

Drifting Away

Raymond Elliott

The inspired writer of the Book of Hebrews gave an exhortation in Chapter Two, encouraging those early Christians to "...give more earnest heed to the things that were heard, lest haply we drift away from them." There is a constant need to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and sound doctrine to every generation. There is the danger of the untaught not learning and of the taught drifting away from what they have learned. The apostle Peter felt it necessary to remind his brethren of those essentials that they already knew (2 Peter 1:13; 3:1). Paul warned Timothy about a time when certain ones would no longer "endure the sound doctrine," thus the need to "preach the word" continuously (2 Timothy 4:1-4). There is presently a yearning among many in the church to learn 'new things.' Of course, we should not extol traditions to a position of inspiration; personally, I'm not interested in propagating mere tradition. However, there are objective truths revealed by the Holy Spirit that are essential and must be studied, examined and proclaimed.

The desire to imitate other religious organizations in practice and teaching has caused many people to frown on the old ways of safety and security. Others, not studying the Holy Scriptures, are led away by "every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men in craftiness, after the wiles of error" (Ephesians 4:14). Often, when one expresses a desire for 'new things,' it is simply a rejection of 'old truths.' Presently, there is a prevalent attitude that the Bible is antiquated and should be relegated to the 18th century. The 21st century, they say, demands a more liberal view of the Holy Scriptures. In other words, our culture should determine the interpretation of the Word of God. What may have been acceptable in the first century is out of date in the thinking of modern men and women. Such rationalization has led to a digression and apostasy from the teaching of Jesus Christ and the holy apostles and prophets.

Oh, that we today, as disciples of the Lord, would possess the same spirit as did the psalmist when he exclaimed in Psalms 119:97, "Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day." His will for us to follow is both relevant and refreshing. Let us never grow weary in hearing the words of salvation. It gives strength and guidance in our earthly pilgrimage, and if obeyed, the promise of eternal life when the journey on earth is finished (2 Timothy 4:4-6).



Happy Birthday this week to:

Kristie Jearls—8/2
Gloria White—8/2
Rebecca Durham—8/3
Sandra Altizer—8/4

Happy Anniversary this week to:

Fred & Sandra Altizer—8/6



AUGUST ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Triscuits—thin original flavor and dream whip packs. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!



WOW

The next regular meeting will be on August 10 at 10:30.



Daniel Ceglowski, Leah Durham's boyfriend, is at basic training for the Army National Guard.

Ty Stricklin has received his orders to Afghanistan in November.



Angela Halling is currently stationed in Korea.

Team 2 (Garby) - Herman and Norce Lowe are opening their house to a Lowe-down Hoedown on Saturday, August 14th at 5:30 pm.

Please feel free to wear country clothing such as jeans, bibbed overalls, etc. Sign-up sheet is posted in the west hallway on the team board. Hamburger meat will be provided.



Congratulations!

Bob & Wanda Martin were honored at this year's CTS for 12 years of service!

West Side Youth



Wednesday, August 4 - Ice Cream Social after church. Everyone (NOT JUST THE YOUTH GROUP) please bring your favorite homemade ice cream and join us for a short fellowship.

Area Wide Youth Lock-In will be held here at WS on August 2 starting at 7 pm. West Side Kids need to bring desserts. See the Youth Board for details!

Saturday, August 7 - Zip Line Tour - Please sign up on the youth board ASAP and pick up a waiver form from Ryan.

Virginia Christian Camp

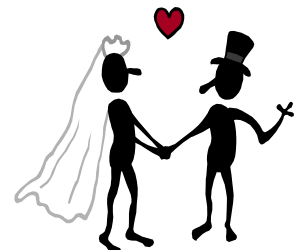
Craft needs (if you happen to see it on sale) felt backed vinyl tablecloths—we need at least 10 large rectangle size. See Jo Ann or Melissa.



Fiftieth Anniversary

Norris & Velda Gearhart will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on August 14. They are inviting you to join in their celebration from 2-4 at the West Side Church of Christ Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by August 8 by signing up on the board.

Congratulations to Tom Richardson and Nancy Birney who were married yesterday in Tennessee.



For Your Information

GUEST SPEAKER

Eddy is OT this week so we will be hearing Ryan Davis today.

TUESDAY NIGHT TALENTS

Tuesday Night Talents continues this week. Bring your dinner and join us for the work!

SUMMER SERIES

This week's summer series speakers will be Garrett Durham and Jeff Durham from West Side. Afterwards everyone is invited to bring ice cream and toppings of their choice for an Ice Cream Social in the fellowship hall.

ZIP LINING

The youth group is inviting everyone to join them in Catawba on August 7 for a zip lining tour. We need more people to go so make sure you sign up by Wednesday on the Youth board and join them for a great time!

EDP MEETING UPDATE

There will be an EDP meeting on August 8 at 4:00 in the fellowship hall.

COLLEGE SEND OFF

It almost time to send our college students back to school. Please join us after evening services on August 8 to send them off with our best wishes.

WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

There will be a Wednesday Fellowship on August 11 at 5:45. Please sign up on the board and pay at the door!

POLISHING THE PULPIT

Polishing the Pulpit will be held in Tennessee from August 27 – September 2. See board or Eddy for more details.

Also, Water Needed for PTP- If you can help provide bottled water for "Polishing the Pulpit" please bring it to the building whenever it is convenient. Eddy will be collecting these and taking them when he goes. The deadline is Wednesday, August 25. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Monthly Reminders— Lock your car and hide any valuables in your car, turn off your cell phone, change the thermostat in the fellowship hall after leaving and if you are the last one out turn off all the light and close and lock the doors!!

Senior Servants

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

SOCKS



- Jackie Griffith, Kristie Jearls' grandmother, had successful heart surgery last week at RMH.
- Brad Swain, Lisa Valentine's cousin, has been diagnosed with cancer, his condition is grave.
- Natalie Valentine will have foot surgery on August 17 at LGH.
- Annette Shrader will have surgery on August 6 at UVA.
- Arthur Munsey, Karen Munsey's father-in-law, is experiencing pain and discouragement from his last surgery.
- Brooke Nicholls, Ben Nikkel's sister, is 34 weeks pregnant and the baby is distressed and will need a kidney removed soon after birth.
- Debbie Richie, Neil's mother, is undergoing cancer treatments at the Houston Cancer Center in TX.

Continue in prayer: Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Claude Crowe, Shannon VanRavestain

August 2010

“Lucky” Number 13

Announcements	Jeff Durham
Song Leader (AM)	Charlie Gwaltney
Opening Prayer (AM)	
8/1	Garrett Durham
8/8	Mike Durham
8/15	Jim Harrington
8/22	Charlie Maness
8/29	Wayne Dixon
Preside at Communion	Bob Garby
Serve Table	
	Barry White, Jeremy White
	Gene Benefield, David Brown
Closing Prayer	
8/1	Bradford Durham
8/8	Jim Cooke
8/15	Herb Baker
8/22	Marc Laplante
8/29	Ethan Rogers
Song Leader (PM)	Josh Whitlow
Opening Prayer (PM)	
8/1	Herman Lowe
8/8	Tom Rogers
8/15	Bob Martin
8/22	Barry White
8/29	Greg Edwards
Scripture Reader	Nathan Pelfrey
Closing Prayer (PM)	
8/1	Don Pettit
8/8	Charlie Gwaltney
8/15	Mitch Jearls
8/22	Glenn Hartman
8/29	Sam Valentine
Serve Table (PM)	
	Andrew Gibson, Cameron Brown
Song Leader (Wed)	Garrett Durham
Prayer (Wed)	
8/4	Ron White
8/11	Collin Gregory
8/18	Jimmy Harrington
8/25	Danny Guard
Open/Close Bldg	Fred Altizer
Greeters	Bakers/Guilliams
Nursery Attend	Michelle Earnhart
	Dorothy Mays (PM)
Ushers	Squeaky Valentine, Norris Gearhart
Handouts	M. Brooks, J. Harrington
Prepare communion	
	Dee House, Hazel McFalls

Today (the first Sunday in August) marks our thirteenth year with the church here. In some ways it seems that the time has swiftly flown by; but, in other ways, it seems to us as though West Side has always been a part of our lives. During the surprise party you gave for my 25th anniversary of preaching back in June, I was made keenly aware that over half of my preaching career has been spent with West Side, a fact for which I am extremely thankful and appreciative. As Jeanny and I travel to various places and work with other congregations, we are constantly saying how good things are here and how wonderful it is to be a part of this congregation.

Thank you, West Side, for making the past thirteen years the best of our lives. We have grown to love and appreciate you in a way that can only be accomplished through an investment of time and working together. We feel that we have grown so much in our time with you. You are an integral part of our lives. We appreciate the way you accepted us into your family long ago and the fact that you have continued to treat us like family all along. We are grateful to the elders for their being such great men with whom to work. We appreciate their vision, wisdom and leadership.

It has been a joy to work with you for the past thirteen years. We pray that there will be many more years in which we will have the privilege of working with this great congregation. You have enriched our lives greatly through these years together. Thank you for allowing us the honor of serving alongside you in our Lord's Cause. We appreciate you, one and all, for all you do to make service here a pleasure in every way. Thank you, West Side, for another great anniversary!

With our love and admiration,
-The Gilpins

Last weeks attendance 7/25&28/10

Bible Class— 153 Worship Service—182
Sunday Eve.— 133 Wednesday Eve.—166
Contribution—\$4319

August 1, 2010 Number 3131