

Reflections

“Education” by Stefano Mugnaini

A recent Massachusetts court case ruled that in the realm of education, the rights of the state trump the rights of parents. At issue was a new Sex education curriculum presenting homosexuality as an acceptable alternative lifestyle. I remember when the battle was over the presentation of heterosexual promiscuity as acceptable-how far we have fallen.

Last week, a California court ruled that it would be against the law for parents who are not certified as educators to home school their children. The argument is that the home is not a “proper environment for socialization.” What? With the manifold problems that exist in schools, from whence does the government derive the moral authority to determine what is and is not a sound environment for children?

This erosion of individual rights should worry us. Not because they trample the U.S. Constitution or any other human document, but

because they involve the discarding of rights and responsibilities that derive from a higher source. It has always been the responsibility of parents to train, educate, and prepare their children for adulthood. This was true in the beginning and it is true now. It is a logical and scriptural principle. It takes not a village to raise a child, but a mother and a father. The book of Proverbs is perhaps the greatest Biblical testament to the responsibility of parenthood; it consists of instruction from father to son.

The removal of religious freedom from schools marked a turning point in our history. In our current state, the only freely practiced religion is atheism and its accompanying secular humanism. This is the religion promoted in public schools. It is written into biology textbooks, literature readers, health and sexual education material and every pronouncement and edict regarding tolerance. Our children may bow at the altars of the Hindu, pray to the god of statism

and self, and bow five times to Allah; but damnation and judgment upon the one who dares wish someone a merry Christmas. What has this gotten us? A happy, free and tolerant society? No! A society wherein teenagers regularly walk into schools and open fire; drug problems are rampant; sexual promiscuity and venereal disease are so pervasive that “Gardasil,” a drug that prevents cervical cancer as a result of HPV (only transmitted by sexual activity) is being mandated in some places for 6th grade girls!!!

The problem is not the teachers, often not even administrators; it is with legislators and judges, all who would exchange the truth for a lie, bless wickedness and curse righteousness.

But here is the important question, the one that we must ask-loudly, persistently, unendingly. If it can be mandated that parents do not have the right to determine what their

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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 03-16-08**

**Communion &
Baptismal Garments**

**Program of
Worship**

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

Bible Classes: 87
 AM Worship: 135
 PM Worship: 63
 Wednesday Evening: 64
 Contribution: 3,406.00

Prepare Communion:
 Sharon Rush
Baptismal Garments:
 Pam Ragland
Elder of the Month:
 Howard Streets 766-7727

Announcements:
 Howard Streets
Song Service:
 Royce Akers
Opening Prayer:
 Larry Casbeer
Communion:
 Larry Polutta
Sermon:
 Stefano Mugnaini
Closing Prayer:
 George Brown



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*

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

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

Chrystal Dowd, had surgery on Wednesday. She is in Roper Hospital room 7032.

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.

Duke Gregory, Doris & Janie's brother, is in the hospital. Cards would be appreciated. The address is: 4056 Manchester Highway McMinnville, TN 37110

Wesley Hahn is in need of prayers for his health and em-

ployment. 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.

Lauren Parker, a friend of Ginie Streets, has cancer and is not doing well.

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.

Shane Ruiz, a friend of Maggie Hall and student at Freed-Hardeman University, went on a mission trip and is believed to

have drowned. Please pray for his family.

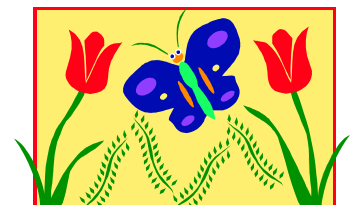
Candice Spence, needs our prayers for health problems and is the granddaughter of Chuck & Faye.

Faye Spence had back surgery on Thursday at Trident hospital. The surgery went well and she is recuperating.

Marcia Steckle, a friend of Sharon Rush, had a masectomy and is recovering at home.

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

Tom Vergne, Matt's father, had by-pass surgery.



Spring has arrived!

Here's What is Happening...

Ladies Bible Class

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

Contribution Report

If you would like an annual contribution report for income tax purposes, please make the request in writing and give to Eddie.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 12th to celebrate the 50th wed-

ding anniversary of Chuck & Faye Spence. More details to follow.

Soup Kitchen

A group from Essex Village will be headed to the soup kitchen on Monday, March 24th to prepare lunch. If you would like to help, please see Mary Beth. Also, if you happen to bake a ham and are not planning to use the bone, please consider donating to Mary Beth.



Happy Anniversary

3/27

Tex & Bea

Patton

Placing Membership

Bill & Nancy Ross have expressed their desire to work and worship with us here at Essex Village. Their address is:

2225 Ashley River
Charleston, SC 29414
Telephone # 745-2151

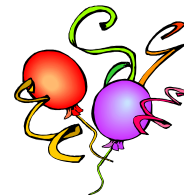
Youth Rally

Mark Your Calendars

The Seventh Annual
Charlotte Avenue Youth Rally
CSI: Rock Hill

Christian Soul Investigator
April, 19, 2008

Guest Speaker: Adam Richardson
From Seneca, SC



Happy Birthday!

3/23

Edward Haselden, III

3/25

Lottie McNeill

3/27

Arnold Walden

3/29

Michelle Zink

3/30

Lorraine Watkins

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children are taught, especially regarding sexuality and other moral principles, then how long before we are restricted in our right to teach our children the principles of our faith? If open, public practice of religion is currently confined and restricted, how long before the private practice of religion suffers a similar fate? May we never bow before the

wickedness of our age, but rather always stand firm in our beliefs.

Bulletin Board

Ladies Day at Plaza Church of Christ

Where: Sumter, SC When: April 12, 2008 Time: 9:00 am

Speaker: Ruby Lee Reynolds from Walnut Street Church of Christ in Dickson, TN

Topic: "Is Anything too Hard for the Lord?"

Gospel Revival at Goose Creek Church of Christ

When: April 6th - 10th Guest Speaker: Jack Evans, Jr.

Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for more detailed information.

64th Annual Carolina Lectures

When: April 6-10, 2008 Theme: Timeless Truths from Days Gone By

Hosted by: Sanford Church of Christ in Sanford, NC

Directions: 41 miles southwest of Raleigh, NC, on US 1-BR

Register online at www.sanfordchurchofchrist.org at your earliest convenience.

Ladies Day at West Columbia Church of Christ

Where: 1701 Augusta Road, W. Columbia, SC When: April 12, 2008

Theme: "Climbing to the Top of the Mountain" Speaker: Sister Lil Burton

email: bythecnsc@hotmail.com

Ladies Day at Myrtle Beach Church of Christ

When: 4/26/08 Time: 9:00 am Theme: Strengthening Our Families

Speaker is Author and Teacher Jane McWhorter

Please RSVP by Friday April 18, 2008 by calling 843-448-8071

or register online at myrtlebeachchurchofchrist.org

ELDERS

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

MINISTER

Stefano Mugnaini	329-3704
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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