

Our Youth

Are you not impressed with the youth of this congregation? As your leadership here, we are very proud of our young people. As a testimonial to such, we reflect on the young men having the responsibility for the evening services this past Sunday evening. They did another excellent job.

Our youth must be assured that they are not a part of an irrelevant social institution that operates from the marginal parts of society. They must know that they are needed and their contribution is a significant one. We must and will work harder at providing opportunities for them to serve.

We share with you an article written some years back by our beloved E. Claude Gardner, past president of Freed-Hardeman University.

Youth: The Key to the Future

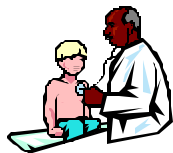
The battle for the young people in the church is being lost in a big segment of the brotherhood. What will be the picture of many congregations in the next generation (calculated to be forty years)? The “prophetic” view appears bleak. Permeating are threads in youth fabric that includes a spirit of compromise and affliction with false understanding of tolerance. They see the New Testament church as one among other denominations. Brazenly, there are pseudo-historians making the claim the church is a denomination which began in the early 1800’s. Some young people have “bought into” this claim.

Responsibility for the deterioration of youths’ beliefs did not originate with themselves. They have been saturated with error in the acceptance of the pluralistic view of religion in America. Additionally youth have been fed by preachers, teachers, youth leaders, and special lecturers. These perpetrators have been unrestrained by weak eldership.

College students in the early 21st century have a challenge to really study the Bible and religious issues. They must have the courage and convictions to stand firmly and zealously for the truth. The faith of this generation will determine the views of the next generation. It is true that the church will never go out of existence (Dan. 2:44) but what young people believe and practice today will determine how many congregations will be preserved.

-cont.

Sick



Continue to remember in prayer:
Marguerite Charles,
Margaret Kratz, Lyn Anderson,
Martha Keith, Mariam Majors,
Steve Harrah, Betty Jenkins.

Madolia Rosette, David Wilcox, Lyn Anderson and Sandra Wood have been sick at home.

Dr. Bert Spetzler is suffering from singles but plans to be home on Dec. 22.

Happy Birthday this week to:
Caleb Reed—12/11



Happy Anniversary this week to:
Roger & Dorothy Mays—12/9

Virgil & Myrtle Peverall—12/9

Jack & Lori Cook—12/10



DECEMBER ITEMS FOR THE

STAFFORDS: Vanilla Wafers & Dream Whip envelopes. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!



MILITARY

In Iraq:



CPT Felps, Erich T
56th MMB
APO AE 09391

HN Aaron T Stricklin
3rd AABN Delta Co
Unit 41660
FPO/AP 96426- 1660

Youth: The Key to the Future -continued

Illustrative of the current position of some youth is a report from Jack Lewis. In a letter to this writer in response to a commendation of his scholarly and biblical article entitled, "Back to Basics: A Cappella Singing" he wrote, "A Bible professor in _____ college recently told me that he had not encountered any students that thought instrumental music was wrong." Brother Lewis continued, "A few years back when I published an article on the topic, I got more feedback than I have for any article I have ever written. All of it was from people who considered themselves in the church but who differed with me on the question."

The critics of the "un-get-over-able" (as NB Hardeman was wont to say) arguments against religious error in spite of the facts will lead some into wide acceptance of false teaching. The youth of today are in college and some are preparing for pulpits and these will influence the church of tomorrow. They are leaders who will lead the less informed to follow them into forbidden paths. "And you shall know the truth and the truth will make you free" (John 8:32, NKJV).

- the elders

Out of the mouth of babes:



After being told by her grandmother the family dog had died and gone to heaven, Sydnee asked, "Why does Jesus need a dog?"

One particular four-year old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

F Y I For Your Information



Teens

Congratulations to Olivia Valentine for taking first place all-around in gymnastics at a meet in Huntington, WV recently!!

December Dates

Dec. 12—Youth Pizza & Movie Night—6:30PM
—Sign up sheet on the board.

December 14—Teen Bible Study—7PM
December 31—Youth Game Night—8PM

Bible Bowl Questions are available!!

Mark your calendars now for March 7. We will also be having the Biddy Bible Bowl for the kids ages 5-8.

Bi-Monthly Bible Bowl Study Sessions will be held in the large classroom at 5:00 on the following Sundays: December 7 & 21; January 4 & 18; February 8 & 22. Mock Bible Bowl will be held on Feb 14 at 9 AM. Breakfast will be provided. See Jim or Charlotte Harrington for details.

EDP MEETING

December EDP Meeting will be today at 4 PM.

CARDS/CRAFTS

All ladies are invited to help make cards/crafts today at 5:00 in the Teachers' Resource room. See Melissa Rogers for details.

POTTER CHILDRENS HOME

The gifts, jello and gleaner cans will be picked up this week; all items need to be ready by to-night!!

AREA WIDE PREACHERS MEETING

The area-wide preachers meeting will be tomorrow at 10:30. All are invited.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

December LNO, hosted by Jo Ann, Melissa & Lisa will be tomorrow, December 8, at 6:30 at Jo Ann Edwards home. Bring a gift wrapped ornament for the gift exchange and your appetite. If you've never been, ask around—It's lots of fun and food!

WOW GROUP

The WOW group will meet on Tuesday at 10:30. Velda will be making gravy and biscuits.

MENS BREAKFAST

The monthly men's breakfast will be next Saturday at 8AM at Famous Anthony's.

STAFFORD VISIT

Cy & Cindy Stafford plan on being here on January 18 to give an update on the work in Tanzania, Africa. Make plans now to attend.

Directory Update:

EV Wimmer — new phone number

WOW

Please sign up on the WOW board for the video Autobiographies being done by Richard Simms.

Next WOW meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9, at 10:30.

Upcoming Events:



The Teams will combine and have a New Year's Eve Celebration here at the building on Wednesday, December 31, after services. Make plans now to attend and details will be coming!

Announcements	Mike Durham
Song Leader (AM)	David Brown
Opening Prayer (AM)	
12/7	Collin Gregory
12/14	Glen Hartman
12/21	Bobby Martin
12/28	Charlie Gwaltney
Preside at Communion	Danny Guard
Serve Table	Jim Harrington Norris Gearhart Bradford Durham Garrett Durham
Closing Prayer	
12/7	Jim Cooke
12/14	Jeremy White
12/21	Sam Valentine
12/28	Luke Guard
Song Leader (PM)	Eric Earnhart
Opening Prayer (PM)	
12/7	Squeaky Valentine
12/14	George Mellon
12/21	Richard Simms
12/28	Jeff Durham
Scripture Reader	Sam Valentine
Closing Prayer (PM)	
12/7	Paul Mays
12/14	Barry White
12/21	Charlie Maness
12/28	Jason Oldham
Serve Table (PM)	Shawn Simms Ethan Rogers
Song Leader (Wed)	Sam Valentine
Prayer (Wed)	
12/3	Tom Rogers
12/10	Charlie Gwaltney
12/17	Charlie Puckett
12/24	Mitch Jearls
12/31	Mark Brooks
Open/Close Bldg	Squeaky Valentine
Greeters	Glen & Sandra Neighbors Bobby & Peggy Paxton
Nursery Attend	Amanda Brown Kim Brown
Ushers	Bob Garby Curtis Oakes
Handouts	David McFalls John Black Jeremy White Cameron Brown
Alternates	Lyn Shrader
Prepare communion	Lisa Valentine Jo Ann Edwards
Cards & Pencils	Jimmy Harrington Dylan Tyler

Last weeks attendance 11/30& 12/3/08

Bible Class—157 Worship Service—200
 Sunday Eve.—129 Wednesday Eve.—148
 Contribution—\$7071

Number 2946
 December 7, 2008

As we approach the end of 2008 we are considering the phrase "the end" as presented in Scripture. The phrase itself is found in 148 verses in the King James Version.

"And it came to pass at **the end** of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt" (Ex. 12:41). The background of this verse takes us all the way back to Abraham. God had called him to become the father of what would be the nation of Israel. He had commanded him to leave his native land (a land of idolatry- Josh. 24:2, 15) and journey to a land promised to his offspring (Gen. 12:1-3). During his travels within the promised land there arose a great famine, which took Abraham into Egypt (Gen. 12:6-10). After he departed Egypt and returned to Canaan, Abraham was told by God that his people would eventually go into Egypt and serve as bondservants to the Egyptians for a period of some 400 years (Gen. 15:13, 14). (The "four hundred years" is a rounded number and not the actual time they would spend in the land. Note Stephen's statement in Acts 7:6.) He also told him (in general terms of judgment) of the great plagues He would bring upon the Egyptians.

Another famine eventually took Jacob and his descendants (who were also the descendants of Abraham) into Egypt (Gen. 42-47). For a period of time they grew and multiplied in peace and prosperity in the land. However, trouble eventually came their way, as the Egyptians became the cruel taskmasters God had told Abraham they would become (Ex. 1:7-14). Eventually, of course, Moses arose as the great deliverer of the people and led them out of bondage. This occurred after they had been in Egypt for 430 years. As our initial text indicated, it was at "the end" of this period that Israel departed from Egypt. Soon after their departure they received the law at Sinai (Ex. 19, 20; Neh. 9:13, 14). Paul spoke of this in Galatians 3:17. In this account we are made to see yet again the inerrancy of Scripture. Not only was the entire account of Israel's connection with Egypt given long before it occurred, but the precise amount of time it would cover was also revealed. At "the end" of that time, God delivered them from their captors.

-Eddy