



Woodland Hills

The Woodland Hills HERALD (806-000) is published weekly (except Christmas/Thanksgiving/New Year's weeks) by the Woodland Hills Church of Christ, 10011 Woodland Hills Drive, Cordova, TN 38018-6649. Second class postage paid at Cordova, TN. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Woodland Hills Church of Christ, 10011 Woodland Hills Drive, Cordova, TN 38018-6649.

HERALD

Sunday, February 24, 2019

Volume 63, Number 7

Minister

David South

Minister of Songs & Praise

Dennis Sangster

Family Minister

Matt Mitchell

Youth Minister

Thomas Williams

Missions

Malawi – Preacher Training
Baxter Institute, Honduras

Benevolence

AGAPE
Sunnybrook Children's Home
Hope Works
Fleming Tarpidu Institute, India

E-MAIL/WEB PAGE

info@woodlandhillschurch.com
www.woodlandhillschurch.com

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.
AM Worship Svc. 10:00 a.m.
PM Worship Svc. 5:00 p.m.*
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
(Attended Nursery at all svcs.)

*No 5:00 p.m. service on the third
Sunday of the month

Phones:

901-755-7709 (office)
901-755-7214 (fax)

Worship Without Contempt

The sons of Eli were described as “worthless men” who “treated the offering of the Lord with contempt” (1 Sam. 2:12-17). Their intent was not to worship and honor God – their intent was to get more for themselves.

The truth of the matter is that there have always been those who approach worship rituals with motives other than the desire to worship and honor God. One could focus on being entertained. Or one could focus on showing off his or her talents. Or one could see worship attendance as a way to appease some relative. Or one might see worship attendance as only a requirement that they tend to when they have nothing “better” to do. Or one might see worship attendance as nothing more than an attempt to appease God's wrath so that they can avoid being sent to hell. The danger of treating worship with contempt is a very real danger.

Or, one might see the opportunity to praise, honor, and glorify the one true God of heaven.

See you Sunday, ready to worship...

David

The Christian Response to Homosexuality

David South

Homosexual behavior seems to be increasingly accepted and promoted in our current culture. How should the Christian respond? The first response that comes to mind is that the Christian should respond in love (cf. Mt. 22:39).

That does not mean, however, that the Christian should accept homosexual behavior as normal and morally acceptable. It is behavior that God himself rejects (Rom. 1:26-27). Since God does not accept it, the Christian must not accept it (Rom. 1:32). To follow God means that sometimes one must go contrary to what people in the world think is right (Rom. 12:1-2). Yes, love is compatible with this approach. Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing (1 Cor. 13:6). To love others is not the same thing as accepting their life choices – sometimes love means that one opposes their life choices.

The Christian must not make assumptions or judgments about the person who is struggling with homosexuality. One cannot know what has caused the same-sex attraction in that person. One must not automatically assume that the person has evil intent at heart. Any number of things can contribute to a person developing same-sex attraction. Love does not automatically assume the worst about someone (1 Cor. 13:7).

Your gut-level reaction may be disgust or confusion or anger. Christians must not allow their bursts of emotion to control their actions. They must think carefully about their response to this behavior as well as with all other sinful behavior. Sometimes we humans allow our gut reaction to a behavior be the basis upon which we rate how bad or how good that behavior is. One might get the impression based on the reactions of some that homosexuality is the worst possible sin that a person could commit. The Bible will not support that idea.

Same-sex attraction is not the same thing as homosexuality. Homosexuality is a behavior. Same-sex attraction is a feeling, or an urge, or a desire. One can feel a desire for something without acting on that desire. You are not necessarily condemned for a desire; you can be condemned for ungodly behavior. James defined sin as the point at which your desire conceives and produces (Jas. 1:14-15). This is a somewhat dangerous line to draw, however. The Bible also condemns lust (1 Jn. 2:15-17). There is a point at which the desire itself becomes sinful. The point is that one is not necessarily guilty of sin because they feel some desire.

Love is patient and kind; love is not arrogant or rude; love is not irritable or resentful (1 Cor. 13:4-5). One gets the impression that there are only two options: 1) accept homosexuality as normal and acceptable, and 2) castigate homosexuality and those who defend it with the worst possible hate language. Given those two options, no wonder many opt to accept the behavior as normal and acceptable. The problem is that those are not the only two options.

It is possible to reject the behavior as ungodly and sinful while still maintaining love for those involved and being kind and gentle with them. That would be the Christian response.

OUR PRAYER LIST

Our Woodland, Dwain Coleman, Norma Davis, Sharon Estes, John & Jackie Greene, Rebecca Karr, Bill Lewelling, Raymond McClendon, Jerry Mathis, Judy Milligan, Mary Ann Morrison

Our Friends/Relatives: Jim Adams, Lillie Baker, David Bartley, LaVerne Baxter, Carla Bray, Jan Burks, Shelby Callahan, Garrett Carroll, Ramona Carter, Dan Clemenz, Byron Coleman, Todd Collier, Gabbi Cook, Colby Cresswell, Corrine Crowell, Brittney Dailey, Sharon Davis, Eleanor Donald, David Dudek, Roy Ghormley, Kristy Hearn, Eleanor & Jordan Herron, Chris Houston, Dr. Heather Blackburn Irizarry, Bill Joshlin, Molly Kelly, Christian Krogh, James Langston, Carol Lynn, David & Wayne McMillan, Sheryl Menz, Sharon Olsen, Billy Joe & Brenda Powers, Keith Ricks, Carol Rimmer (friend of Pat Thomas), Selina Rivieria, Bill Simmons, Cindy Soenkson, Charles South, Larry Wilkinson, Connie Waddell, Ron Waddell and William Wilson

In Assisted/Senior Living/Homebound:

Clemmie Allison is at 1730 Dorchester Dr, Southaven, MS 38671, Essie Brown at Germantown Plantation, 9293 Poplar Ave, Germantown, TN 38138, Dwain Coleman, 335 Fisherville Rd, Collierville, TN 38017, John & Jackie Greene, 308 Briarbrook Cv, Collierville 38017 new phone 854-2182, Mary Ann Morrison, 10083 Cross Valley Drive, Cordova 38018, Jane Nolen #205 & Clara Shipman #160 at 7820 Walking-Horse Cr., Germantown, TN 38138, Ruth Sain is at Carriage Court of Memphis, 1645 W. Massey Road, Apt. #314, Memphis, TN 38120, phone 365-9095.

February 24, 2019

Song Leader	Dennis Sangster
Welcome & Announcements	David Close
Opening Prayer	Kenny Cox
Scripture Reading	Dan Amar
Sermon	David South
Communion Preparation:	Ron & Betty Barker
Serving Communion:	Darrell Dacus, Chris Essary, Bill Estes, Robert Jones, Bill Seward, John Waddell, Keith Williams, James Wilson
Pick Up Cards	Elliott Norwood & Kaleb Amar
AM Closing Prayer	Ryan Miller
Nursery	Kerry Mitchell

Evening Worship

Song Leader	Dennis Sangster
Opening Prayer	Larry Knox
Devo and Holy Spirit Study	David South
Closing Prayer	Ron Barker
Nursery	Regina Brittain

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Nat and Lynnette Baker and family in the death of Nat's cousin, Tammie Baker Davidson, of Cleveland.



NEW BABY!

Congratulations to Jonathan and Lesley Morrow in the birth of their son, Anderson Thomas Morrow, born on Valentines Day, February 14th, weighing in at 9 lbs and 2 oz. Lots of family to welcome this big boy! Grandparents are Mark and Kathy Hillis, big sister Charlotte, and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins. Congratulations.

NEW DIRECTORIES

Our new directories are in the hands of the printers. They should arrive about the second week of March. We will all be so excited to have the updated directory.

AREA-WIDE EVENTS

The next area-wide worship service has been scheduled for 5:00 pm, March 3rd, at the Germantown Church of Christ. The theme this year will be "Our Journey of Faith."

March 1 & 2 Germantown will be hosting a free seminar, "Arise Mid-South.". Speaker will be Wes McAdams. on Friday, 6 PM and Saturday, 8 AM. Please register at www.arisemidsouth.com. "If we don't share the good news, who will?"

The Great Oaks Church of Christ will be hosting a Ladies Day on March 2. Please call Great Oaks for more information and let them know you would like to attend.

"Empathy is your pain in my heart."



**Why not join us each week for a great home style meal? Only \$6
Please sign the back of your attendance card the individuals who will be attending this week!**

**This Wednesday:
Catfish, Hush Puppies, Cole Slaw,
White Beans & Dessert**

YOUTH CORNER

By: Thomas Williams

Sometimes things don't go according to plan! That's my thought at the end of this last week. You see, the youth group had been planning to host a "Parents night out" this last Friday. We had food, crafts, stories, games, and entertainment prepared for the younger kids of the congregation. The only issue was...nobody signed up!

It was a humbling piece of education in ministry. It taught me to roll with the punches, but it especially taught me to make sure I'm not assuming anything about the people I am serving. Our goal should be to offer what is truly needed, and that involves communication, not one-sided planning.

One of the most amazing things that God offers us is the ability to learn and grow from mistakes. My favorite passage of scripture is James 1:2, which tells us we should consider it pure joy when we face trials, because through trials we grow more perseverant and mature.

The good news is that the night was still a great night! We turned a service night into a fellowship night, and all the teen helpers had a whole lot of fun.

I don't want to wish any trials on you, but I do pray that when they come, we all might have joy in the maturity we gain through them. May God be with you all this week!

FAMILY EVENT CALENDAR

April 20 – Easter Egg Hunt and Picnic - 11:00 am

June 1 – VBS Workday

June 9 – 12 – VBS – Theme this year is "Noah"

July 12-14 Family Retreat – The Ark Encounter in Williamstown, KY

* Softball: If anyone would like to play Men's church league softball, please see Matt Mitchell. Games are on Thursday evening from April to July in Germantown.

Thought To Ponder

*"When life is not a bed of roses,
remember who wore the thorns."*

Second Class Postage Paid
at Memphis, TN 38018