



Reflections

If you ever pull out the employment section of the newspaper, you'll note at least one common thread: everyone wants an employee who is "self-motivated." Taken literally, this phrase is somewhat ridiculous. Is anyone so self-motivated that they go to work simply because they love their job? Having sold plumbing supplies for two years, I can honestly say I did not go into the office everyday for the thrill of toilet sales. I doubt I'm alone in this regard. So what is the "self-motivated employee?"

It seems the goal behind this phrase is to find people who, having recognized the potential benefits of hard work, don't need the boss to constantly spur them on to action. Rather than needing constant supervision, they are able to find their own motivation and chart their own direction in achieve-

ment of their goals.

In this sense, God needs self-motivated workers. The benefits package He offers is unparalleled. Our Lord promises Strength in weakness and comfort in suffering (2 Cor 12:9-10); He promises joy, love, and peace beyond comprehension (Phil 4:7; Galatians 5:22). He assures us of provision, deliverance, and hope. No human system or philosophy can provide real, genuine hope. Apart from the hope that comes from the promises of God, all we do ultimately ends in futility, death, annihilation. The writer of Ecclesiastes acknowledged as much, referring to his building projects and endeavors as nothing more than madness and vanity. The greatest of human accomplishments, be it walking on the moon, building the pyramids, or cloning a sheep, amounts to nothing in

the scope of eternity.

When considered, this knowledge can produce only two results: Madness, nihilism, futility and hopelessness, or a deeper appreciation for the hope of eternal life which comes from the mouth of the Eternal One.

Viewed from the Christian perspective, all life has value, purpose and meaning, but that purpose is shaped by a different set of values. Value is determined by the impact our activities have for God's kingdom. Our legacy is determined from the standpoint of God's law. Our priorities shift from the worldly and temporal to the godly and timeless. Our view of people ceases to be utilitarian and shallow; rather, we see people as the Lord does: lost souls in need of a savior. We cease to be concerned with what is good for my carnal nature, and focus on what is good for my eternal

continued on page 3

Church Office : 843-556-1792
Church Fax: 843-556-6085
Email: church@essexvillage.org
Website: www.essexvillage.org

Schedule of Services
Sunday
Class: 9:00 am
Worship: 10:00 am
Worship: 6:00 pm
Wednesday
7:00 pm



**For the Record
Week of 01-27-08**

**Communion &
Baptismal Garments**

**Program of
Worship**

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

Bible Classes: 78
 AM Worship: 142
 PM Worship: 68
 Wednesday Evening: 71
 Contribution: 3550.00

Prepare Communion:
 Rose Ann Such

Baptismal Garments:
 Christine Herman

Elder of the Month:
 David Wakeland 766-3601

Announcements:
 David Wakeland

Song Service:
 Roddy Akers

Opening Prayer:
 Larry Casbeer

Communion:
 Herman Porter

Sermon:
 Stefano Mugnaini

Closing Prayer:
 Arnold Walden

We Are Praying For...



Military

- Robert Bagley*
- Kristopher Black*
- Adam Bowles*
- Chris Branham*
- Adam Carlucci*
- Russell Coble*
- Barry Collins*
- James Dalton*
- Mark Fiorey*
- Ellis Flenoid*
- Steven Hilton*
- Michael Hilton*
- Matthew Lemieux*
- Katie McCaskill*
- Kevin Mitchell*

Dixie Akers, Royce's sister-in-law, is now at home on medication to dissolve the 4 blood clots she has from her last surgery. Please send cards to 204 Edney Ridge Road, Greensboro, NC 27408.

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

Ray Armstrong, a coworker of Carl Bowles, has a growth on his thyroid and is having a biopsy to determine what it is.

Larry Cooper, Ruby's son, was recently diagnosed with lung cancer.

Jessie Crosby is in ICU in a Beaufort hospital with an intestinal blockage and is not doing well. The blockage will probably require surgery.

Maxine Doll had a pacemaker 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.

Duke Gregory, Doris & Janie's brother, is being transferred to an assisted living rehab hospital. Please send cards to G. Duke Gregory Moses Care Hospital, McMinnville, TN.

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

Clara Haselden was diagnosed with cancer and is receiving chemo treatments.

Debra Langford, sister-in-law of Carl Bowles, is in therapy since her stroke. She is still not able to speak clearly or have full use of her right side.

Nell 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 Ginie Streets, has cancer and is

not doing well.

John Price, friend of Faye Spence, has cancer and is in stage 4. Faye has requested prayers for him and his wife, Pat.

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

Violet Sharp, Nancy Walden's mother, fell & broke her arm.

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

Marcia Speckle, a friend of Sharon Rush, is doing much better. Her tumor appears to be gone now and they will perform a lumpectomy in the next few weeks.

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

Verdie Whitson is in Trinity Rehab Center.



Thanks for praying!

Here's What is Happening...

Nursery

We have an attended nursery for anyone that has a need for one. If you would like to help with the nursery, please see Louise Rogers.

Ladies Bible Class

The ladies meet for Bible class on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 in the annex.

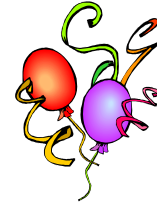
Super Bowl

The Annual Super Bowl Party will

be held tonight following the evening services. Please bring your favorite games and finger foods to enjoy while we watch the game on the big screen.

Southeastern Children's Home

SECH has an immediate opening for houseparents. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board if you are interested.



Happy Birthday!

02/05

Tradd Cooper

Nancy Morrow

02/06

Ray Brown

02/07

Nicholas Scott

Thank you

Dear Essex Village,

Many thanks go to you for the visits, cards, telephone calls, beautiful flowers and the fruit tray.

Your thoughtfulness meant more than you'd ever guess.

Love through Christ,
Derbie & Sandra

Dear Friends,

Because of dedicated friends, the children enjoyed a wonderful Christmas. I want to personally thank you for providing Christmas gifts. Your generosity helps to ensure that 2008 will be a successful year of serving young people who are dealing with the pain of abuse and neglect.

Cindy Peden

“Employment” continued from page 1

aspect. Hopefully, we cease to be concerned with self altogether, and worry ourselves more about those around us.

This transformation is based on the promises of God, the rewards which He has prepared for those who diligently serve Him. Seeing the greatness of God's promises for us, how are we content to be lackadaisical in our service to Him? Why do we put off the good

works which need doing, seeing the ultimate reward He has promised? How can we be content to let others do the heavy lifting, while we idly occupy a pew? How often do we go the extra mile at our jobs, while we refuse to lift a finger to change a light bulb at the church building? If we put forth as much effort in our secular jobs as we do in the work of the church, how many of us

would quickly find ourselves unemployed? Let us focus and work together toward the only goal that is of lasting importance; the salvation of this World.

Bulletin Board

Second Annual Sweet Heart Lectures

Theme: Making A House Into A Home

When: Saturday, February 16th

Where: Conway Church of Christ in Conway, SC

Ladies Day at Walterboro Church of Christ

Theme: "The Power of Forgiveness"

When: Saturday, February 23rd

Registration is from 8:00 - 9:00

Speaker: Kathy Long from the St. Mary's Church of Christ in Georgia.

10th Annual Carolina Men's Fellowship

Sponsored by Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ

Theme: "Acts—the Old Jerusalem Gospel"

When: Saturday, March 8th Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Where: Gold Hill Road Church of Christ, Fort Mill, SC.

This is off I-77, between Rock Hill and Charlotte. Exit 88, turn west, building is on left .7 miles from I-77.

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	
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	

Essex Village Church of Christ
736 Savage Road
Charleston, SC 29414