

Schedule of Services

February 1, 2009



Reflections

“The Goats”

by Stefano Mugnaini

Three times Paul’s conversion story was told in the book of Acts. Once, it appears as part of the narrative of the early church. Paul twice recounts his conversion in his attempts to defend himself; once to a Jewish mob at Jerusalem, and finally before King Agrippa II.

It is on this last occasion, in Acts 26, that Paul adds a previously unmentioned detail to his story. As he travelled the road to Damascus, intent on persecuting and imprisoning Christians, The risen Lord appeared to him and asked the familiar question: “Saul, Saul, Why are you persecuting me?” But here Paul adds another statement by Jesus. “It is hard for you to kick against the goads.”

You see, Paul was God’s “chosen instrument.” It was God’s plan that Paul would “bear My name before the Gentiles and Kings and the sons of Israel.” (Acts 9:15) It

seems that even in the midst of his persecutions, God was working on Paul. He could fight it, he could even refuse it, but it was becoming difficult for him to deny his purpose in God’s plan.

I believe He has a plan for each of us. We may never fully realize it, and we certainly won’t recreate Paul’s Road to Damascus experience; but God has a plan for us. He can use us to accomplish His great purpose, if only we will let Him.

Paul had his task made clear; to take the gospel to those who had not heard it, but he clearly did not fully grasp the larger picture; several times his personal plans were stifled by the larger purpose of God. (I have a hard time believing that Paul planned on being imprisoned and shipwrecked). In this, we are in the same boat. Sometimes our life doesn’t take the course we have decided on. But

God is on control.

Like Paul, we may not see the big picture, but we can commit to fully giving ourselves over to the work which God is doing. When we suffer setbacks, frustrations and loss, we choose to use it to either strengthen or weaken our faith; when joy comes to our house, we may choose to give God the glory and rejoice.

But know this: God has a plan for our lives, and we must choose this day, each day, to strive to be His instrument or to “kick against the goads.” Let us not wrestle God; let us serve him daily.

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 01-25-09

Elder for the Month of February

Program of Worship

Ava Bullard
Helen Embry
Mark Embry
Leonard McNeill
Lois Ott

Bible Classes: 76
AM Worship: 119
PM Worship: 52
Wednesday Evening: 55
Contribution: 4,420.00

David Wakeland: 766-3601



Announcements: David Wakeland

Song Service:
Roddy Akers

Opening Prayer:
John Jenkins

Communion:
Rick Porter

Sermon:
Stefano Mugnaini

Closing Prayer:
Ray Brown

Preparing communion: Rose Ann Such
Baptismal Garments: Carla Haselden



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



We Are Praying For...

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 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.

Clara Haselden has started her chemo again. Please keep her in your prayers.

Betty Kuban, Michelle Porter's aunt, has cancer.

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.

Gil & Val Mabry: Ann Standefer requested prayers for them. Ann is a member of the Church and attends in LaVergne, TN. Gil has cancer and is receiving treatments.

Thomas Matherly, Clara Haselden's brother, was diagnosed with cancer and is receiving chemo.

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

Jim Moore has cancer. He attends Chesapeake Church of Christ.

Gertrude Rivers, Clara Haselden's sister-in-law, has pancreatic cancer.

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

Here's What is Happening...

2009 Calendars

The 2009 calendars have arrived and are on the table in the foyer. Pick some up and share with your friends, family and even strangers if you will. They are a handy tool to be able to share the Word.

Super Bowl Party

The annual Super Bowl Party will be held in the annex on tonight following the evening service.

Condolences...

We would like to extend our condolences to the Akers' family. Royce's brother-in-law, Howard Rorrer, passed away Monday morning. Royce and Doris left today to attend the funeral in Charlotte, North Carolina.

They have requested prayers for the family and for their safe return.

Work Days ...

We are blessed to have so many who give of their time to work around the building. With this in mind, we have scheduled 2 work days when everyone can come and enjoy working together. Please mark your calendars for April 11th for a Spring work day and September 12th for a Fall work day.

Everyone is invited to join in the festivities. Please bring your favorite finger food.

Contribution Reports

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

Youth Seminar...

Stefano & Shelli are interested in taking the Middle School & High School age students to Valdosta, GA on February 20th—22nd for a Youth Seminar. If you are interested, please see Stefano for more information.

A special thanks to all of you who come and work so tirelessly to keep our building and yard looking good.



Happy Anniversary!

2/14

Bill & Nancy
Ross

Arnold & Nancy
Walden



Happy Birthday!

2/5

Nancy Morrow

2/6

Ray Brown

2/7

Natasha Scott

2/10

Twylah Ricker
Ernestine Jones

2/11

Natasha Streets

ESSEX VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

We're on the web!
www.essexvillage.org

Bulletin Board

Youth Enrichment Seminar

Date: February 20th, 21st, & 22nd
 Theme: Help Me to Grow Closer to God
 Where: Forrest Park Church of Christ
 4263 Inner Perimeter Road
 Valdosta, GA 31602

Retirement Reception

You are invited to attend an afternoon reception in honor of David R. Pharr on the occasion of his retirement on Saturday, February 21 at 3:00 pm at the Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ.
 RSVP 803-327-7853

11th Annual Carolina Men's Fellowship

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2009
 Where: Gold Hill Road Church of Christ
 Fort Mill, SC Telephone # 803-548-7762
 Sponsored by Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ in Rock Hill, SC

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