



Reflections

“Smiles & Concessions” by Stefano Mugnaini

When someone wins the Nobel Prize, their acceptance speech is generally one of thanks and honor; not so in the case of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. Accepting the Nobel Prize for his efforts to shed light on the oppression of the Russian people at the hands of the Soviets, he said “The timid civilized world has found nothing with which to oppose the onslaught of a sudden revival of barefaced barbarity, other than concessions and smiles.”

Historically, the reference is to the way the Soviet state was tolerated by the West, even receiving food and other aid in the midst of the Cold War. The western principles of freedom, opposition to tyranny and oppression were suspended time and again that an uneasy peace might be maintained with the Soviet East.

I think there is a spiri-

tual application to the statement, however. We as Christians are engaged in a war; spiritual, unseen, but no less real. Paul, In Ephesians 6:12, warned us that “our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

How often do we lose our sense of the seriousness of this warfare? How often do we lay down our weapons, and meet the enemy with nothing more than “concessions and smiles?”

That the devil, our adversary, is on the move is beyond doubt. Daily we see our faith attacked by violent atheists-turned authors and filmmakers, politicians, lawyers and judges. We are told that faith is a private matter and should

be kept private, and we blindly accept it.

Paul continues in Ephesians 6 by urging us to arm ourselves for battle, that we might resist the enemy and stand firm in the faith.

“Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

14 Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, **15** and having shod your feet with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace;

16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. **17** And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on

* 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 11-09-08

Elder for the Month of November

Program of Worship

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

Bible Classes: 70
 AM Worship: 121
 PM Worship: 39
 Wednesday Evening: 47
 Contribution: 2,773.00

David Wakeland 766-3601



Preparing communion: Jim & Esther Lamm
Baptismal Garments: Ona White

Announcements:
 David Wakeland
Song Service:
 Royce Akers
Opening Prayer:
 Herman Porter
Communion:
 Jim Lamm
Sermon:
 Stefano Mugnaini
Closing Prayer:
 Howard Streets



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.

Ruby Cooper was diagnosed with lung cancer. She had surgery on Wednesday, October 29th at MUSC to remove part of her right lung. Ruby is recuperating at Healthsouth Rehab in Summerville.

Maxine Doll has some health problems and would like our prayers. Maxine is Pam Ragland's mother.

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

Emily Fowler, Scott Fowler's

mother, has some health problems and would like our prayers.

Duke Gregory, Doris and Janie's brother, has been moved back to Manchester Health Care, in Manchester, TN. He is improving each day.

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 mastectomy and is recovering at home.



Condolences

We would like to express our condolences to Doris & Janie. Their brother, Fred Gregory, passed away on Sunday evening and his funeral was held on Thursday at 10:30 in Abilene, Texas.

Here's What is Happening...

Nursery

There is an attended nursery for anyone who is interested. If you would like to volunteer in the nursery, please sign the sheet in the foyer on the bulletin board.

Chili Supper

Everyone is invited to a chili supper tonight following the evening service. Please bring your favorite pot of chili or a side dish.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Thanksgiving baskets will be given only to members of Essex Village. If you would like to contribute to this effort or need a basket, please see Jim Lamm.

Food Pantry

Our food pantry is running low, if you would like to contribute we could use the following items: canned meats & vegetables, jelly & grits or oatmeal. Thank you!



Happy Anniversary!

11/17
James & Lisa
Thornley

11/18
Andy & Natasha
Streets

11/21
Marshall & Lisa
Swindall

Southeastern Children's Home

Essex Village has agreed to sponsor two teenagers from Southeastern Children's home for Christmas. Their names are Chris (17) & Will (14).

If you would like to buy a gift, the

wish list is on the bulletin board or you may contribute money to help purchase the gifts. All contributions need to be made by December 7th. Gifts may be left on the table in the foyer and contributions given to Christine.



Military Member

Address:

HN Adam D. Carlucci
Iwa Jima
BLT 2/6 Golf Co. 2nd PLT
Unit 76281

"Smiles and Concessions" continued...

the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...

If we are to truly change lives by the gospel message, we must do so by first making it our highest priority, and then holding it out as a light in darkness, by our lives, by our practices, by our habits and by our daily example; but we must also be vocal about what we believe. We must stop believing the lie that govern-

ment, or public policy can tell us when and how we are to serve our Lord and practice our faith. Only when each of us fully chooses to serve God rather than man can we hope to make a difference.



Happy Birthday!

11/19
Brandon Mitchell
Vermell McComb

11/21
Rosie Such

11/22
Carla Haselden

Bulletin Board

5th Annual Ladies' Day

Where: Church of Christ at Johns Island

When: January 23rd & 24th

Theme: "Too Blessed to be Stressed"

Speaker: Deborah Houston from Rochester, NY

Friday Evening: Song Fest

Saturday: Interactive spiritual discussions

Please see the bulletin board for more information.

Lectureship Series

Where: St. George Church of Christ

When: December 7th

Speaker: Kyle Butt

This will be an all day series of lessons. There will be two in the morning at 10 & 11. Following a break for a meal, in which all are invited, there will be four lessons starting at 1:00 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

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