



Reflections

“The Meaning of Covenant” by Stefano Mugnaini

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity; ¹⁶ in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and multiply, and that the LORD your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it. ¹⁷ "But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but are drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall surely perish. You will not prolong *your* days in the land where you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess it. ¹⁹ "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, ²⁰ by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and

by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."----
-Deuteronomy 30:15-20

I quote such a lengthy passage for the principle it illustrates. These words were spoken near the end of Moses' life, and represent a summary of the message of Deuteronomy: "Obey God and be blessed, reject him and be accursed." It is well documented that much of the Law given by Moses is written in a style referred to as the Suzerainty or Lord-Vassal treaty. This simply means that the Law was written as an agreement or contract; like any contract, it is a binding agreement which prescribes two parties' obligations to one another. Unlike the standard human contract, however, the agreement is not between equals, but be-

tween a greater and a lesser. God has promised much to man, but from a position of authority and power; His promises are contingent promises, the behavior demanded of us is unconditional.

If there were no rewards, still we are obligated to serve the Lord of all, simply because of who He is. Israel forgot this; they chased false idols, engaged in all manner of immorality, and time and again trusted the arm of flesh rather than the power of the living God. As a result, God was absolved of His obligation to them, vowing to replace the Old Covenant with a new one (Jeremiah 31:31-ff).

While the New Covenant is fundamentally different in many ways, the God of the Covenant abides. He has not changed, in position, power, or authority. Our relationship with Him is still on His terms. We

*continued on page 3

Church Office : 843-556-1792

Church Fax: 843-556-6085

Email: evcoc@bellsouth.net

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 09-28-08**

**Elder for the Month
of October**

**Program of
Worship**

- Ava Bullard*
- Helen Embry*
- Mark Embry*
- Leonard McNeill*
- Lois Ott*

Bible Classes: 82
 AM Worship: 133
 PM Worship: 67
 Wednesday Evening: 67
 Contribution: 3,187.00

Larry Casbeer: 795-0429



Announcements:
 Eddie Haselden
Song Service:
 Royce Akers
Opening Prayer:
 Durwood Collins
Communion:
 Herman Porter
Sermon:
 Dennis Randall
Closing Prayer:
 George Brown

*Preparing communion: Ruby & Tina Cooper
 Baptismal Garments: Andrea Hanlon*



We Are Praying For...

Military

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

Christopher, Agnes's great nephew, is 6 years old and has an inoperable brain tumor. He is being treated with radiation at this time. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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

Maxine Doll has some health problems and would like our prayers. Maxine is Pam



Military Member

Address:
 HN Adam D. Carlucci
 Iwa Jima
 BLT 2/6 Golf Co. 2nd PLT
 Unit 76281
 FPO AE 09502-6281

Ragland's mother.

Michelle & Kenny Drawdy are having some difficult times and requested prayers. Michelle is a co-worker of Terri Fagan.

Duke Gregory, Doris & Janie's brother, is now in room 305 at the Manchester Health Center. He is scheduled to see a heart doctor Thursday in Nashville. They will then decide if he is strong enough for the procedures on his heart. There is almost complete blockage. He is in good spirits.

Manchester Health Care Center
 Room 309
 395 Interstate Drive
 Manchester, TN 37355

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

James Michael Lamm was in an accident and broke his leg

and both feet. He had surgery on September 24th and is recuperating. He is scheduled to have 5 more operations to repair his leg.

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

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

John Rogers, Louise's husband, has a blood clot in his leg.

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

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.

Here's What is Happening...

Fellowship Meal

Everyone is invited to join us for lunch immediately following our Sunday morning service on October 5th.

Ladies Retreat

Ladies please mark your calendars for our upcoming Ladies Retreat on October 24th - 25th. It will be held on Seabrook Island. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer for everyone planning to attend. The deadline for turning in the names is the first week in October.

Ladies Bible Class

The ladies meet on Tuesday morn-

ings at 10:00 am in the annex for Bible study.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The men will meet for breakfast, prayer and a time of fellowship at 9:00 am on Saturday, October 11th.

Wednesday Night Ladies Bible Class

The ladies are starting a new book in the Wednesday night ladies class. The book is titled *Conquering Your Giants: Overcoming Your Fears with Faith*, by Nancy Eichman.



Happy Anniversary!

10/7

William & Sharon
Mitchell

10/10

Rusty & Lori
Akers

10/11

Bill & Pam
Ragland

Essex Village Gospel Meeting

Theme: "What the Love of Christ Compels Us to Do."

Date: October 5th, 6th & 7th

Speaker: Dennis Randall, Minister for the 43rd Street Church of Christ in Bradenton, Florida.

Sunday: Bible Class: Textual study of 2 Timothy 1

Sunday AM Worship: "Compelled by His Love" 2 Corinthians 5

Sunday PM Worship: "Make It Your Goal" 2 Corinthians 5

Monday PM Worship: "The Purpose of the Church"

Tuesday PM Worship: "Spiritual Success in the Life of a Christian"



Happy Birthday!

10/8

Sharon Mitchell

10/9

Lauryn Koontz

10/10

Claire Moulton

10/10

Roddy Akers

Article continued...

are a covenant people, bought by an immeasurable price. We gather to worship, we serve, we love, we study and teach because of His greatness. And He bestows unmerited favor because such is His nature.

As we gather, let us never lose sight of two facts: our relationship with God is based on His Gracious con-

descension; and it is made possible by His loving, perfect sacrificial lamb, Jesus Christ.

Bulletin Board

16th Annual Palmetto Bible Lectureship

When: October 10th–11th

Hosted by the Greer Church of Christ

1215 S. Main Street (hwy 14)

Greer, SC 29650

Please see the bulletin board for more information.

Berkeley Church of Christ Annual Ladies' Day

When: Saturday, October 18th

Time: 8:15 am–9:00 am Breakfast & Registration

Speaker: Sharon Hamilton & Faith Arthur

Theme: "Any Way You Bless Me Lord"

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