

## THE TOWN OF LIBERAL

About a century ago, a group of atheists decided to show the world what a fine civilization could be built if only the superstitions of Christianity were excluded. They founded the little community of Liberal, Missouri, and boastingly advertised that it was the only town of its kind in the United States. It was without a preacher, priests, church, God, Christ, hell or the devil. Some months later the St. Louis Post Dispatch carried a lengthy story about the town of Liberal, in which it was pictured as the seat of the Devil and a den of iniquity. Its hotels were brothels, and vice had become a virtue. Gambling, stealing, drunkenness and brawls were the usual occurrence of the day. The story was so frightening that the men of Liberal had Clark Braken, author of the story, arrested for criminal libel and sued the Post Dispatch for \$25,000. In the trial, the evidence of wickedness was so overwhelming that the jury took but a few seconds to render a verdict in favor of the defendants. The suit was dismissed and the town of Liberal paid all the court costs. The town of Liberal was an absolute failure. It wasn't long until lifelong atheists, who had moved into the town to enjoy its advantages, left in complete disgust. They found living in an atheistic town intolerable. One of their number confessed that "An infidel surrounded by Christians may spout his infidelity and be able to endure it, but a whole town of atheists was too horrible to contemplate."

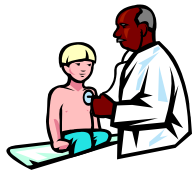
No wonder the Psalmist wrote, "The fool has said in his heart, There is no God."

-Tom Wacaster

Continue to remember in prayer:

# Sick

Margaret Kratz, Miriam Majors, Betty Jenkins, Jim Dorsett, E.V. Wimmer, Martha Keith, WJ Wood, Al Furrow, Lyn Anderson, Marguerite Charles, Jo Musgrove, Elizabeth Hovey, Isabelle Simmons, Sandra Wood



Emmalou\_Heusinkveld, Yvette Mays' grand mother, suffered a major stroke. She is in ICU in Atlanta receiving treatments at this time.

Ed Argabright will be having an out-patient procedure on December 3.

## Upcoming Events:



The Potters Christmas Wish List is posted on the board in the hallway. See your team leader for details. All gifts must be ready to go by December 6!

We will be having an All Team Holiday Fellowship on December 13. Bring your favorite dessert and join us for this time of fellowship. Coffee and punch will be provided.

## Teens



### November Dates

November 29—Young Men Conduct Services

### December Dates

December 4—Movie Night  
December 6—TBS  
December 20—Cookie Exchange  
December 31—New Years Devo

Bible Bowl is set for March 6  
Study Guides are available!

### Happy Birthday this week to:



Velda Gearhart—12/3  
Mary Halling—12/4

## Military

Jay Martin—Afghanistan



**NOVEMBER ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:** Microwave kettle corn and packets of seasoning (taco, fajita, stroganoff). Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!



The Lake Drive congregation has established a fund to help Ben and Tabitha Simmons with their expenses for their daughter Isabelle's cancer treatments/medical expenses. If you would like to participate in their support, make your check payable to the "Lake Drive church of Christ"; be sure to note on your check that it is for the "Simmons Family Fund". The mailing address is: Lake Drive church of Christ, P.O. Box 109, Vinton, VA 24179.

## WOW

The next regular meeting will be on December 8 at 10:30.

There is a box in the foyer for the WOW Stocking Stuffer gifts. Please have all items in by December 6!

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Church assignments for 2010 are now being planned. If you have not returned a pink or blue involvement sheet please do so ASAP. If you would like to update your sheet, please see Jo Ann!

## For Your Information

### HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Remember traffic will be heavy today—plan accordingly!

### TURN TURN TURN

T3 planning team will have a brief meeting at 5:30 today in the large classroom.

### LADIES NIGHT OUT

The December LNO will be held at Jackie Dixon's home on December 3 at 6:30. Sign up sheet located on the board. Bring a gift wrapped ornament for the exchange!

### MOVIE NIGHT

The teens will be having a movie night here on December 4 at 6:30 pm. See Mike for details.

### EDP MEETING

There will be an EDP Meeting on Sunday, December 6, at 4 pm in the fellowship hall.

### FAITHFUL FINANCES 101

Jeff Durham will be teaching a class in December on Faithful Finances 101 in the fellowship hall. Please sign up for this class if you are interested so appropriate amounts of material will be available. Also if you have any specific questions/topics you would like to see addressed during this class let Jeff know!

### SUNDAY MORNING OT CLASS

There is a sign up sheet on the board for the OT outlines.

### POTTERS CHILDRENS HOME

The van will be here during the week of December 6 to pick up gleaner cans, wish list gifts and our commodities drive item, Pop-tarts (any flavor).

## Winter Quarter Bible Classes start next Sunday!

A Big Thanks to last quarter teachers, Connie Harrah, Sandra Neighbors, Michele Nikkel, Lori Cook, Kay Anderson, Melissa Oldham, Charlotte Harrington, Richard Simms, Josh Whitlow, and Tom Rogers.

Winter teachers are Karen Munsey, Sandy Garby, Jean Argabright, Annett Shrader, Melissa Marshall, Cha Guard, Greg Edwards, Squeaky Valentine, Jeff Durham and others.

# Weekly Reminders

Prayer list:

Marguerite Charles  
Lyn Anderson  
Martha Keith  
Miriam Majors  
Betty Jenkins  
WJ Wood  
Margaret Kratz  
Jim Dorsett  
E.V. Wimmer  
Charlie Puckett  
Jo Musgrove  
Al Furrow  
David McFalls  
Michelle Earnhart  
Isabelle Simmons  
Jackie Dixon  
Emmalou Heusinkveld  
Ed Argabright  
Sandra Wood

All of those traveling this week



This week's □□□□□□□□  
Emphasis: Evangelism

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<b>Announcements</b>	Paul Mays
<b>Song Leader (AM)</b>	Charlie Gwaltney
<b>Opening Prayer (AM)</b>	
12/6	Bobby Martin
12/13	Eric Earnhart
12/20	Jim Harrington
12/27	Fred Altizer
<b>Preside at Communion</b>	David Brown
<b>Serve Table</b>	Josh Whitlow John Black Mitch Jearls Norris Gearhart
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	
12/6	Tom Rogers
12/13	Barry White
12/20	Glenn Gabbard
12/27	Herb Baker
<b>Song Leader (PM)</b>	Jeff Durham
<b>Opening Prayer (PM)</b>	
12/6	Charlie Gwaltney
12/13	Collin Gregory
12/20	Luke Guard
12/27	Kirk Gilpin
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Jimmy Harrington
<b>Closing Prayer (PM)</b>	
12/6	Glen Hartman
12/13	Jim Bush
12/20	Nathan Pelfrey
12/27	Jeremy White
<b>Serve Table (PM)</b>	Sam Valentine Ben Munsey
<b>Song Leader (Wed)</b>	Eric Earnhart
<b>Prayer (Wed)</b>	
12/2	Bob Garby
12/9	David Brown
12/16	Jerry Anderson
12/23	Greg Edwards
12/30	Mark Brooks
<b>Open/Close Bldg Greeters</b>	Jerry Anderson R. White/Bakers
<b>Nursery Attend</b>	Kim Brown Melissa Oldham
<b>Ushers</b>	Bob Garby Curtis Oakes
<b>Handouts</b>	Mitch & Chandler Jearls Marc & Noah Laplante
<b>Prepare communion</b>	Jeanny Gilpin Bonnie Wood
<b>Cards &amp; Pencils</b>	Austin Whitlow

**Last weeks attendance 11/22&25/09**

Bible Class— 146    Worship Service—173  
 Sunday Eve.— 134    Wednesday Eve.—134  
 Contribution—\$4638

In Romans chapter one Paul enumerates the sins of the Gentile world. In chapter two he moves to those of the Jewish world, who would speak boldly against the Gentiles but who would scarcely even consider their own misgivings. The summary in chapter three reveals that “all have sinned” (Rom. 3:23).

The sins listed among the Gentiles in the first chapter are quite telling. They run the gamut of the catalog of evildoing (cf. Rom. 1:29-31). Following this list is the concluding remark of verse 32. It states: “Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.” Notice that the condemned are not only those who commit such evils, but those who “have pleasure in them that do them.”

As Christians, when we consider the implications of this thought it should cause us to think about the activities in which we find enjoyment. Whenever we take pleasure or find entertainment in that which is evil, should this verse not cause us concern? If the things you find enjoyable are television shows and movies that glorify illicit sex, adulterous relationships, homosexuality, covetousness, blasphemy against God, total disregard for Biblical principles and other ungodly matters, should you not stop for a moment and consider not only the things that are filling your mind, but also the impact of “having pleasure in them that do them?” The list of television shows and movies which have such wickedness as their base theme is practically endless, and is being added to constantly. Can we, as Christians, continually fill our minds with such matters without becoming hardened toward them? Can we actually expect that if we continue to view such shows as “The Family Guy,” “Desperate Housewives,” “How I Met Your Mother,” “Two and a Half Men,” “The Simpsons” and other such “entertainment” that the matters contained in these and like shows, constantly portrayed before us, will have little or no effect upon us? How can we take pleasure in such things (even though we might not do them) and think that our lives are in harmony with God’s will? How can we let our children view such and think they will not be affected by it? Certainly, those who participate in that kind of evil are in sin. But what about those who “have pleasure in them that do them?”

-Eddy