



Woodland Hills

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HERALD

Sunday, January 26, 2020

Volume 64, Number 3

Sweet Christian Fellowship

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)

Time spent together is an important aspect of our relationship in Christ. Early Christians spent much time together. As soon as the church was established, they spent time together being taught, worshipping, taking care of each other, and eating (Acts 2:42-47). This close fellowship was so important, that Paul commanded the Christians at Thessalonica to withdraw that fellowship from those who were walking disorderly (2 Th. 3:6-15). Also, we must note that eating together was such an important part of the Christian connection that Paul commanded the Corinthian Christians to avoid eating with brothers who were unrepentant (1 Cor. 5:1-13, note especially verse 11). It is not my point here to emphasize the *withdrawing* of fellowship, but to emphasize the *importance* of fellowship. Part of what is notable is that the early Christians shared time and meals in their homes. Not only does this help develop the kind of bond that Christ had in mind for us (cf. Jn. 17:20-23), it helps in developing new ideas for service. I have noticed that some of the best ideas arise when Christians are spending casual time together.

See you Sunday, building fellowship...

David

“Church of Christ” Doctrine

David South

A difficulty arises when one tries to sort out what the Bible itself teaches about tradition. The difficulty is that the Bible refers to “tradition” in both a positive and a negative way (1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Th. 2:15; 3:6; Mt. 15:1-9; Col. 2:8). Paul commended the Corinthians for maintaining the traditions he had given them (1 Cor. 11:2). He ordered the Thessalonians to stand firm on the traditions he had given them (2 Th. 2:15). He even went so far as to tell them to withdraw fellowship from anyone who was not following those traditions (3:6). At the same time, he warned Christians about the danger of being taken captive by tradition (Col. 2:8). This is reminiscent of Jesus condemning the religious leaders of his day because they were binding traditions (Mt. 15:1-9).

Since the Bible uses the term in both a positive and negative sense, one must be able to make a proper distinction. The word “tradition” simply refers to that which has been handed down. If one will notice the biblical passages listed above, the difference between the positive and negative reactions to tradition depends upon the source of that which has been handed down. The teachings of the Bible can be called “tradition” in the sense that it has been “handed down” for generations. These teachings originated with God himself. One must stand firm on those teachings. Churches must base fellowship on those teachings. God is the source of those “handed down” teachings. Some teachings, however, are started by humans and handed down from generation to generation. Those teachings must not be given force of fellowship.

Many people accept the way they worship and conduct religion at their church simply because that is the way they have always done it. Even among churches of Christ we sometimes face significant opposition to any suggestion to change an element of our religious activity – not because it is unscriptural, but because it is different from the way it has always been done. People of any religious group can begin to think about matters of human tradition as though they were law.

Here is one thing that ought to be done: drop the label “Church of Christ” doctrine. The very idea makes the church into a denomination. People in the religious world will refer to “Church of Christ” doctrine because we are nothing more than just another denomination to them. But, we are not such. There ought to be no such thing as “Church of Christ” doctrine. There is sound doctrine (Tit. 1:9). There is true doctrine (1 Jn. 2:27). There is false doctrine (2 Pet. 2:1-3). There is doctrine of demons (1 Tim. 4:1). There is doctrine of people (Col. 2:22). Pursue healthy doctrine. Pursue true doctrine. If you find yourself asking “What is the 'Church of Christ' doctrine on this topic?” you need to rethink what you are doing. What any group of people think is not the standard. What the Bible reveals is the standard. God's word is the standard (Jn. 8:31-32; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

OUR PRAYER LIST

Our Woodland Hills Members:

Ernie Embrey, Sharon Estes, Eudie Freeman, Bob Karr, Pat King, Barbara Mathis, Raymond McClendon, Elaine Martin, Freddie Milligan, Brenda Renner, Jerry Thompson and Louise VanSickel .

WH Members In Assisted/Senior Living/Homebound:

Clemmie Allison, Norma Davis, Mary Ann Morrison, Mary Pierce, Ruth Sain, Clara Shipman

Family and Friends:

Jim Adams - Brother of Tom Adams
David Bartley – Vanderbilt (bro-in-law of Linette Baker)
Marilyn Burk – friend of Kerwin May
Phylis Clemenz – Sister of Brenda Renner
Fonzy & Bobbie Coleman – Parents of Sheryl Coleman
Harold & Eleanor Donald – Parents of Barbie South
Marilyn Farris – Friend of Brenda Renner
Delbert Hagger – Cousin of Kerwin May
Ramon Hodridge – Friend of Kerwin May
Janice Jenkins – Cousin of Kerwin May – health issues
Natasha Jones – Cousin of Kerwin May
Molly Kelly – Sister of Barbara Rea
Glen Maddox – son-in-law of Dwain Coleman
Archie & Helen May – Father & Aunt of Kerwin May
Beverly Midyett – former member – diagnosed w/cancer
Julia Patterson – mother of Bill Estes – hospital
Billy Joe & Brenda Powers – Niece of Martha Riley
David & Carol Rimmer – friend of Pat Thomas
Alosha Shmetter – grandson of Viktor Tretiakov
Charles South – Father of David South
Amanda Spears – daughter of Annette Sangster – surgery
Margaret Trusty – Mother of co-worker of Joseph Jones
Shelby Turner – 19 yr old female critically ill. Friend of Essarys.
J. Jaye VanSickel – recent cancer surgery
Shane Whartenby – son-in-law of Van/Wanda Jones

January 26, 2020 Assignments

Morning

Song Leader	Dennis Sangster
Welcome & Announcements	David Close
Opening Prayer	Stan Adams
Scripture Reading	Jerry Thompson
AM Sermon	David South
Communion Preparation:	Robert & Pat King
Serving Communion:	Tom Adams, Alton Criswell, Ed Dacus, Robert Jones, Bob Karr, Mark Mitchell, Garrett Pilgrim, Bill Seward
AM Closing Prayer	Ken Robison
Nursery	Kerry Mitchell

SYMPATHY

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of Dwain Coleman. Dwain passed from this life on Wednesday morning, January 15th. Funeral services were January 20th at the Collierville Funeral Home.

A REMINDER & PLEA

“Every summer of the past 44 years, the ladies of the churches of Christ all over the Philippines gather for 4 days to study God’s Words for edification, fellowship, and refueling. This April 21-24, 2020 will be the 6th time for Bacolod Church of Christ to host this event. The attendance has now grown to about 400 ladies from all over the Philippines.

We are trying to reach out to as many ladies as possible many of whom are willing to attend but have limited resources for travel, food, and accommodation.

It is for this reason that we are appealing to our generous brethren and friends for spiritual and financial support. Each participant will pay a registration fee, but will not be sufficient to support the program.

Our congregation is already doing its maximum effort to subsidize a portion of the expenses for the venue, accommodation and food.

Your generosity will be much appreciated by the ladies of the Bacolod Church of Christ.

---Church of Christ, Sharina Heights
Subdivision, Bacolod City, Philippines”

P.S. If you would like to assist in this effort, please make checks payable to Woodland Hills Church of Christ and give to Mary Rigney. This needs to be kept separate from our regular contribution. **Deadline** for contributions is the end of January.

PANTRY

Our food pantry is getting very low. We need canned meats, vegetables, fruits, pastas and sauces, hygiene products, paper products, cleaning products. Please place item in the grocery cart in the foyer. Thank You.



Jim Hubbert

YOUTH CORNER

The Youth Group went on their first major event of the year last weekend to the Gulf Youth Experience in Orange Beach near Gulf Shores, AL. The Youth Group is now home after a wonderful trip. We look forward to a report by Thomas in next week's HERALD.



SINGING SCHEDULED

Singing at the home of Renee and Regina Brittain on February 20th at 6:30. Bring finger foods. If you would like to host a singing, please see Matt Mitchell.

APOLOGETICS CLASSES

- Jan 26 "Do Contradictions Disprove Divine Inspiration of the Bible?" David South
Feb 9 "Do Newly Discovered 'Christian' Texts Undermine Our Canon?" Matt Mitchell
Feb 23 "Objections to the Deity of Jesus" David South



VBS DATES SCHEDULED

This year our VBS will be June 7 - 10 and our workday will be on May 30th. Mark your calendars now.

PARDON OUR MESS!

We are still meeting in the Family Life Center (gym) for all of our worship services and auditorium classes. Hopefully the work will begin very soon.

Thank you so much for your patience with us as we use make-shift screens, speakers, microphones, folding chairs, etc. Thanks to Larry and Tate for keeping everything set up for us to be as comfortable as possible.

A CHUCKLE

A father was reading a Bible story to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"