

August 12, 2007

Essex Village Church of Christ

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Class 9:00 am
Worship 10:00 am
Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday

7:00 pm



ELDERS

Larry Casbeer 795-0429
Howard Streets 766-7727
David Wakeland 766-3601

MINISTER

Stefano Mugnaini 329-3704

DEACONS

Rick Porter 556-2679
Activities
Jim Lamm 556-6756
Benevolence
Lloyd McLawhorn 556-6709
Worship
Roddy Akers 559-3565
Song Service
Bill Noyes 278-1808
Technical
Larry Polutta 795-5266
World Bible School
Bill Ragland 556-6711
Building Maintenance
Hilton Googe 766-4670
Lynn Smallwood 766-8579
Grounds
Eddie Haselden 767-5511
Financial
Durwood Collins 869-4199
Youth Activities

Church Office :
843-556-1792

Church Fax:
843-556-6085

Email:
church@essexvillage.org

Website:
www.essexvillage.org

“Christian Liberty” by Stefano Mugnaini

Even a casual reading of the New Testament will uncover the fact that the early church was faced with numerous problems. Most of the epistles were written in response to some error that was being taught, or some element of strife and discord that had been stirred up in the midst of the local church. This should not surprise us: God has chosen to entrust His most perfect earthly institution to the flawed and imperfect hands of mankind. The Lord's church, while perfect in design, consists solely of imperfect people. And people, Christian or otherwise, don't always behave as we should.

The church in Galatia was no different. In many ways, there were, at least in the early days, almost two separate churches. The church centered in Jerusalem and Jewish communities throughout the Roman

Empire, was overwhelmingly Jewish in nature, and suffered from an inability to let go of the Old Law. The Gentile Church, primarily established by Paul, struggled with their escape from paganism, and the subsequent reworking of their moral and spiritual values. While the Church was, in reality one body, there were nonetheless two (or more) separate sets of problems. It was in Galatia that these two worldviews collided.

The Galatian churches, located in the Roman province by the same name, were primarily Gentile in their makeup, yet located in relatively close proximity to Jerusalem. It is clear from the text that they were plagued by Jewish Christians, either from within their midst or, more likely, from the Judean churches, who began to force Gentile Christians to adopt Jewish customs

before they were accepted in fellowship. This was an outrage to the Apostle Paul. Any who accept the plain truth that our fellowship with God is based, not on tradition and ritual held over from an obsolete Law, but on the sacrifice of Jesus and our proper response to it, should likewise be offended. Paul, in relating to the Galatians his previous encounters with these heretic brethren, emphasized the source of their error. In Galatians 2:4, he wrote: **“But it was because of the false brethren secretly brought in, who has sneaked in to spy out our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus, in order to bring us into bondage.”**

While Judaizers are no longer a problem for us, we do, to this day, struggle with those who believe that they have been

— continued on the back —



Military

Robert Bagley
 Kristopher Black
 Adam Carlucci
 Russell Coble
 Barry Collins
 James Dalton
 Mark Fiorey
 Ellis Flenoid
 Steven Hilton
 Michael Hilton
 Matthew Lemieux
 Katie McCaskill
 Kevin Mitchell
 Shawn Reynolds
 Rob Weltzin

*For the Record:
 Week of 08-05-07*

Bible Classes: 84
 AM Worship: 119
 PM Worship: 67
 Wednesday Evening: 63
 Contribution: \$21,032.00

*Communion Preparation
 & Baptismal Garments*

Prepare Communion:
 Agnes McLawhorn
Baptismal Garments:
 Peggy McLawhorn
Elder of the Month:
 David Wakeland

*Program
 of Worship*

Announcements:
 David Wakeland
Song Service:
 Roddy Akers
Opening Prayer:
 Howard Streets
Communion:
 Andy Streets
Sermon:
 Stefano Mugnaini
Closing Prayer



Thanks for Praying...

Nikolas is in remission but will undergo chemo for two years and has a long road ahead. Nik is the nephew of Angela Noyes.

Mike Allen, preacher for Chesapeake Church of Christ, has bone cancer. Gary Moody has requested prayers for him.

Tracy Boyles, Anne Marie's father-in-law, is not doing well.

Martha Broom, a friend of Ona White, has cancer.

Marcus Cox, a co-worker of Carl Bowles, has a newborn son with breathing difficulties.

Maxine Doll, had a pace-maker put in and has other health problems. Maxine is Pam Ragland's mother.

John Donan, Norma's cousin, has terminal bladder cancer.

Dennis Flatley, a friend of

Jim Lamm, is currently undergoing chemo to treat his cancer.

Kevin Goodman, Jim & Esther's granddaughter's boyfriend, is having health problems.

Wesley Hahn is in need of prayers for his health and employment. His mother is a close friend of Faye Spence.

Judy Hennessee, a family member of Carl Bowles, has started chemo treatment following her double mastectomy.

Neil McIntire has cancer and is the sister of Lois Ott.

Margaret Mills, a member of Cairo Church of Christ, had a heart attack.

Melissa Murray is being treated for cancer, please keep Melissa and her family in your prayers.

Lauren Parker, a friend of Ginnie Streets, had her baby and has begun chemo.

Mike Polutta, Larry & Janie's son, had a heart attack.

Violet Sharp, Nancy Walden's mother, is having some health problems.

Geneva Sims, a friend of Ronnie & Sharon Rush, has Lou Gehrig Disease.

Candice Spence, needs our prayers for health problems and is the granddaughter of Chuck & Faye.

Linda Stoddard, Tex Patton's daughter, had a cancerous kidney removed.

John Torres, Johnny Murray's brother-in-law, has cancer and is not doing well.

**VISITS TO OUR
 SHUT-INS**



Ava Bullard
 Helen Embry
 Scotty Hall
 Mildred Inabinett
 Leonard McNeill
 Lois Ott

Here's What's Happening...

Ladies Retreat

Please mark your calendars, ladies, for our upcoming Ladies Retreat on October 5-6, 2007 at Seabrook Island (same location as last year). The 2007 Retreat Committee consists of Mary Bolen, Mary Crabtree and Janie Polutta.

Wednesday Night Ladies Bible Class

The ladies class on Wednesday evenings will be starting a new book titled *The Begging Place* by Peggy Blackmon. If you would like to attend the class and do not have a book, please see Louise or Carla.

Ice Cream Social

It's time for our annual Homemade Ice Cream Feast so if you have a churn and are willing, please plan to fix a churn of ice cream for August 26th after evening services.



Visit the Children's Library on August 19th at 5:00 pm

Food Pantry Address Update

If you would like to contribute to the food pantry, we could use the following items: canned meat, vegetables & fruit. Thanks again for your continued support!

Matt & Paula Vergne
1116 Hudson Lane
Franklin, TN 37067

Polly Fowler
2333 Ashley River Road
Apt. 707
Charleston, SC 29414



Happy Birthday!

Thank You!

Dear Brothers & Sisters at Essex Village, Hello there! We are busy settling into our new home in TN. Thank you so much for the lovely print you gave to us of the Battery, the serving dish and the concordance! We will enjoy

using all of them. Thanks also for the bracelet & children's Bible you gave Sophie. All of the gifts were so thoughtful! We will miss all of you and hope to come and visit you when we can.

If you are passing through Nashville, give us a call.

Take care & thanks again!

In Christ,
Matt, Paula & Sophie Vergne

8/15

Ava Bullard

8/18

Ruby Cooper

*“Christian Liberty”
continued ...*

entrusted with a duty to “spy out our liberty.” There are, within our brotherhood many who would seek to bind, not the pure and lasting truths of the word of God, but their own tradition, on others; those who would, like the Pharisees of old, **“teach as doctrines the precepts of men.”** Issues of stewardship, of modesty, of morality and moderation are not presented in the word of God with precise limits: we are expected to use our own judgment in applying Biblical principles to our lives. Gluttony is condemned, but not exactly defined-good stewardship is commanded, but God’s word does not attempt to provide an exhaustive list of standards. God expects His people to use our minds to determine what path is in accordance with His word.

Ultimately, we know that it is God who will judge us on the decisions that we make. Woe to the man who, based on his own tradition, seeks to usurp the position of Judge from the God who rules all things!

WE’RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.ESSEXVILLAGE.ORG

Adult Classes

Basic Bible for Adults Taught by Jim Lamm	Sunday mornings in the Elder’s Office
Teach the Teacher Taught by Keith Dee	Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall
Gospel of John Taught by Stefano	Sunday mornings in the Auditorium
Bible Basics	Wednesday evenings in the Auditorium
<i>The Begging Place</i> by Peggy Blackmon Ladies class taught by Louise Rogers & Carla Haselden	Wednesday evenings

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736 Savage Road

Charleston, SC 29414