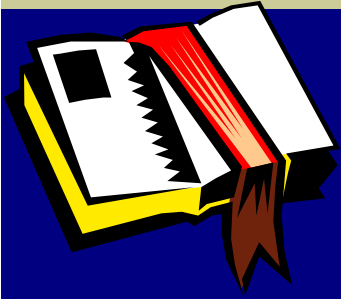


Sunday

March 28, 2010



ESSEX VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Reflections

“Do Good to All” By: Stefano Mugnaini

One of our greatest practical challenges lies in the area of benevolence. How do we apply Paul’s exhortation in Galatians 6:10-“Let us do good to all men, especially those of the household of faith”-while being good stewards? Sometimes it is more helpful to refuse a request than it is to oblige; how do we determine which is which? I am afraid that we have become quite cynical in this regard, if only because, at any given time, so many hands are out. How do we reflect God’s love to the world around us, to those in need, without casting pearls before swine?

In 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, I think Paul establishes several principles that may help us to govern our behavior in matters of benevolence.

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example, because we did not act in an undisciplined manner among you, ⁸ nor did we eat anyone’s bread without paying for it, but with labor and hardship we *kept* working night and day so that we would not be a burden to any of you; ⁹ not because we do not have the right *to this*, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you, so that you would follow our example. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. ¹¹ For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread. ¹³ But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary of doing good.

First, Paul says we must recognize that the Christian is called to set an example regarding industrious and virtuous living. We should be first in line to labor, and last in line for a handout. I cannot criticize another for their indolence if I am unwilling to earn my own bread. I cannot preach self-reliance if I am a ward and dependent of another.

* continued on page 3

Church Office : 843-556-1792

Church Fax: 843-556-6085

Email: evcoc@bellsouth.net

Website: www.essexvillage.org

Sunday

Class: 9:00 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

7:00 pm



**For the Record
Week of 03-21-10**

**Elder for the Month
of March**

**Program of
Worship**

Helen Embry
Mark Embry
Polly Fowler
Leonard McNeill
Lois Ott

Bible Classes: 55
AM Worship: 126
PM Worship: 42
Wednesday Evening: 58
Contribution: 3,808.00

Howard Streets: 766-7727

Announcements:
Howard Streets

Song Service:
Roddy Akers

Opening Prayer:
John Jenkins

Communion:
Rick Porter

Serving:
Norman Ricker
Larry Polk
Eddie Haselden
Jack Crabtree

Sermon:
Stefano Mugnaini

Closing Prayer:
Ron Herman



Preparing communion: Janie Polutta

Baptismal Garments: Pam Ragland



Military

Robert Bagley
Kristopher Black
RJ Boris
Adam Bowles
Chris Branham
Adam Carlucci
Russell Coble
Ryne Collins
James Dalton
Ellis Flenoid
Steven Hilton
Michael Hilton
Matthew Lemieux
Katie McCaskill
Derrick Menrique
Kevin Mitchell
Scott O'Connor



We Are Praying For...

Larry Cooper, Ruby's son, has lung cancer and is having hospice come to his home. He is holding his own at this time.

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 congestive heart failure and diabetes. Maxine is Pam Ragland's mother.

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 to a medical facility in McMinnville, TN.

NHC Healthcare
928 Old Smithville Road
Room 213A
McMinnville, TN 37110
Tel # 931-474-2929

Clara Haselden has cancer and is receiving chemo treatments.

Esther Lamm is having some health problems.

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

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

Sam & Barbara Truscello, Raymond Boynton's neighbors,

are in need of prayers. Sam has health problems and Barbara is the caregiver.

Verdie Whitson is having some health problems.

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

Here is what is happening...

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Class

The ladies will meet for class on Tuesday, March 30th & Tuesday, April 6th at 10 :00 am. They will then take a break for the spring & summer months.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The men will meet for breakfast, fel-

lowship and time spent in prayer on April 10th at 9:00 am.

Baby Shower

There will be a baby shower for Shelli on Sunday, April 11th at 4:00 pm in the fellowship hall.



Happy Birthday!

04/01

David Headden

4/5

Kenneth Scott, Jr.

4/6

Carrie Jackson

Youth Rally

Palmetto Bible Camp
Spring Youth Rally
April 30th– May 2nd, 2010

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” - Hebrews 12:1

Cost: \$50.00 per person

VBS 2010

Vacation Bible School
will be held on Wednesday, June 9th–Saturday, June 12th.

The theme will be
“Jungle Journey—Exploring the
Nature of God”.

Please be sure to mark your calendars and make plans to attend with your friends & neighbors!



Happy Anniversary!

04/07

Jack & Mary
Crabtree

04/08

Jennifer & David
Headden

Article continued...

Secondly, there is an implied distinction between someone who needs help and someone who wants it. Paul speaks of the “undisciplined and busybodies.” This is not descriptive of people who genuinely need help, or have fallen on hard times; but of those who simply have an aversion to labor and would rather pursue leisure. Paul says such a person must be allowed to go hungry; not in the hope that they will starve, but because an empty belly is a powerful incentive to work. Often there is greater benefit is refusing a request than there is in fulfilling it. Training wheels are a useful aid to a child learning to ride a bike, but there is a time when they must be removed. Let us seek, and may God grant us, the wisdom to know the difference.

The passage closes with the exhortation that we “**do not grow weary of doing good.**”

We must fight the urge to become cynical and worn out. One of our tasks as Christians is to seek the good of others. It may be imperfect, but my personal philosophy is this: I will not refuse to buy someone a meal, and if someone knocks on my door wanting to work, I will not turn them away. I'll find something for them to do. Your approach may be different, but let us all seek the good of others, even to the point that it hurts a little. That's what sacrifice is.

Bulletin Board

The Ninth Annual Charlotte Avenue Youth Rally

Theme: Which "Network" are you on?

Date: April 17, 2010

Guest Speaker: Mark Reynolds

Where: Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ
339 Charlotte Avenue
Rock Hill, SC 29730

2010 Ladies' Day

Theme: "There is a Time"

Guest Speaker: Becky Fowler Blackmon from Woodway, Texas.

She is the author of The Begging Place.

Date: April 17th at 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Where: Plaza Church of Christ in Sumter, SC

Gospel Meeting

Where: St. George Church of Christ

Guest Speaker: Don Blackwell

Date: April 18th—21st

Theme: "Moral Issues"

The Church of Christ building is located at 767 Hwy 15,
just north of St. George.

Gospel Meeting

Where: North Charleston Church of Christ

Guest Speaker: Curtis A. Cates

Date: April 4th—8th

The building is located at 8415 Patriot Blvd, North Charleston.

Palmetto Bible Camp Senior Week

Grades 7-12 Date: July 18—24, 2010

Check it out on the web at: www.palmettobiblecamp.org

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 810-0227
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