

# The McLish Avenue Messenger

This is the message we have heard from Him... God is Light (1 John 1:5).

February 8, 2009

MCLISH AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST • 607 McLish SW • Ardmore, OK 73401



*The following is the last verse of  
what book of the Bible?*

“And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.”

*Evangelist*

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*Schedule of Services*

*Sunday*

Bible Study ..... 9:30 am

Worship ..... 10:30 am

Worship ..... 6:00 pm

*Wednesday*

Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm

## How to be a Real Friend

Ben Bailey

There are many different types of friends in this world. For example, there are “fair weather” friends who stick by your side as long as things are going well. There are “friends for hire” who are only your friend because they get something out of being your friend. Of these friends the Bible states, “Every man is a friend to one who gives gifts” (Prov. 19:6). There are “pseudo friends” who pretend to be your friend, but then turn around and stab you in the back. Then, there are true friends indeed. Notice several characteristics of a true friend.

A true friend is one who cares for you out of respect for who you are. The writer of Proverbs said, “A friend loves at all times...” (Prov. 17:17). These are the type of friends who stick with you through thick and thin. A good example of this would be the relationship that the Apostle Paul and Luke had. Of this relationship Paul said during difficult times, “Only Luke is with me” (2 Tim. 4:11).

A true friend is faithful to you. The writer of Proverbs said this concerning a faithful friend, “There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother” (Prov. 18:24). A true friend does not lie about you or say things behind your back. A faithful friend is there for you in the good and the bad times. Friends that are truly faithful help us to become better friends also. Solomon stated, “As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend” (Prov. 27:17).

A true friend is concerned more about doing right than hurting your feelings. The wise man said, “Open rebuke is better than love carefully concealed” (Prov. 27:5). The writer of Proverbs teaches us a

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# Friend

Continued from front page

valuable lesson about friendship. A true friend will tell you the truth at all times whether we like it or not. Someone who lies to you to make you feel better is not a real friend. Little wonder is it then that the Bible says, "Faithful are the wounds of a friend..." (Prov. 27:6). A true friend who may have hurt your feelings telling you the truth is a faithful friend.

All of the characteristics of a true friend are really exemplified in one man—Jesus Christ. Jesus is our best friend in the whole world. He cares deeply for us (Jn. 3:16). He looks out for our spiritual welfare (Heb. 2:9). He even went to the Cross and died for each one of us (1 Peter 2:24). The question we must ask ourselves is, "Are we a friend to Jesus?" Jesus tells us how we can be his friends. He says, "You are my friends if you do whatever I command you" (John 15:14). If you are not obeying the will of God, you are not a friend of Jesus. If you are obeying God's will, you could have no better friend.

**Tax forms** If you need a form regarding 2008 donations for tax purposes, Melba has them available in the office.

## Outreach Groups

### Group 1

Chock & Mary Aldridge  
Ron & Peggy Jones  
Ray & Tomi Harness  
James & Tammy Gravelle  
Ronnie Byrd  
Steve Mann  
Scott & Tina Saner  
Jaccie Pirtle

### Group 2

James & Dana Meece  
David & Linda Johnson  
Ben & Christie Bailey  
Betty Higgins  
Harold & Martha Dillard  
Pat Ballard & Vickie Fletcher  
Bill & Gail Stewart  
Earl & Sue Mann

### Group 3

Vernon & Arlene Castleman  
Sharon Ryan & Christy Murray  
Cecil Hargrove  
Lovel & Mary Hughes  
Lonnie Harris  
Rick & Suzanne Tidwell  
Tom Matlock  
Sharlene Wallis & Rebecca

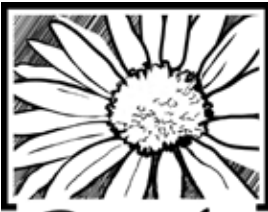
**Couple shower** Tonight after evening services, everyone is invited to bring finger food and gather in the fellowship area for a shower for **Jana Barton and Jason Meece**. Mary Aldridge and Arlene Castleman are collecting donations for a money tree.



**Children's homes** Westview will be back in March and is requesting: Velveeta, 100% juice, Nestle Quik, applesauce, canned fruit, Kool-Aid/Tang, chili no beans, canned chicken, Pop Tarts/breakfast bars, Pine Sol, toilet paper, paper towels, sunscreen, Off, dish washing soap and liquid laundry soap.

**Teacher Appreciation** Plans are being made for a teacher appreciation banquet on Saturday, February 21 at 6:30 pm. If you have taught or assisted in a class, you are invited to attend. There is a sign up sheet on the back bulletin board to give those planning the event a head count.

**Over 39ers** Note the date change! The over 39ers will meet Tuesday, February 24th at 6:00 pm at El Chico.



## Remember Our Sick

**Kent Barker**, the nephew of Jean Carey has cancer and is undergoing treatments. Lovell & Mary Hughes' son-in-law, **David Eddie**, had a heart attack and is in need of our prayers. Sam Attencio's grandfather in Albuquerque. **Mel Attencio**, was hospitalized with a possible heart attack. **A.L. Hargrove**, Cecil's brother in Washington state, has a blockage in his stomach. **Jan Barlow**, Sue Creecy's daughter and Tammy Gravelle's sister, had a good report. They will test again in three months to check on the status of her cancer. **Rebecca Stafford** seems to be doing well after her second round of chemo. Doctors plan to remove part of her lung and a rib once the cancer has reduced some. **Nancy McClanahan** had foot surgery last week. **Sue Mann** had an infection, so the stint could not be removed. **Jerry Beavers** had his gall bladder removed. **Jean Cary** is sick at home. Please continue to remember: **Marty Stinson** • **Ruby Meece**, James' mother • **Norma Perkins**' friend, **Jerry Lover** • **Randy Scott**'s mother **Peggy** • **Ruth Parker** • **Ben Tomlinson**'s mother **Nita** • **Jean Parker** • **Dorthea Phillips** • **Gloria Clark**'s father, **KL Murphey** • **Casey Blount**, **Mary Ann Ashley**'s nephew • **Sue Mann** • **Scott Saner**'s parents, his uncle, **Roger Lucas** and his great-uncle, **Charles Gossman** • **Deborah Thomas** and her son **Joe** • **Jamie Feroli**'s sister, **Dara Robinson**, • **Madeline Minyard** • **Harold & Martha Dillard**'s daughter **Carole Grammer** • **Jerry & Glenda Vinson** • **Glen Elmore** • **Harry Phipps** • **Nelda Hamilton**, **Norma Perkins**' sister • **Larry Ryan**'s mother, **Lorraine** • **Sharon Ryan**'s mother, **Mary Griffeth** • **Judy Grammer** • **Peggy Jones**' sister, **Mary Warner** • **Tabitha Ray-Barton** • **Pat Ballard**'s mother • **Jamie Feroli** • **Jamie Feroli**'s mother, **JoAnn Watson**, and grandmother • and those shut in/nursing home members.

**Thursday class** Thursdays through April 2nd at 7 pm Ben and Kevin will teach a fundamentals class, "Have You Ever Wondered Why the churches of Christ Teach...?" This class has been advertised in local newspapers and is designed to bring people from the community as well as build up our members. Please help this class be a success.



Study the Bible with us

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### February

- 8 Sharon Chamberlain
- 9 Sharon Ryan
- 11 Marvin Willis
- 12 Joyce Giles  
Roy & Lori Patrick
- 13 Mary Aldridge  
Gloria Clark
- 14 Gypsy Castleman  
Alice Williams
- 21 Bobby Wallace
- 25 Isabella Murray
- 26 James Meece  
Michael Castleman

### March

- 1 Cap & Teen Stewart '47
- 5 Melody Smith
- 9 Bill Stewart
- 10 Christy Murray
- 11 Madeline Minyard  
Justin Mann  
W.O. Clark
- 13 Pat Ballard
- 14 James Gravelle
- 15 Toni Mann  
Fred & Maxine Bellomy '49
- 16 Lexie Wallace
- 17 Lara Austin
- 21 Martin Dotson  
Robert & Pam Schumacher
- 23 Anthony Tipton
- 26 Jeremy Bell  
Steve Mann
- 27 Liz Aldridge

**TGOC** KVSO, 1240 am radio, has started airing 3 minute radio lessons every weekday between 7:25 and 7:30.

**Camp forms** Wednesday in the upper school age classes, camp forms were distributed. Additional forms are available in the office. Please get these completed and turned into the office as soon as possible.



Don't forget about our blood drive on February 15th. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board on the back wall if you are willing to donate. For those who have signed up, please see Scott Saner if you haven't already been given a time slot.

**Labels** Tammy Gravelle is collecting labels for the children's home. Both soup labels and Duncan Hines labels can be redeemed by the home for equipment and supplies.

**Contacts for TGOC** If you have a friend or relative in another congregation, please jot down their name and phone number and give it to Kevin. He'd like to use these contacts to help open doors for him to speak about *The Gospel of Christ*.

## Those to Serve Today

Announcements..... Todd Hicks		
Lord's Table.....Lovel Hughes	James Gravelle	Earl Mann
Ray Harness	Alex Vinson	Steve Mann
Song Leader.....Barton Pettit	PM Opening Prayer..... David Johnson	
AM Opening Prayer .....James Meece	PM Closing Prayer..... Jerry Beavers	
AM Scripture .....Sean Bugbee	PM Lord's Supper.....James Gravelle	
AM Closing Prayer .....Andy Smith		
Greeters Feb 8 & 11 ..... Randy & Adela Scott, James & Dana Meece		

### Elders

**Charles Aldridge**  
710 15th NW  
223-4602

**Vernon Castleman**  
3533 Dogwood Road  
223-0983

**James Meece**  
909 Davis  
223-7637

### Deacons

**Fred Bellomy**  
223-3240

**Martin Dotson**  
226-6450

**James Gravelle**  
223-7911

**Todd Hicks**  
226-0830

**Ron Jones**  
223-7268

**Steve Mann**  
223-7246

**Scott Saner**  
226-2920

**Jerry Vinson**  
223-3865



## Today

7:00 pm Barton/Meece bridal shower

## February 11

10:00 am Ladies' Bible class

7:00 pm Ben Bailey gives devotional

## February 12

7:00 pm Bible study at the building

## February 15

12:00 pm Blood drive

## February 18

10:00 am Ladies' Bible class

7:00 pm Barton Pettit gives devotional

## February 19

7:00 pm Bible study at the building

## February 21

6:30 pm Teacher Appreciation Banquet

## February 24

6:00 pm 39 & Over meet

## February 25

10:00 am Ladies' Bible class

7:00 pm Todd Hicks gives devotional

## February 26

7:00 pm Bible study at the building

*Scripture from front page:  
(NKJV) John 21:25*