

Announcements..... Darrell Pitcock  
 Song Leader..... Scott Bradford  
 Opening Prayer..... Walter Smith  
 Lesson..... Steve Higginbotham  
 Presiding at the Table ..... Jim Searcy  
 ..... David Fant  
 Dismissal Prayer..... Chris Page

**Wednesday Evening Service**

Song Leader ..... Robbie Fudge  
 Prayer ..... David Alls

Sunday Bible Study ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday A.M. Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday P.M. Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.  
 Thursday Ladies' Class ..... 10:00 a.m.

**Worship Times:**

Phone ..... (270) 651-5409  
 Website..... www.glasgow-coc.org  
 Steve's email ..... shigg@glasgow-ky.com  
 Blaine Kelly..... blaine@glasgow-coc.org  
 Secretary's email ..... nancy@glasgow-coc.org

**Church Information**

Mark Bowman	678-3632	Glenn Pitcock	646-4368
Ralph Dunbar	678-2075	Kevin Redford	646-3260
Gary Edmunds	678-4576	Tony Shirley	651-5605
Doug Frasier	678-2330	Walter Smith	427-3178
Robbie Fudge	651-1062	Robert Spear	678-2319
David Gray	678-5602	Ronnie Turner	678-6798
Chris Page	678-8824	Leslie Wilson	678-3692

**Deacons**

Steve Higginbotham 590-8785  
 Blaine Kelly 404-2684

**Ministers**

Scott Bradford	651-7244	Billy Pritchard	651-3304
Tommy Gumm	678-3957	Rollin Simmons	678-4854
Darrell Pitcock	678-4333		

**Elders**

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