

Sunday

May 30, 2010



ESSEX VILLAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Reflections

“Pane et Circenses” *By: Stefano Mugnaini*

Already long ago, from when we sold our vote to no man, the People have abdicated our duties; for the People who once upon a time handed out military command, high civil office, legions — everything, now restrains itself and anxiously hopes for just two things: bread and circuses. -Juvenal

Juvenal was a Latin poet and Satirist, writing around 100 A.D. The previous statement was written as an explanation for the coming decline of Rome, yet a few centuries distant.

Juvenal’s concern was the decline in heroism and abandonment of civic responsibility that would eventually destroy the Empire, as it had destroyed the Roman Republic 200 years before. Politicians realized that by instituting a grain dole and free public entertainments-*pane et circenses*-they could buy votes and abdicate any real responsibility for good governance. Alexis de Tocqueville, French political writer, made the same point in a slightly different way: “The American Republic will survive only until the American Congress realizes it can bribe the people with their own money.”

History, both ancient and modern, has shown the prophetic nature of these two statements. Rome ceases to exist, and the United States ceases to be a Constitutional Republic.

However, let us consider a spiritual application of the idea of bribing the people with “bread and circuses.” The early church was poor; largely comprised of slaves and peasants. In an intensely stratified society, adherents to the way generally represented the lower castes. Even of the Corinthians, one of the wealthiest and most urbane, and apparently arrogant congregations, Paul was able to write of their humble roots.

For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are

**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 05-24-10**

**Elder for the Month
of May**

**Program of
Worship**

Helen Embry
Mark Embry
Polly Fowler
Leonard McNeill
Lois Ott

Bible Classes: 68
AM Worship: 133
PM Worship: 40
Wednesday Evening: 40
Contribution: 3,673.00

Howard Streets 766-7727



Announcements:
Howard Streets

Song Service:
Royce Akers

Opening Prayer:
Keith Dee

Communion:
Jim Lamm

Serving:
Ron Herman
Chuck Spence
Tex Patton
Durwood Collins

Sermon:
Stefano Mugnaini

Closing Prayer:
Eric Zink



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

Preparing communion: Brenda Streets

Baptismal Garments: Natasha Streets



We Are Praying For...

Judy Cox, the mother of Natasha's friend, had more test done to see if she was in remission. Instead they found another mass that is growing rapidly.

Mary Crabtree had knee replacement surgery on Monday and is doing well.

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.

Agnes McLawhorn had surgery on Tuesday at Str. Francis. She is doing well. She is expected to be released on Friday to recuperate at home.

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...

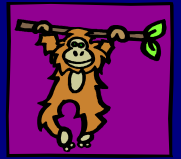
Vacation Bible School

Our theme is “Jungle Journey— Exploring the Nature of God” and will be held Wednesday, June 9th— Saturday, June 12th. We will have classes Wednesday—Friday 7:00 pm—8:30 pm and our fun day will be on Saturday from 10:00 am — 1:00 pm.

Ladies’ Retreat 2010

The Ladies’ Retreat will be August 6th– 7th. Please be sure to mark your calendars.

Vacation
Bible
School



June 9th– 12th
Bring a friend!

House to House, Heart to Heart...

We received the latest edition of House to House, Heart to Heart in the mail last week. It has been placed on the table in the foyer. Please be sure to pick up a copy and some of the many tracts that they send to share with your friends and neighbors.

World Bible School...

The latest edition of “Action” newsletter has arrived and has been placed on the table in the foyer for anyone who would like a copy.



Happy Birthday!

5/30

Frances Wakeland

6/04

Michael Boynton

Article continued...

not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God.
(1 Corinthians 1:26-29)

Despite official and non-official persecution the church grew and spread and thrived.

But then something happened: The Roman Empire became more hospitable to Christians. Eventually, under Constantine Christianity was first tolerated, then made the official faith of the Roman Empire. The

Church grew wealthy, self satisfied, and immoral. Comfort and acceptance led to heresy and a loss of distinctiveness.



Happy Birthday!

6/02

**Pat & Edia Juan
Fagan**

6/03

**Steve & Peggy
McLawhorn**

6/04

**John & Rosie
Such**

Bulletin Board

Palmetto Bible Camp Senior Week

Grades 7-12 Date: July 18—24, 2010

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

Palmetto Bible Camp

Keith will be a counselor and Sandy will be running the canteen at Palmetto Bible Camp during the week of June 20th—26th.

2010 Santee Ladies' Retreat

Theme: "It's Harvest Time"

Date: November 19th—21st at the Landmark Resort Hotel in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Registration cost: \$60.00 for ages 12- adult, \$35.00 for 4-11 and free for 3 and under. Each participant will be responsible for their own hotel accommodations. Please see the bulletin board for more information.

ELDERS

Larry Casbeer 795-0429
Howard Streets 766-7727

MINISTER

Stefano Mugnaini 329-3704

DEACONS

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 991-5020
Financial
Durwood Collins 869-4199
Youth Activities

Essex Village Church of Christ
736 Savage Road
Charleston, SC 29414