

### **HOLD FAST TO THAT WHICH IS GOOD”**

This half-world of mediocrity has many inhabitants. The path of compromise is smooth, for it is well-traveled. Most folks consider the maintenance of the *status quo* as most appealing. As a result, the foggy atmosphere of half-truths and convenient slogans continues to suppress the light of truth and assures that the majority will lose their way. In the course of life the good is the common enemy of the best. To a larger degree compromise and mediocrity are the enemy of the good. Most good people are willing to go with the flow, to seek advantage in the immediate, though it may pose its dangers. Even "good" citizens too often stand in opposition to the requirements that are part and parcel of that which is good. They are comfortable and do not want to be disturbed; content and do not want any obligations. They are not really in favor of that which is evil, yet they are not committed to upholding that which is good. Consequently, they can not be depended upon to take a stand for truth, honesty, and right. Even when there is a major moral issue at stake, few of the "good" citizens are willing to stand up and be counted, fewer still are willing to do anything, except possibly [sp] wring their hands. Few are willing to hold fast to that which is good! In the face of this reality, the indictment loudly declares: Evil prevails when good people do nothing.

To hold fast to that which is good, means not only loving what which is good, it also means taking a stand with and for that which is good. Upholding that which is good also means one must stand in opposition to evil. To follow Christ is to love the way of truth and righteousness, committed to upholding that which is good, and in strong and consistent opposition to that which is evil. To be a follower of Christ means tolerating no compromise with evil. The follower of Christ is not to merely excuse or rationalize the thought or practice of evil. Allegiance to Christ demands the bending of every effort to hold fast to that which is good. Because they belong to Christ, Christians continue to press toward the mark of the prize of the upward call of God. They realize that they have no choice but to turn away from those things which are not of God. They live with the firm and joyful conviction that they are duty bound to bend every effort to hold fast to that which is good.

-Ronald Bryant (Gadsden, AL)



**Happy Birthday This Week:**

Ktistie Jearls 8/2

Gloria White 8/2

Rebecca Durham 8/3

Sandra Altizer 8/4

**Happy Anniversary This Month to:**

Fred & Sandra Altizer 8/6

Glen & Jo Hartman 8/10

Norris & Velda Gearhart 8/16

Shree & Raymond Lowe 8/16

Jeremy & Jessica White 8/17

Greg & Jo Ann Edwards 8/17

Jerry & Kay Anderson 8/22

Ron & Doris White 8/24

Herman & Norce Lowe 8/26

Look at this list and guess what would be the total number of years of marriage .

100          200          300

□□□□□□□□

Ty Stricklin is at Balboa Hospital in San Diego, CA.

Lcpl Harper, Matthew D.; 1/5 Bravo Co., 1st Plt Unit 40330, FPO-AP 96427-0330 is a Marine from Galax who is now serving in Afghanistan.



**Saturday's VBS** was a very successful Bible-teaching event.

35+ children attended and more than 40 teens and adults worked to make it a fun day for all. Thank you to all who worked so hard to have a spiritual impact on young hearts.

Remember **Dylan Tyler** as he makes his first "solo" flight to Texas to visit family. He will be "in the air" August 3 and August 10.

Also **Angela Halling** will be traveling cross country in

**West Side Youth**

July 31– Young Men conduct worship service

August 4–Red Sox vs. Nationals 7:05 pm

August 7–Send-Off for college students 7pm

August 8– **SYD** Radford 7-8:30 pm

August 13– **SYD** Lake Drive 12-2 pm

August 21– **TBS** Teen Center



**TEAMS**

***These events will be listed as they are planned by the team leaders.***



**WOW**

Next meeting is **Saturday, August 20 - Salad Lunch – Fellowship – Visiting Time: 11:00 AM.**

Bring your favorite salad. Prepare to go visiting at Richfield. Sign-up sheet with more details is on the **WOW** bulletin board. **Everyone is welcome.** Please join us.

**AUGUST ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:**

Triscuits/*Thin* Original Flavor  
Envelopes of Dream Whip

## TUESDAY NIGHT TALENTS

Tuesday Night Talents continues **August 2nd**. Bring your dinner at 6:00 PM or come at 6:30 and join us for the work.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 6—Anti Drug Program at ALMS auditorium/Tom House**

**August 7 - EDP Meeting 4 pm**

**August 12—Game Night 7 pm**

**August 12—18—Polishing the Pulpit**

**August 13 Men's Breakfast @ Anthony's 8 am**

**September 16-18 RUSH weekend at FHU**

**October 8—TTT Ladies' Day at West Side**

**October 16-19—Gospel Meeting with Steve Hall**

**November 12—Men's w/s planning breakfast**

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### Wednesday Night Summer Series:

August 3- **Bobby Duncan**- "Things Made Clear in Acts 2"

August 10 —**Johnny Ramsey**- " Back to the Bible on the Judgment"

August 17—**Batsell Barrett Baxter**- "Analysis of Love" &

" Examining Ourselves"

August 24—**W. N. "Bill" Jackson**- "According to the Pattern"

August 31—**Winfred Clark**- "Teachings of Jesus"

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## "The Perilous Plague of Drugs"

**Speaker: Tom House (Fulton, MS)**

**Saturday, August 6, 2011**

Andrew Lewis Middle School Auditorium

616 S. College Ave.

Salem, Virginia 24153

**Session 1- 9:00 a.m.**

**Session 2- 10:15 a.m.**

Free Admission

(Sponsored by the West Side Church of Christ)

## Senior Servants

Lynn Anderson   Norma Biller  
Betty Buckner   Jim Dorsett  
Al Farrow   Walter Jenkins  
Martha Keith   Margaret Kratz  
Miriam Majors   Jo Musgrove  
Grace Myers   Evelyn Scott  
Elsie Smith   Ruth Stanton  
Evelyn White   EV Wimmer  
WJ Wood

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- ♦ **Samantha Grace Beavers is on IGIV for jaundice, may be in the NIC Unit for 1-2 weeks**
- ♦ **Richelle Williams—struggling with addiction**
- ♦ **Bertine Vandercroys—ovarian and uterine cancer**
- ♦ **Marla Mobley, friend of Connie Harrah, has throat cancer.**

### Continue in Prayer:

Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Sr.

Shannon VanRavestein

Jerri Blevins,

Kevin Bernard

Sandra Speir

Rik Henrikson

Ron White

Wes White

Sandra Neighbors

Dale Janosik

Christine Reed

Trula Byington

August 2011

Announcements: Jeff Durham

Song Leader (AM): Charlie Gwaltney

Opening Prayer (AM)

8/7 Tom Rogers

8/14 Bob Martin

8/21 Charles Maness

8/28 Don Pettit

Preside at Communion: Bob Garby

Serve Table

Jeff Guilliams Sam Valentine  
Mark Brooks; Herb Baker

Closing Prayer (AM):

8/7 Garrett Durham

8/14 Glenn Gabbard

8/21 Gene Benefield

8/28 Squeaky Valentine

Song Leader (PM): Josh Whitlow

Opening Prayer (PM)

8/7 Barry White

8/14 Herman Lowe

8/21 Mike Durham

8/28 Danny Guard

Scripture Reader: Andrew Gibson

Closing Prayer (PM)

8/7 Wayne Dixon

8/14 Ethan Rogers

8/21 Greg Edwards

8/28 Mitch Jearls

Serve Table (PM)

Dylan Tyler; Jimmy Harrington

Song Leader (Wed): Paul Mays

Prayer (Wed)

8/3 Harry Higgs

8/10 Jeff Durham

8/17 Eddy Gilpin

8/24 Jim Bush

8/31 Mark Brooks

Open/Close Bldg: Jim Harrington

Greeters: LaPlantes/Garbys

Nursery Attend: Velda Gearhart (am)  
Alecia White (pm)

Ushers: Curtis Oakes; Herman Lowe

Handouts: Noah LaPlante;  
Chandler Jearls

Prepare communion: Jessica White  
Hazel McFalls

Baptismal Garments: Shirley Baker

Cards/Pencils: Connor Jearls  
Harrison Guilliams

## Gleanings from the NKJV (14)

### “You Have Sold Yourself to Do Evil in the Sight of the Lord”

For our next study of some statements that are translated differently in the New King James Version we continue in the book of First Kings. Here we find a familiar story with a very telling moral.

The names of Ahab and Jezebel are synonymous with all that is evil, cruel and in opposition to godliness. Each in his/her own right was incredibly wicked. But, when they combined their forces in a match made in the halls of Hell, wickedness took on a whole new level. In First Kings 21 it is recorded that Ahab desired to have the vineyard of Naboth, even though Ahab already had substantial land and numerous vineyards. Naboth declined Ahab’s offer of a better piece of land or its worth in money (I Kgs. 21:2), because his current vineyard had sentimental ties to his family (I Kgs. 21:3). Ahab acted childishly in the matter and was found pouting about the matter when his wife Jezebel entered the room (I Kgs. 21:4, 5). At his explanation for his distress, Jezebel took matters into her own hands and had Naboth killed (I Kgs. 21:7-14). She then told Ahab that Naboth was dead and that the vineyard was his; and he promptly went down and took possession of it (I Kgs. 21:15, 16). Following this, the Lord sent word to Elijah to go confront Ahab about it and tell him of the conclusion to this fatal matter (I Kgs. 21:18, 19). “So Ahab said to Elijah, ‘Have you found me, O my enemy?’ And he answered, ‘I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the Lord’ (I Kgs. 21:20- NKJV).

Elijah’s response to Ahab can be broken down into three points, any of which is very telling. First he said, “You have sold yourself.” Jesus said, “For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Mt. 16:26). Many have “sold themselves.” Second, he said, “You have sold yourself to do evil.” Many could be added to this list, both from Biblical times and modern. Third, he said, “You have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the Lord.” Many fail to consider that “all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do” (Heb. 4:13). Anytime we do evil we do so “in the sight of the Lord.” Let us consider these matters lest we find ourselves in Ahab’s shoes.

-Eddy

*Last week's attendance 7/24 & 7/27/11*

*Bible Class—146 Worship Serv.—181*

*Sunday Eve.—129 Wed. Eve.—134*

*Contribution—\$4,606*