

# The McLish Avenue Messenger

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

March 28, 2010

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



*This New Testament passage quotes an Old Testament passage. Where is the Old Testament passage found?*

*“Let his dwelling place be desolate, And let no one live in it”*

Acts 1:20 (NKJV)

*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

Part one

## Liberalism: Are We Drawing Closer to God? Ben Bailey

In the church a serious wind of change is taking place (Eph 4:14). This movement is so powerful that it is blowing down many of the “old paths” the Lord’s church has held to (Jer 6:16, Prov 22:18). Those who advocate doctrinal change will say that this movement is caused by an acceptance of culture and a desire to have a deeper relationship with God, but I say that rebellion, emotionalism, and Biblical ignorance are the causes of this change.

The liberal movement in the church has tried to bring us in sync with our culture in several ways. First, as a direct result of the women’s liberation movement, change agents are advocating an extended role for women. For example, a person can now go into an unfaithful congregation of the Lord’s people and find women serving at the Lord’s Supper, preaching, praying, or even leading song service. Next, we have tried to be culturally oriented by being more accepting of denominations. Change agents say that we need to be more relaxed in our views on who is, or who is not our brother. Today, many church of Christ preachers are exchanging pulpits with Baptists, Methodists, and Lutherans as if they are no different than us. A final way in which liberals have tried to make the church cultural is by making additions and changes in our worship. For instance, the church used to believe that acapella music was the only way to worship God in song (Eph 5:19, Col. 3:16). But now some are bringing instruments into worship as an acceptable alternative. We used to be convicted that singing unto the Lord vocally with our mind engaged was proper, but now we are being told that hand clapping is just as acceptable to the Lord as vocal singing in spirit and truth (Jn 4:24). Also, alterations to fit culture are being made to the Lord’s supper. For example, some churches of Christ are

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# Liberalism

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only serving the Lord's supper once a month or once a quarter. When we view these major changes in the church, we should automatically ask, "Are we really drawing closer to God?" or has the Lord removed some churches from their place of exaltation because of unauthorized change (Rev 2:5)?

I am convinced that one of the major causes of change in the church is a rebellious spirit. Due to some major transformations and impacts by culture and society a rebellious generation is rising up and leading the church away from the scriptural doctrines we have held to for years. Many factors in society caused a rebellion against authority. For example, in the 1960's drugs, long hair, antiwar protests, and acceptance of eastern religions was simply a rebellion against authority. Another factor that caused this rebellious generation was a lack of discipline. When Dr. Spock published his ideas on discipline, many people began to rethink their method of discipline which led to children rebelling against authority. Instead of spanking their children, people began to ground, give time outs, or simply reward unacceptable behavior so they would not squash their children's spirits. While this seemed like a good approach to some, the voice of experience shows us that it was not the right way

(Prov 13:24, 19:18, 22:15, 23:13-14, 29:15,17, Heb 12:7). Children who are not disciplined at a young age grow up to be adults who reject the authority of the Bible. To God, "...Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft" (I Sam 15:23).

*Continued next week ...*

**Celebration** After our monthly fellowship meal on April 18th (notice the date change) we will have a celebration of the recent marriage of



**Joshua and Erika Gravelle.** A money tree will be presented to the couple. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please see Mary Aldridge, Arlene Castleman, Dana Meece or Christie Bailey.



**Monthly meal** Our monthly fellowship meal has been moved from the first Sunday in April to the 18th to correspond with our gospel effort.

**Over 39ers** The over 39ers will meet Thursday, April 15th at 6:00 pm here at the building. JW Hobbs and Lovel Hughes will furnish hot dogs and buns. Please bring sides, desserts and drinks.

## 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



*Remember  
Our Sick*

**Esther Godwin** is in serious condition and has been moved to Norman Regional Hospital in Oklahoma City. She is in room 3068; phone number 405.307.1000. If you would like to send a card the address is: 901 N. Porter, Norman, OK

73071. **Dora Hector** is scheduled for colon surgery

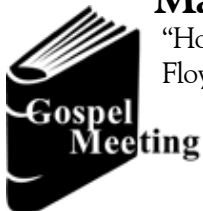
this Tuesday morning at Mercy Memorial. **Jacob Johnston** broke his arm. Darrell Johnson's wife, **Gladys**, has been sick at home. **Nita Padgett** is in an OKC hospital with pneumonia. Please continue to remember: **Hattie Williams** • Laci Sandefur's grandfather, **Dale Houglan** • **Jean Cary** • **Ben Tomlinson** • **Brenda Anderson** • **Olga Sue Stinson** • **Gracie Smith** • **Jean Parker** • **Jamie Feroli** • **Mary Ann Ashley** • Ruth Parker's great-grandson **Emory Raney** • **Bessie Childress** • Jean Cary's nephew, **Kent Barker** • **Ruth Minyard** • Mildred Pennington's sister, **Geneva Long** and her sister-in-law **Billie Gilliam** • **Patti Culpepper** • **Betty Higgins** • **Jerry & Glenda Vinson** • **Murray Goforth** • **Deborah Thomas' mother** • **Pat Morrison**, Olga Sue Stinson's sister • **Dorthea Phillips** • **Pat Ballard's mother** • **Madeline Minyard** • and those shut in/nursing home members.

**Response** Sister **Jaccie Pirtle** came forward asking for prayers to be a positive influence on those around her. She also asked for prayers for family members who are not faithful or Christians that they might convicted of the right path to follow.

**Egghunt** This Saturday, April 3, there will be a hamburger fry and egg hunt starting around 11:30 am at Millwork Supply located at 2211 Refinery Road. Hamburgers will be served at noon and the egg hunt will follow. Please bring chips, drinks or desserts. Each child will need to bring one dozen filled eggs.



**Mark your calendars** We will have a "Hometown Preachers" gospel meeting **April 18-21**. Floyd Johnson, Cole Tidwell, Larry Jones, Kevin Pendergrass, James Gravelle and Ben Bailey will be delivering the lessons. You can find flyers on the table in the front foyer.



## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### March

- 27 Liz Aldridge
- 28 Ronnie & Geri Byrd '75  
Jacob Johnson
- 30 Caleb Willis  
Harold & Martha Dillard '74

### April

- 8 Glenda Vinson
- 9 Martha Dillard  
Jerry & Lois Beavers
- 10 Brent Castleman  
Michael Tipton  
Brent & Gypsy Castleman '92
- 12 Robert Schumacher
- 13 Dorothea Phillips  
Norma Perkins
- 15 Savanna Mann
- 16 Bessie Childress  
Melba Wallace  
Chock Aldridge  
Jerry Beavers
- 21 Scott & Tina Saner '84
- 25 J.W. Hobbs

### May

- 2 Kaitlin Aldridge
- 6 Sean Bugbee
- 7 Todd Hicks
- 8 Arlene Castleman  
Bo & Huberta Fore '51
- 11 Bo Fore
- 14 Helen Walker  
Claire Castleman  
Floyd Johnson

