

## A Shared Experience

John Gibson

There's something special about shared experiences. Ask those who have seen combat in the military, or suffered as prisoners of war, or played in the band together, or shared a winning season on the football field, or the baseball diamond. It takes togetherness to build camaraderie, develop rapport, or form a brotherhood.

The Lord in His wisdom provided for shared experiences in the assembling of the saints in worship. Together we sing. Together we pray. Together we eat the Lord's Supper—"Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread." It's these shared times which unite and truly make us one.

Those who try to have a "Lone Ranger" form of Christianity miss rich blessings, and are not ministering to others as they should. The Bible enjoins, "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God." In the assembly we not only worship God, but minister to one another as well.

There is a place for private prayer and devotion. Jesus said so. But it was never intended to supplant our coming together as a body of the Lord's people. The biblical admonition still remains, "not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

—copied, Sixth & Izard, Little Rock, AR

## A Special Series of Study

The next issue of "House to House, Heart to Heart" will include an invitation to our friends and neighbors for a special series of studies. Each Sunday evening (February 3-March 9) we will study a fundamental principle of Scripture. The subjects are listed below as they will appear in HTH. Be sure to invite your friends, neighbors and relatives to any of these that might be of interest to them. This is a great opportunity to teach them about these very vital issues. These are also subjects with which each of us should be very familiar. Make sure to be present for each one.

### February 3

*"Why Jesus Christ is the Messiah and Only Savior of Man"*

### February 10

*"Why the New Testament of Jesus Christ is the Only Authority Today"*

### February 17

*"Why God Does Not Approve of Denominationalism"*

### February 24

*"Why the Church of Christ is the Only One God Approves"*

### March 2

*"Why Baptism in Water is Essential to Your Salvation"*

### March 9

*"Why the Use of Mechanical Instruments of Music in Worship Is Sinful"*

-Eddy

## Teens

### January Dates:

January 13—TBS after evening services

January 27—Afternoon Movie

*Winter Youth Devos:*

February 2—Christiansburg

March 8—Lake Drive

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## New Year

I am the New Year, and I come to you pure  
and unstained,  
Fresh from the hand of God.  
Each day, a precious pearl to you is given  
That you must string upon the silver  
thread of Life—  
Once strung can never be unthreaded  
but stays  
An undying record of your faith and skill.  
Each golden minute link you then must  
Weld into the chain of hours  
That is none stronger than its weakest link.  
Into your hands is given all  
the wealth and power  
To make your life just what you will.  
I give you, free and unstained,  
twelve glorious months  
Of soothing rain and sunshine golden;  
The day for work and rest,  
the nights for peaceful slumber.  
All that I have I give with love unspoken.  
All that I ask— you keep the faith unbroken!

- J. D. Templeton



The new year lies before you like a  
spotless track of snow;  
Be careful how you tread on it, for  
every mark will show!

## Team Events

We will be having a Congregational Dinner today after morning services. This is a pot-luck fellowship with brief planning session after the meal with each new team breaking off into different rooms of the building. Bring your ideas to make this the best year ever.

**Team 1 (Duff)**—will be in charge of set up.

**Team 2 (Garby)**—will be in charge of paper products and drinks.

**Team 3 (Brown)**—will be in charge of clean up. This includes resetting the fellowship hall for classroom use.

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## WOW GROUP

The next meeting will be on January 8, 2008.

Charlie Maness will be presenting a devo.

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## Recipe for a Happy New Year

Take 2 cups of kindness, fresh from a Christian heart; add 1 cup of very thoughtful prayer and cream together with a pinch of prepared tenderness. Beat this mixture together lightly into a large bowl of love, generously seasoned with gaiety and laughter. Now, add enough faith, hope, and charity to fill the bowl almost to the brim. Then, as you moisten this mixture with a dash of tears of heartfelt sympathy, the bowl will be heaping full and running over. Fold in 2 teaspoons of pure joy for a richer flavor. Pour into a pan previously prepared by the lining of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, and bake in the oven of a tender, eager heart, until mellow and firm. Serve this with your main course, the Bible, in very large portions, as often as possible, to those desiring to learn the way of truth more perfectly. These directions, faithfully followed, will give you a most happy and rewarding new year.

- Mrs. L.W. Glazener

- Copied from *Firm Foundation*, Jan 1969

## SICK

We have no one in the hospital at this time. Several members have been under the weather with the usual illnesses.

Remember the following in prayer: **Betty Jenkins, Collin Gregory, Marguerite Charles, Betty Buckner, Effie Wimmer, Mary Anderson, Margaret Kratz.**

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**Happy Anniversary this week to:**  
Paula & Lee Gibson—1/7

**Happy Birthday this week to:**

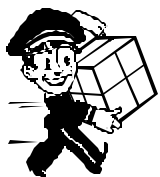
Erin Simms—1/7  
Oliver Majors—1/8  
Mariam Majors—1/9  
Paul Mays—1/10



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## MILITARY

Ty Stricklin—Stationed in Iraq  
John Duran—overseas.  
Kyle Nester— in Iraq  
Erich Felps—in Iraq.



**JANUARY & FEBRUARY ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:** Pepperoni & assorted fruit flavors of Crystal Light. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!

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## Corrections

Please note the following corrections on the new Team phone list:  
Norma Biller, David Wilcox, Jerry Anderson, Lynn Anderson. (Removed phone numbers due to our new web privacy policy regarding personal information published on the website)  
If there are any other corrections please let the office know ASAP. The corrected list will appear in the Plan of Works.

## FELLOWSHIP MEAL

There will be a **Congregational** Fellowship Meal will be today after morning services. We will be eating and then break up into new fellowship teams for a brief planning session. Bring a dish and your ideas!!

## MEMORY PROGRAM

The **New Memory Program** has been put on hold until further notice.

## AREA WIDE PREACHERS MEETING

The monthly area-wide preachers meeting will be on Monday, January 14, here at the building at 10:30. All are invited.

## MENS BREAKFAST

The monthly Men's Breakfast at Famous Anthony's will be on January 12 at 8:00 AM

## WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL

The Wednesday Fellowship will be on January 16 at 5:45. Menu includes soup, salad and breadsticks. Sign up sheet posted in the hallway. Sign up by January 13 and pay your \$5 at the door.

## LADIES NIGHT OUT

The LNO for January will be on Jan. 21 at 7:00 here at the building. Shree Lowe, Susan Mountcastle and Melissa Rogers will be hosting.

## PRIMARY TEACHER MEETING

The next Primary Teachers Meeting will be on February 24 at 4:30. 4/K teachers in charge of snacks!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Plan of Works—1/20  
New Member Dinner—1/26  
Education Banquet—2/23  
Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat—2/14&15

**January 2008**

**Announcements** Jerry Anderson  
**Song Leader (AM)** Eric Earnhart  
**Opening Prayer (AM)**  
**1/6** Richard Simms  
**1/13** Squeaky Valentine  
**1/20** Barry White  
**1/27** Jeremy White  
**Preside at Communion** Tom Duff  
**Serve Table** Jim Bush Willard Campbell  
 Jim Cooke Preston Duff

**Closing Prayer**

**1/6** Ethan Rogers  
**1/13** Tom Richardson  
**1/20** Paul Mays  
**1/27** Adam House

**Song Leader (PM)** Paul Mays

**Opening Prayer (PM)**

**1/6** Don Pettit  
**1/13** Roger Mays  
**1/20** Charlie Maness  
**1/27** Crawford Keith

**Scripture Reader** Cameron Brown

**Closing Prayer (PM)**

**1/6** Jim Harrington  
**1/13** Charlie Gwaltney  
**1/20** Collin Gregory  
**1/27** Bob Garby

**Serve Table (PM)** Glenn Gabbard Charlie Puckett

**Song Leader (Wed)** Josh Whitlow

**Prayer (Wed)**

**1/2** Greg Edwards  
**1/9** Mike Durham  
**1/16** Jeff Durham  
**1/23** Garrett Durham  
**1/30** Eddy Gilpin

**Open/Close Bldg** Jerry Anderson

**Open/Close Sun PM** David Wilcox

**Greeters** J. & L. Cooks J. & R. Bush

**Nursery Attend** M. Earnhart G. Earnhart

**Ushers** Curtis Oakes David McFalls

**Handouts** John Black Herb Baker

**Alternates** John Black

**Prepare comm.** Kay Anderson Jean Argabright

**Cards & Pencils** Sydney Durham Chandler Jearls

**Last weeks attendance** 12/31 & 1/3

Bible Class— 156 Worship Service—186

Eve. Worship— 150 Wed. Service—172

Contribution—\$12610