

The McLish Avenue Messenger

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

June 21, 2009

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



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

“ teaching them to observe all
things that I have commanded you; and
lo, I am with you always, even to the
end of the age.” 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

Baptism into the Kingdom

Ben Bailey

In the New Testament, baptism is not a dead ritual that is performed after a person is saved. It is a very important command of God for salvation (Mk 16:16). Notice a major purpose of baptism in the New Testament.

One of the purposes for baptism in the New Testament is to enter the kingdom of God. In John 3:1-8, Nicodemus comes to Jesus to compliment and flatter the Savior for His marvelous works. However, Jesus does not even respond to Nicodemus' flattery but looks deeper into his spiritual condition. Jesus tells Nicodemus that he cannot enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and Spirit. What exactly could the Savior have meant by being born of water and Spirit? Without a doubt, this was the thought of Nicodemus. Nicodemus responded by saying, "Can a man be born again?" Nicodemus, like some today, thought that a person had to be physically born into the Kingdom of God (a popular view among Jews today). However, Jesus tells him that he must not be born again physically, but spiritually. To be born of water means to be baptized into God's kingdom. After one becomes a child of God, he is in many ways like a baby (Rom 6:4, I Pet 2:2). In fact, the Apostle Paul said, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Cor 5:17). Baptism is the point in one's spiritual search where he becomes clean, and undefiled by the world's allurements, washed in the blood of Christ (Rev 1:5), and is adopted into a new family (Col 3:1ff, Acts 22:16, Gal 4:4-7). Sounds pretty much like a birth to me! In addition, one might note that to be born of the Spirit means to be born by the word of God, the tool of the Spirit (Eph 6:17). The best commentary on John 3:5 is the words of the Apostle Peter in 1 Peter 1:23. Peter said, "having been born again, not of corruptible seed but

Continued next week ...

Baptism

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incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever..." (1 Pet. 1:23).

Dear friend, have you been baptized into God's kingdom for the remission of your sins. Please realize this does not happen by accident. A person must know the truth and then the truth makes her free (John 8:32). If you have not become a child of God and are searching for the truth, please contact me or one of the elders or deacons. We would love to study with you and help you in any way.

Children's homes Westview will be here the week of July 13th and is requesting:



Rotel, Velveeta, 100% juice, canned fruit, sweetened cereal, canned chicken, potato/tortilla chips, canned soda, bottled water, tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, peanut butter/cheese crackers, Pine Sol, AA and AAA batteries, shampoo, conditioner, 13/39 gallon trash bags, paper towels, bathroom tissue, Spray & Wash and dryer sheets.

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

Road trip The van will leave at 8 am from the building on Tuesday, June 30th for Six Flags. If you need help with a ticket, please see Ben. There will be several chaperones for those children whose parents are unable to go because of work.

Media available If you'd like a copy of a specific lesson taught from the pulpit, please write down your name and which lesson(s) you are interested in and give to Melba Wallace. Don't forget that tracts are available in the tract racks at the back of the auditorium and in the hallway to the offices. These can be used in discussing religious matters with friends and neighbors. **The Gospel of Christ** CDs and DVDs are available at the back of the auditorium for use in your own Bible study or in evangelistic efforts. If there is a CD or DVD that is not out that you'd like copies of, please use the order forms in the tract rack on the right side as you are facing the back. Also available are transcripts of



The Gospel of Christ media. Don't forget to check out www.thegospelofchrist.com to access all the media available through that effort.

Pantry Teachers, please encourage your Bible students to bring one pantry item each week. This will help each student develop a giving spirit.



Joyce Gilliam will have total knee replacement surgery on June 23rd. Rick Tidwell was admitted to Mercy Memorial for an IV treatment for an ear infection that didn't respond to oral antibiotics. Murray Goforth was in room 244. Tabitha Ray-Barton, Rick & Mary Ray's daughter, started chemo again last week. Her cancer has come back in her hip and right lung. Jennifer Johnson's niece, Danielle Fontenot, is having complications after oral surgery. Joanne Craft, April Willis' mother, had back surgery early in June and will have to have another surgery in two to three weeks. Tom Matlock's brother-in-law is ill and in need of prayers. Jean Cary's nephew will have his last round of chemo on Monday. Please continue to remember: Jeff Willingham • Rebecca Stafford • Margaret Sparger • Glenda Vinson's sister, Marie Daube • Adriane Brown, Alex Brown's daughter • Lisa Moss, wife of Robert Moss • Marie Williams • Jim Bowman • Frank Pennington • Betty Higgins • Debra Thomas' mother • Earl & Sue Mann • Marty Stinson • Donald Moyers • Pat Morrison, Olga Sue Stinson's sister • Virgie Burchfield • Mary Ann Ashley • Norma Perkins' friend, Jerry Lover • Dorthea Phillips • Madeline Minyard • Jerry & Glenda Vinson • Harry Phipps • Sharon Ryan's mother, Mary Griffeth • Larry Ryan's mother, Lorraine • Peggy Jones' sister, Mary Warner • Pat Ballard's mother • Jamie Feroli's mother, JoAnn Watson, and grandmother • and those shut in/nursing home members.



We want to express our sympathy to Sue Mann and family in the death of her brother, William Mitchell Austin, last week. His services were Thursday at Harvey Douglas. Please keep this family in your thoughts, prayers and actions during this time of sorrow.

Congratulations Barton and Marsha Pettit have a new granddaughter. Isla was born early Wednesday morning in Manteca, CA. She made her appearance at 7 lbs, 8 oz and was 21 inches long. Both mother and baby are doing well.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

June

- 13 Clarine Wainscott
Beverly Sadler
Deborah Willaims
- 14 Patti Culpepper
David Aldridge
- 15 Jeanine Phipps
- 19 Ben & Christie Bailey '99
- 22 Hannah Bailey
- 23 Cindy Shellenberger
- 27 Christie Bailey
- 28 Jeff Willingham
- 30 Chelsea Pendergrass

July

- 9 Dana Meece
- 10 Braden Willingham
- 11 Melba Culbreth
- 12 Lonnie Harris
Lori Patrick
Gail Stewart
- 14 Nancy Bugbee
- 16 David & Linda Johnson '65
- 17 Virgie Burchfield
David Johnson
Cierra Burton
- 18 Ethan Aldridge
Collin Aldridge
- 19 Cody Murray
Colten Brinkley
- 20 Bobby "Trey" Austin
Sue Creecy
- 21 Barton Pettit
- 24 Doug & Rhenea Aldridge
Steve & Toni Mann '87

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*.

Need a ride to services? If you would like the van to pick you up for services, please see **Steve Mann, Scott Saner**, or one of the elders.

Calendar updates If you see that your name, or the name of a family member has been left off the calendar, please let Tina know.



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.

KSBI The Gospel of Christ can be seen on KSBI, cable channel 76, at 8:30 am on Sundays.

Those to Serve Today

Announcements..... David Johnson

Lord's Table	Lovel Hughes Earl Mann	James Gravelle Ray Harness	Alex Vinson Steve Mann
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Song Leader..... Terry Waller	PM Opening Prayer..... Chock Aldridge
AM Opening Prayer James Meece	PM Closing Prayer..... Ron Jones
AM Scripture Ethan Aldridge	PM Lord's Supper..... Alex Vinson
AM Closing Prayer F.A. Shellenberger	

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
504-2829

Ron Jones
223-7268

Steve Mann
223-7246

Scott Saner
226-2920

Jerry Vinson
223-3865



June 17

7:00 pm James Meece gives devotional

June 19

5:30 pm 39 & Over meet at the building to go to the Blue Pig

June 24

7:00 pm FA Shellenberger gives devotional

June 30

8:00 am Leave the building for Six Flags trip



July 1

7:00 pm Vernon Castleman gives devotional

July 5

noon Fellowship meal

July 8

7:00 pm Barton Pettit gives devotional

July 15

7:00 pm Floyd Johnson gives devotional

(NKV)
Matthew 28:20
Scripture from front page: