

Reflections

“The Truth” *By: Stefano Mugnaini*

Thomas Sowell recently wrote the following: “Congressman Joe Wilson got into more trouble for telling the truth than President Barack Obama got into by telling a demonstrable lie about adding millions of people to the insurance rolls without adding a dime to the deficit.”

The balance of this article does not depend on where you stand politically; nor does the previous quotation, but it does illustrate an immense societal problem.

Truth does not matter anymore. In the interest of politeness, or political correctness, or decorum, or whatever else you may want to call it, politicians, commentators, theologians and academics are constantly allowed to tell blatant and obvious lies; and it is those who confront them that are

roundly condemned and denounced.

There was a time when, if someone informed you that $2 + 2 = 5$, you would obviously disagree. Now to do so is impolite, a breach of decorum.

Relativism is the rule of the day; and relativism must necessarily lead to absurdity. In mathematics, the absurdity is obvious; in theology, less so.

However, the same abhorrence for truth that allows politicians of every stripe to make outrageous claims regarding the health care debate allows religious people to conclude that objective truth is irrelevant.

I am the first to point out that there is no place for a smug, self-satisfied approach to the Bible that claims to have every answer; but

that is significantly different than denying that there are correct answers.

Our task as Christians is to seek them; to search for truth in every area of life. We must believe what we believe because such is objectively, demonstrably true. If we take a stand, it must be because such a stand is upon the firm foundation of the word of God.

This will put us at odds with the modern world and the modern mind. It will make us odd. It may lead to us being condemned as narrow-minded, hateful, bigoted, or worse. And these are labels that we must not covet...

But Christians have always been a strange people. From the beginning, Christ’s church has been a

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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 12-06-09**

**Elder for the Month
of December**

**Program of
Worship**

*Helen Embry
Mark Embry
Polly Fowler
Leonard McNeill
Lois Ott*

Bible Classes: 81
AM Worship: 124
PM Worship: 44
Wednesday Evening: 56
Contribution: 4,126.00

Larry Casbeer: 795-0429



Announcements:
Larry Casbeer

Song Service:
Keith Dee

Opening Prayer:
Rick Porter

Communion:
Deron Casbeer

Serving:
Larry Polutta
Larry Polk
Ray Brown
Ray Boynton

Sermon:
Stefano Mugnaini

Closing Prayer:
George Brown



Preparing communion: Ginnie Fowler

Baptismal Garments: Christine Herman

Military
*Robert Bagley
Kristopher Black
Adam Bowles
Chris Branham
Adam Carlucci
Russell Coble
Ryne Collins
James Dalton
Mark Fiorey
Ellis Flenoid
Steven Hilton
Michael Hilton
Matthew Lemieux
Katie McCaskill
Kevin Mitchell
Scott O'Connor
Shawn Reynolds*



We Are Praying For...

Debbie, Steve McLawhorn's sister & Mac & Agnes' daughter, is at home. Please continue to pray for her and the family.

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

Judy Cox, the mother of Natasha's friend, has advanced stage 4 colon cancer. She is undergoing another round of chemo treatments.

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.

EdiaJuan Fagan had test ran and is waiting for results.

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 is receiving chemo treatments.

Eloise Hinrichs, Carla's grandmother, had a heart attack. She was released from the hospital and is recuperating at home.

Val Mabry, Ann Mabry Stander's aunt, has Alzheimer's.

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

Louise Shaw, co-worker of Natasha Streets. Louise's husband is very ill.

Sam & Barbara Truscello, Raymond Boynton's neighbors, are in need of prayers. Sam has health problems and Barbara is the caregiver.

David Wakeland had heart valve replacement surgery on Wednesday, November 18th at Roper Hospital. He is recuperating at home.

Paul Quesenberry, Clara Haselden's nephew, had surgery to remove a tumor on his spine and is in serious condition.

Bible Bowl...

If you would like to provide Sunday dinners, drinks, or a monetary donation for drinks and snacks for the Bible Bowl Studiers during the months of Jan & Feb, please talk to Sandy Dee so that she can tell you

the available Sundays.

Thanks for all your support!



Happy Anniversary!

12/31
Ron & Christine
Herman

Southeastern Children's Home...

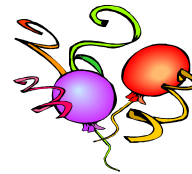
We are sponsoring 2 children for Christmas this year. Here is a list of the things on their wish list.

Lee is 16 years old. He enjoys football and is a Georgia Bulldog fan. Some items on his wish list are: DVDs (funny or scary PG/PG-13), Jordan tennis shoes size 10 (any color), Mach 3 turbo razor, books by Louis Lamour, a racing PSP game. His clothing sizes are shirts large, pants 34x32, shoes 10 and prefers boxers.

Jami' is 15 years old. She enjoys

riding horses, reading, and playing DS. Some items on her wish list are: Brown Sperry's (boat style) size 8 or Black/White Converse (not high-tops), Nintendo DS Imagine Animal Doctor game, DVD (for teen girl PG/PG-13 for example High School Musical 3, 8 Below, etc, she also has jewelry on her list she is thin and tall. Her clothing sizes include shirts medium, jeans 1-2, shoes 8.

If you would like to help with any of these items, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board. Thank you!



Happy Birthday!

12/14
Jordan Akers
12/15
Anna Claire Collins
12/17
Russell Spence
12/18
Lynn Smallwood
James Thornley
12/20
Ethan Dee
Marvin Woudwyk
12/21
Sarah Polk
12/22
Peggy McLawhorn
12/29
Eric Zink

Article continued...

people who rejected the materialism, lasciviousness, moral relativism, religious syncretism and "tolerance" of their day. For this reason, the earliest Christians were accused of everything from Atheism to cannibalism. They were condemned as unpatriotic and mocked as boring, seeking to avoid the feasts and gladiatorial entertainments of the Romans.

They nurtured a sense of peculiarity, but not for its own sake; when you stand for something, peculiarity is inevitable. Relativism, the re-

jection of absolutes, is not a new concept; it is as old as Eden. The serpent basically said "You won't really die if you eat the fruit-that's just one opinion. Here's another." But the fruit always poisons; whether it is popular to think so or not.

Consensus usually kills; truth always frees.

"And You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8:32

Bulletin Board

Area-Wide Annual Singing

Where: Kingsbury Road Church of Christ
215 Kingsbury Road, Sumter, SC 29151
When: December 18th at 7:00 pm
Refreshments will be served. Bring your song leaders.

Great Smokey Mountain Marriage Retreat

When: February 17-20, 2010
Where: Pigeon Forge Holiday Inn Conference Center
Theme: "Joy in the Journey-Celebrating God's Gift of Matrimony"
The retreat is sponsored by the Jacksonville church of Christ
325 Nisbet Street, Jacksonville, AL 36265
RSVP: If possible, please register by contacting 256-435-9356 or
info@jvillecoc.org to let us know you are attending.

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