

# The McLish Avenue Messenger

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

November 22, 2009

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?*

“For it is written: ‘He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you.’”

Luke 4:10 (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 two

## The Sinner's Prayer: A Spiritual Tragedy

Ben Bailey

**A**lthough the sinner's prayer isn't found anywhere in Scripture, there are a couple of passages people use to justify it. Some religious leaders believe Acts 2:21 warrants a person saying a sinner's prayer for salvation. The Apostle Peter said, "whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Acts 2:21). Is this passage teaching that we must say the sinner's prayer to be saved? Certainly not. There is a big difference in Scripture between calling on God for salvation and a prayer to God. If we will use the Scriptures correctly we can see exactly what it means to "call" on God. A divine commentary on how to call on the name of the Lord is given in Acts 22:16. Saul is told, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." According to the Scripture, to call on the name of the Lord means that we get up and obey God's teaching concerning baptism. This is the exact same thing the people who called on God in Acts 2 were told (Acts 2:37-38). Another passage that is often cited in support of the sinner's prayer is Luke 18:13. In contrast to the hypocritical Pharisee, the tax collector "beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!'" Is this text authorizing a sinner's prayer as a means of salvation? This passage is not an example of New Testament salvation because this man was still living under the Old Testament and Christ's law had not gone into effect yet (Heb 9:15-17). If this were an example of salvation, it would only be an Old Testament example and would have no bearing on the salvation of men and women today. Thus, neither one of the passages teach that the sinner's prayer is a means of salvation.

There is one passage in Scripture where a sinner prayed for salvation and forgiveness—and that sinner's prayer did not save him.

*Continued inside ...*

# Tragedy

Continued from front page

In Acts 9, Saul is confronted by Jesus and instructed to go to Damascus and he would receive further guidance from the Christ he had been persecuting. At this point Saul believes Jesus is Lord and has a desire to obey His will (Acts 9:4-6). As Saul is waiting for further information from the Lord, God informs Ananias of the situation. He is told to “arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying” (Acts 9:11). If there were ever a case of a man saying the sinner’s prayer this would be it. Saul had been confronted by Jesus, realized He was Lord and cried to God for salvation (Acts 9:4-6). In Damascus Saul was PRAYING! Did this sinner’s prayer save him? Absolutely not! Saul was not saved until he was told to arise and be baptized and wash away his sins, calling on the name of the Lord (Acts 22:16). Isn’t that amazing! The only real case of the sinner’s prayer that is found anywhere in Scripture and it didn’t save the man!

In a world where there are so many people looking to take advantage of others for power and wealth, we desperately need to understand God’s way of salvation. The sinner’s prayer is not from God and will never save anyone. To be saved, the Bible teaches one must hear God’s word (Rom

10:17), believe in Jesus Christ (Jn 8:24), repent of past sins (Lk 13:3), confess the name of Jesus before men (Rom 10:10; Mt 10:32-33), and be baptized in water for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38, 22:16; Mk 16:16). If you were taught the sinner’s prayer as a mode of salvation, you need to realize that you are still lost and you desperately need to obey God’s plan of salvation to be saved! We pray that you will have the courage to reject “modern” ways of salvation and do what God says concerning salvation!

**Response** Last week **Jacci Pirtle and Deborah Thomas** both publicly acknowledged sin and asked for the prayers of the congregation. Each of us can take opportunities presented to us to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Need a ride to services?** If you need the van to pick you up for services, please see **Steve Mann, Scott Saner**, or one of the elders. *If you can help drive the van on Wednesdays, please see Steve or an elder.*



## 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

## Prayer List



**Ben Tomlinson** has been moved to ICU in critical condition. **Travis Willis** is recovering from double hernia surgery. **Mary Ann Ashley** had a procedure on Thursday. **Deborah Thomas** was to get some test results back on Thursday. **Haley Willis** is doing well after surgery. **Neoma Schmidt**, Tina Saner's mother, had her procedure postponed until sometime in December. Please continue to remember:

**Flo Brown**, sister of Joyce Gilliam • **Jean Cary's son Scott** • **Ruth Minyard** • **Cole Tidwell**, Rick's father • **Tim Hicks**, Todd's father • Mildred Pennington's sister, **Geneva Long** and her sister-in-law **Billie Gilliam** • **Marty Stinson** • **Earl & Sue Mann** • **Jamie Feroli** • **Patti Culpepper** • **Trent Jacobson**, Jimmye's son • **Christy Murray's cousin Misty** • **Deborah Thomas** • **Betty Higgins** • Louise Harris' father, **Charlie Stevens** • Madeline Minyard's son **Dale** • **Glenda Vinson's mother** • Ruth Minyard's nephew, **Roger Parker** • **Jerry & Glenda Vinson** • **Nancy McClanahan** • **Murray Goforth** • **Rebecca Stafford** • **Glenda Vinson's sister and brother** • **Deborah Thomas' mother** • **Pat Morrison**, Olga Sue Stinson's sister • **Bill & Virgie Burchfield** • **Dorthea Phillips** • **Pat Ballard's mother** • **Madeline Minyard** • Sharon Ryan's mother, **Mary Griffith** • Larry Ryan's mother, **Lorraine** • **Jamie Feroli's sister, Dara Robison** • **Wayne Price**, Jennifer Johnson's uncle • **Jamie Feroli's mother, JoAnn Watson, and grandmother** • **Peggy Jones' sister, Mary Warner** • and those shut in/nursing home members.

*We mourn with you*



**In sympathy** We want to remember the family and friends of bro **Sylvester Johnson** who passed away this week.

His services were yesterday. Please keep this family surrounded with your actions and prayers during this time of loss.

**Tired of turkey?** If you are school aged, you have an option! This Friday, November 27th, you are encouraged to meet at the building at 5 pm. All in attendance will be taken to a mystery site for a wiener roast. Bring a flash light and lawn chair. If you have a question other than where you are going, you can ask Todd or Shelly Hicks.



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### November

- 21 Reegan Lewis
- 22 Jennifer Johnson
- 25 Robert McClanahan
- 26 Huberta Fore
- 28 Fred Bellomy

### December

- 2 Bobby & Melba Wallace
- 3 Irene Riley  
Marvin & April Willis '94  
Daylon Lewis
- 6 Ashli Austin  
Sean & Nancy Bugbee '03
- 7 Cody Castleman  
Bill Burchfield
- 9 Jean Cary  
Charles Williams
- 12 Darlene Pennington  
FA & Wanda Shellenberger
- 13 Ron & Peggy Jones '80
- 16 Rick & Suzanne Tidwell '75  
Suzanne Tidwell  
Tammy Gravelle
- 18 Lovel Hughes  
Jacie Pirtle
- 20 Harry & Jeanine Phipps '53  
Jason Meece
- 21 Alaura Phillips
- 23 Paul & Joyce Giles
- 27 Barton & Marsha Pettit '74
- 29 Maxine Bellomy
- 30 Ron Jones
- 31 John & Jennifer Johnson '02

**Children's homes** Hope Harbor will be here in December and is asking for cream soup, canned fruit cocktail, canned pears, tomato sauce, canned pie filling, chili, tea bags, granulated sugar, Jello pudding mix, individually packaged snack items (but not sandwich style crackers), one gallon zip lock bags, antibacterial liquid soap refills, shampoo, conditioner, plastic silverware, laundry detergent, laundry stain spray and 33 gallon trash bags. **Westview** will be back in March and is requesting: sugar, canned fruit, sweet cereal, cooking spray, sloppy joe sauce, beef or chicken broth, powdered Gatorade, Fritos, potato/tortilla chips, au gratin/scalloped potatoes, peanut butter or cheese crackers, cream of chicken or mushroom soup, liquid Cascade, liquid detergent, ibuprofen/Tylenol.



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



**November 25**

7:00 pm Lovel Hughes gives devotional



**December 2**

10:00 am Ladies Bible class

7:00 pm Scott Saner gives devotional

**December 6**

12:00 noon Fellowship Meal

**December 9**

10:00 am Ladies Bible class

7:00 pm Ron Jones gives devotional

**December 16**

10:00 am Ladies Bible class

7:00 pm Ronnie Byrd gives devotional

## Those to Serve Today

Announcements.....James Gravelle  
 Lord's Table.....Ron Jones.....Todd Hicks.....James Meece  
 Jerry Beavers.....Kenneth Parker.....Doug Aldridge

Song Leader.....Randy Scott PM Opening Prayer.....Ron Jones  
 AM Opening Prayer.....Chock Aldridge PM Closing Prayer.....Steve Mann  
 AM Scripture.....Bo Fore PM Lord's Supper.....Jerry Beavers  
 AM Closing Prayer.....FA Shellenberger

Greeters Nov 22 & 25.....David & Linda Johnson, Ray Harness



## Broadcast Schedule

11/29 2 Corinthians Lesson #3-Faith in God's Purposes, Chap 8-10  
 12/6 2 Corinthians Lesson #4-Faith in God's Power, Chap 11-13

Scripture from front page:  
 Psalm 91:11

## 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