



Reflections

“Childhood” by Stan Mitchell

A FRIEND OF mine tells of the day he went with a group of people to a nursing home, to the ward that cares for those suffering from Alzheimer’s...

Most of the residents were, to put it as kindly as possible, no longer there. Their stares were vacant, their memory as empty as a Montana prairie. They remembered nothing, knew no one, not even themselves. It was a heartbreaking experience.

What could the visitors do? What could they say? Because they didn’t know what to talk about, they sang hymns – “What a Friend We Have in Jesus,” and “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know.”

And something astonishing happened.

These elderly people began to sing along! Silver heads perked up, feathery thin voices were raised in song. Apparently the earliest childhood memories are the very last to go, and these poor victims of this dreadful disease remembered the songs they sang in Sunday school. Their oldest memories, dating to before the Fireside Chats, before the Waffen SS, before that street in New York crashed – these memories still lit these otherwise dark minds!

And they say that children don’t learn anything!

Of course “they” must have never had a child. Children are high fidelity microphones, picking up every breath, every inflection, every tone they hear. When par-

ents quarrel, they know; when ladies use language that once made sailors blush, they hear; when voices are raised in honor of an incomparable God, the sound and the words lodge deeply in the memory.

Tell an adult that God is right here, in our midst, and he will scoff. Tell a child, and he will say, “OK.” Tell an adult that he should forgive his brother, and he will set his face in stone and intone, “Never!” Tell a child to forgive his brother, and in moments they will be lost in their play again.

The Teacher said it best: “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these” (Matthew 19:14).

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 03-29-09**

**Elder for the Month
of April**

**Program of
Worship**

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

Bible Classes: 64
AM Worship: 110
PM Worship: 51
Wednesday Evening: 55
Contribution: 2,873.00

Larry Casbeer 795-0429



Preparing communion: Maryann Googe
Baptismal Garments: Jean Hilton

Announcements:
Larry Casbeer
Song Service:
Keith Dee
Opening Prayer:
Durwood Collins
Communion:
Jim Lamm
Sermon:
Stefano Mugnaini
Closing Prayer:
Ron Herman



Military



We Are Praying For...

- 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.

Steve Bragg, former member of Essex Village, had surgery and is recuperating

Ray Brown, Herman & Michelle's neighbor, fractured his neck and will have to wear a halo for 4 months.

Larry Cooper, Ruby's son, has lung cancer.

Sara Dismuke is receiving treatments and undergoing more testing.

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.

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

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

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 treat-

ments.

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.

Here's What is Happening...

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Class

The Tuesday morning Ladies Bible class is on hold until further notice. Please continue praying. Thanks for all you sent up for me. Frances

Congregational Breakfast & Work Day

Everyone is invited to join the men for breakfast on Saturday, April

11th at 9:00 am. Following breakfast everyone is encouraged to stay and help with the scheduled work day.

Bible Bowl Certificates

There are certificates on the table in the foyer for the Senior team and for the adult team.



Happy Anniversary!

4/7

Jack & Mary
Crabtree

4/8

David & Jennifer
Headden

4/10

Chuck & Faye
Spence

Condolences...

We would like to express our condolences to Sandy Dee. Her manager, Norma Carder, passed away on Wednesday.

Gertrude passed away on Wednesday. She was the sister of Ed Haselden.

We would also like to extend our condolences to the Haselden, Herman and Streets families in the passing of Gertrude Rivers.

"Childhood" continued...

We behave as if children are a barrier to worship, that their squirming and shuffling gets in the way of our time with God. Contrast this attitude with that of Jesus, who drew them into the very center of his activities. The disciples said, "send them away." Jesus said, "bring them to me!"

Will you bring your children? All of which makes me determined that we will put in our children's memories things of substance, pieces of our spiri-

tual heritage that have stood the test of time.

You see, the real tragedy is not when an Alzheimer's victim forgets his childhood, but when a society forgets its conscience. "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these" (Matthew 19:14).



Happy Birthday!

4/5

Kenneth Scott, Jr.

4/6

Carrie Jackson

4/10

Ron Herman

Bulletin Board

St. George Church of Christ Spring Gospel Meeting

Date: April 12th–15th

Speaker: James E. Rogers from the Smyrna Church of Christ in Cookeville, TN.

Monday–Wednesday: 7:30 pm

The Eighth Annual Charlotte Avenue Youth Rally

Theme: Sow What

Date: April 25, 2009

Where: Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ

339 Charlotte Avenue

Rock Hill, SC 29730

13th Annual Mother/Daughter Luncheon

Hosted by: Church of Christ at Azalea Drive

Where: Radisson Hotel located in North Charleston

Date Saturday, May 2nd

Time: 12:00

Theme: "Stepping in the Light"

Speaker: Barbara Hardie from the Schaffer Road Church of Christ in Marietta, Georgia.

Please see the bulletin board for more details.

ELDERS

Larry Casbeer 795-0429
Howard Streets 766-7727

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