

## Turn It Around By David Pharr

“Ask not what your country  
can do for you. Ask what you  
can do for your country!” This  
challenge, made famous during  
the Kennedy presidency, sug-  
gests a like principle which

should guide every Christian’s attitude toward the church. We should be less concerned about what is being done for us and more attentive to what we are doing for others.

Ask not therefore...

...Whether this is a good congregation of which  
to be a member, but ask whether I am a good member of the  
congregation.

...how much I am loved, but how much love I have  
shown.

...how many get-well cards I received, but how  
many I have sent to others.

...who visited me, but whom I have visited.

...how much I get out of classes, but how much I  
contribute to make the classes interesting and edifying.

...whether I was remembered in prayer, but  
whether I faithfully prayed for others.

...who did or did not speak to me, but how many  
others I greeted.

...whether my good work is recognized, but  
whether I have given honor to whom honor is due.

...how many of my prayer requests God has  
granted, but how grateful have I been for his innumerable  
blessings.

...to what extent my deeds have profited me now,  
but how my life will be remembered when I am gone.

“Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the  
things of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ  
Jesus” (Phil. 2:4,5).

The Elders

## What Have You Been Singing Lately? (3)

The New Testament instructs Christians to sing and make melody in our hearts (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). We are to “sing with the spirit and...sing with the understanding also” (I Cor. 14:15). In our singing we teach and admonish one another (Col. 3:16). These matters being true, the message in our songs is just as important as the message in our teaching/preaching. Also, it is just as hypocritical for us to live contrary to our singing as it is to live contrary to our teaching. This being true, what have you been singing lately?

Have you sung the song, “*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*” lately? Its repetitive words proclaim:

“I have decided to follow Jesus, I  
have decided to follow Jesus, I  
have decided to follow Jesus, no  
turning back, no turning back.  
Tho’ none go with me I still will  
follow, tho’ none go with me I  
still will follow, tho’ none go with me I  
still will follow, no turning back, no  
turning back.

My cross I’ll carry till I see Jesus,  
my cross I’ll carry till I see  
Jesus, my cross I’ll carry till I see  
Jesus, no turning back I’ll follow Him.”

Can you sing these words in all honesty? Have you made that decision (and followed through with obedience) to follow Jesus? Have you been true to the sentiment, “no turning back?” Have you truly followed even though none may go with you? Or, is it the case that you have gone along with others, -continued

## Teens

*December meeting dates:*

*Dec. 8—Movie Night 7-9:30 Everyone bring a snack - drinks will be provided.*

*Dec. 10—Teen Bible Study (TBS) changed from Dec. 17. Pizza will be provided.*

*Dec. 31—Teen Devo/game night*

*Dates for Teens:*

*March 3, 2007 Southwest Virginia Bible Bowl*

*June 17-23, 2007 VCC*

*July 1-6, 2007 Horizons Senior Week*

*July 8-13, 2007 Horizons Junior Week*

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### **What Have You Been Singing Lately?** -continued

even though their actions (and yours, by following them) are in violation to God's Will? Are you carrying your cross daily (Luke 9:23) in following Him?

We should take great care with the sentiments we sing. We should examine our lives continually (II Cor. 13:5) to insure that they are in accordance with His Will. If we are to sing that we have decided to follow Him regardless of what others may do and that we will carry our crosses till we lay them down in death, then we should be willing to live lives that mirror these thoughts. Have you decided to follow Jesus? - Eddy

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### ***Today is the Day***

Today is the day to begin to do the best I can,  
For I may never have this moment or pass this way again.  
Today is the day to begin to be all that I should portray,  
For the rest of my life is shaped and molded by the action I take today.  
Today is the day of beginning of eternity for me,  
In the Book of Life is my record—how does it look, my God, to Thee?

## Westside's Older Workers

WOW members will be preparing 20 holiday baskets at our next meeting Tuesday, December 12 at 10:30. Please bring small gift items, which may include individually wrapped cookies, candies, lotions, etc. Gifts should be for both men and women. Items can be brought to the WOW meeting or given to Don or Mitzi.



It

is hard to  
walk with the Lord  
if you are  
always dragging  
your feet.

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### **Kitchen Update**

The painting is finished inside and out. The heating and cooling guy has been here and installed his items. Cabinet installation should be on December 9 and the old kitchen should be removed the week after. So by December 17 we should have a functioning kitchen and bathrooms.

So once again we are asking please do not open the cabinet or appliance boxes or lay anything on top and allow them to get damaged. Parents keep your children (including teens) safe by not allowing them in the fellowship hall until all of these boxes and appliances are installed.

The old appliances from the old kitchen need new homes—if you would like to adopt these appliances or know someone who does, please see Charlie Gwaltney.

## SICK

**Effie Wimmer** is home after a stay in the hospital last week.

**Marquerite Charles** will be having out patient procedures soon to improve her long-range health.

**Audrey Gabbard** had surgery yesterday on her shoulder.

**Dan Hudgins** spent some time in the hospital last week. He will be having blood transfusions every few weeks.

Joy House, grandmother of **Adam House**, had a heart catheterization Wednesday and is recovering.

Margie High, **Chelsea High's** mother, has been diagnosed with breast cancer, but it was caught early and the doctor was able to remove it without surgery and prevent it from spreading.—Thanks for your prayers!

**Larry Phillips** transplant surgery has been postponed for several months. He underwent a heart catheterization last Tuesday in Richmond.

Remember the following in prayers: **Teresa White, W.J. Wood, Glenna Richardson, Luetta Gregory, Clyde Scott.**



Happy Birthday this week to:  
Velda Gearhart—12/3

Kyle Gilpin—12/9

Happy Anniversary this week to:  
Roger & Dorothy Mays—12/8

Virgil & Myrtle Peverall—12/8



**MILITARY:** Ty Stricklin at 29 Palms Marine Base, Jonathan Simpson, John Shannon and Gabriel Hayes who are in Iraq. Jonathan Chumley, Kosovo.



## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ITEMS FOR STAFFORDS

Stain sticks, markers (any kind, all colors)

## POTTER HOLIDAY GIFTS

We are again participating in the gifts for the families at Potter Children's Home. The wish lists are posted in the hall. Gifts are due TODAY. See your team leaders for details!!

## MEETING

Elders', Deacons' & Preachers' meeting will be held today at 4:00.

## WEDNESDAY LADIES' CLASS

There will be a ladies' class offered beginning Dec. 6 and continuing throughout the next year. Jeanny will lead this study, meeting in the large classroom, and will center around Christian Woman magazine. See Jeanny if you will attend so she can reserve your copy.

## LADIES' NIGHT OUT HOLIDAY PARTY

December 11, at **Jo Ann Edwards'** at 6:30. Please sign up on the board in the hallway. If you did not get an invitation see Jo Ann.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

Roger & Dorothy Mays will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception held in the fellowship hall on December 16 from 2-4. See Rebecca or Judy Durham for details. RSVP by 12/11.

Pick up the new **2007 pocket calendars** that are available in the foyer.

**Shawn & Jenni Sprouse** have placed membership at the Dale Ridge congregation.

## NEW MEMBERS' DINNER

Has been rescheduled for January 20.

## MARK THE DATES

Education Banquet will be on February 17, 2007 at 5:45. All education workers are invited along with spouses or friends.

Southwest Virginia Bible Bowl on March 3, 2007.

Making Marriage More Meaningful by Eddy & Jeanny Gilpin on April 27 & 28 at Westside Church of Christ.

Virginia Christian Camp is June 17-23, 2007.

Horizons Senior week is July 1-6, 2007 & Junior Week and CTS is July 8-13, 2007.

**December 2006****Announcements** Fred Altizer**Song Leader (AM)** Charlie Gwaltney**Opening Prayer (AM)**

12/3 David Brown

12/10 Jeff Durham

12/17 Collin Gregory

12/24 Charles Maness

12/31 Danny Guard

**Preside at Communion** Bob Garby**Serve Table**

T. Richardson J. Harrington

S. Valentine C. Puckett

**Closing Prayer**

12/3 Mark Brooks

12/10 Murphy Scott

12/17 Paul Mays

12/24 Greg Edwards

12/31 Roger Mays

**Song Leader (PM)** Eric Earnhart**Opening Prayer (PM)**

12/3 Mike Durham

12/10 Tom Rogers

12/17 Bobby Martin

12/24 Tom Duff

12/31 Don Pettit

**Scripture Reader** Preston Duff**Closing Prayer (PM)**

12/3 Barry White

12/10 Mitch Jearls

12/17 Adam House

12/24 Jim Bush

12/31 Glenn Hartman

**Serve Table (PM)** G. Durham L. Guard**Song Leader (Wed)** David Brown**Prayer (Wed)**

12/6 Crawford Keith

12/13 Jim Cooke

12/20 Paul Faw

12/27 Herb Baker

**Open/Close Building** Jerry Anderson**Greeters** Maness Whitlows**Nursery Attend** B. Mellon S. Altizer**Ushers** N. Gearhart C. Oakes**Handouts** E. Argabright W. Jenkins

B. Martin G. Neighbors

**Alternates** Danny Guard C. Guard**Last weeks attendance** 11/26 & 29/2006

Bible Class—149 Worship Service—164

Evening Worship—115 Wed. Service—135

Contribution—\$4155

**December 3, 2006**