

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE:**

Euin Barrier, Bernice Beeson,  
Terry Cantrell, Ora Cash,  
Dickie & Joann Crouch, Emily Devereux,  
Richard Faulkner, Jimmy Hall,  
Eva Lee, Ken & Mabel Lock,  
Melvin & Ruth Messer, Bobby Mills,  
Bill Parr, Sophia Sears,  
Earline Smith, Linda Smith,  
Barbara Staten, Joann White  
Jimmy, Elizabeth, Katie & Laura Thompson,  
Darlene Wilson, Geneva Wortham,  
and those engaged in teaching the lost.

**If you notice someone's absence from the assembly pray for them, and call to see if there is some additional way you can help.**

*In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury* (Proverbs 14:23).

MIDWEEK NEWS UPDATES AT:  
www.HarrisburgChurchOfChrist.com

**PRAYER LIST UPDATES:**

*Vida Gongway*, is a 100-year-old client of *Katherine Ford*. She is being evaluated over the next 30 days to determine whether she should move into an assisted living apartment or a nursing home. Please pray for her contentment.

*Meredith Smith* repented Sunday from the sin of neglect of God, family and the church. She asked to be forgiven and accepted as a faithful child of God.

*Starre Zane* repented Sunday from the sin of neglect of the church and not being a godly example before family and friends.

*Andy Wilson*, son of *Woody & Pat*, is suffering severe back pain, possibly due to a ruptured disc.

**OTHER NEWS:**

**A LADIES' LUNCHEON** is scheduled for 11:00 on Saturday, July 10 in honor of *Margaret Kinney, Maxine Long, Irene Foust* and *Geneva Wortham*, who are celebrating birthdays.

**PANAMA:** Please bring your contributions not later than next Sunday..

**CHILDREN'S HOMES:** The truck is due here July 19 (2 weeks from now). Pick up a list of needed items, and remember that the truck can also now take usable pre-worn or new clothing.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:**

Kenny Mills - Monday  
Kenneth Lock - Tuesday  
Geneva Wortham - Tuesday  
Jason McGee - Wednesday  
Tona Crawford - Thursday  
Katie Thompson - Friday  
Mark Weston - Friday

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:**

Carmack & Barbara Sanders - Tuesday

**Welcome**  
to the Assemblies of  
**Harrisburg**  
**Church of Christ**

P. O. Box 266  
(504 N. Brooks St)  
Harrisburg, AR 72432  
(870) 578-2965

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes 9:00  
Worship 9:45; 6:00

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes 7:00

**Elders:**

Ray Blanchard 578-2559  
Bill Mears 578-9650  
Mark Weston 931-2790

**Evangelist:**

Al Parr 578-9154  
(Cell) 903-721-0332

**World Evangelism:**

- ◆Cape Town, S.A.;
- ◆Int'l Bible Academe;

**Benevolence:**

- ◆Children's Homes, Inc.;
- ◆Southern Christian Home

**★REMEMBER★**

Elders & Deacons meet  
next Sunday night

Be a  
Daily Bible Reader



visit [www.HarrisburgChurchOfChrist.com](http://www.HarrisburgChurchOfChrist.com)

July 4, 2010

**P**rojecting **Christ** through  
**E**nthusiastic **worship**, living always in an  
**A**tmosphere of **love**, both  
**C**aring for others and  
**E**quipping saints **to serve God.**

**BE A DAILY BIBLE READER**

# Today is Independence Day

Bill Swetmon


{ **The dedicated Christian feels the same kind of love for his hometown or homeland when he sees that God's will is being rejected. }**

**M**any religionists believe that Christians should not be involved in politics or even supportive of their government. Some have gone so far as to refuse to say the Pledge Of Allegiance to the flag.

Does God expect His people to be patriotic? My answer is “yes!” Jesus expressed a love and loyalty for the beloved city, Jerusalem. He saw His city refusing to listen to God; He saw the danger that was ahead for a city that denied God’s will for its citizens. If God’s love burned for Jerusalem (not the physical city but the souls of the people), then it is reasonable to believe that He feels the same about New York, Los Angeles, Dallas and Lubbock.

The dedicated Christian feels the same kind of love for his hometown or homeland when he sees that God’s will is being rejected. In our patriotism for our homeland, we are helping God express His love for the world and its people.

Years ago, the *Wall Street Journal* editorialized, “What America needs more than a railway extension, western irrigation, a law tariff, a bigger cotton crop, and a larger wheat crop is a revival of religion, the kind that our fathers and mothers used to have; a religion that counted it good business to take time for family worship each morning right in the middle of the harvest, a religion that made men quit work a half hour earlier on Wednesday so the whole family could get ready to go to prayer meeting.”

We should give a hearty “amen” to that, and pray that our country will return to such a state, and that very soon. 

“If the Son therefore shall make you free,  
ye shall be free indeed”  
(John 8:36).

# “Are We There Yet?”

**T**he words from the back seat brought first a memory-induced smile and then, with frequent repetition, a shadow of annoyance as I tried safely to navigate the family car down the highway. I suppose I deserved both the joy and the bother, for I well remember having sat where they sat, and directing the same question to *my* father at the wheel. Distance and time to the goal are common concerns of every generation in every pursuit in life.

**How much farther?** Children tire of confinement in the back seat where they can’t see or control the progress toward the goal. The race driver radios to his crew asking how far to the next “pit stop,” or the checkered flag. Saints, too, often wonder how much longer they must suffer the trials of this journey. The King James Version shows 61 times in 53 verses the question, “How long?” People today ask with David, “O Lord, how long” (Psalm 6:3) we must suffer.

**When will we get there?** Will it be soon? One of the children asked me once about a destination, “Will it be just around the next turn?” Sometimes we think we would really like to know the hour of “my departure” (II Timothy 4:6), or when we shall see Him “face to face” (I Corinthians 13:12). Life teaches patience, and God tells us that no man knows the hour (Mark 13:32). It’s not our business (Acts 1:7). We’ll be there when we get there. We just have to persevere until that checkered flag waves (Hebrews 12:1-2).

**Are we there yet?** The children don’t enjoy the destination until they reach it. The racer doesn’t rejoice until the finish line is crossed. The Christian doesn’t rest until Heaven is reached. If we’re still traveling that way, we’re not there yet. Don’t be annoyed with the way. Our Lord has promised, “in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Galatians 6:9).

- Al Parr

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*I understand more than the ancients,*

*because I keep thy precepts*

(Psalm 119:100):

**B E A D A I L Y B I B L E R E A D E R**

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## Two “Free” Ways to Give to Children’s Homes

Many people want to give to Children’s Homes, but in these tough economic times, it’s not always easy or feasible to do so. However, there are ways to contribute to Children’s Homes without dipping into your pocketbook.

First, you can donate your used clothing. Dedicated volunteers Trev and Gerry Miller sort through all donated clothing to determine what might be used by the children living here and what can be sent to our Thrift Store. (All proceeds from items sold at our Thrift Store come back to Children’s Homes.) We ask simply that the clothes be in good condition, and also that you make sure we have your name and address so we can send a thank-you note for your donation. (This note can serve as a receipt should you decide to claim this donation as a tax deduction.)

Secondly, you can collect UPC labels from canned goods. Mrs. Barbara Petty has coordinated this program for years for Children’s Homes. The UPC labels from Best Choice and Campbell’s canned goods can be redeemed for either cash (for Best Choice labels) or “points” (Campbell’s products) that can be used to purchase items from a catalog. You’re likely already buying these canned goods for your home use; why not trim off the labels (specifically, the UPC labels, also called a bar code label) and send them to Children’s Homes?

To learn more about either of these options, contact our Public Relations department (800.382.4114, ext. 133) today!



Children’s Homes has **an opening for House-parents** in our residential education program on our Paragould campus. A married Christian couple or family will live in a provided home on our campus, and will provide care, oversight, correction and Christian training and example to a group of (up to 6) children/teens in the home. This position provides competitive compensation, regular time off, and numerous perqs. Training and continuing education are also provided. This position is for the housemother, but the housefather would also be considered for on-campus positions based on qualifications and available positions. (Please note that a thorough background check is a mandatory part of the application process.)

To learn more about this position or to start the application process, contact Paul Schandavel (pauls@childrenshomes.org) at 870.239.4031, ext. 124

**THE RECORD SPEAKS** (week of 6-27):  
Sunday Bible Class ..... NC  
Sunday AM Worship ..... 82  
Sunday PM Worship ..... 71  
Contribution ..... \$1,432  
Wednesday PM Bible Class ..... 66  
**WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT YOU?**

### Next Week’s Lessons:

**AM:** How “Overtaken In a Fault”?

**PM:** “A Rock of Offense”

## TRIMMING the LAMPS

B. B. Stevens

One of my jobs as a boy living on the farm in North Texas, was to trim the lamps every night. In the “dark ages” prior to the installation of electricity, we used coal oil lamps. This fuel was bad about smoking the chimneys of the lamps, burning the wicks and going dry! The polishing of the chimneys could be an extended occupation - depending on any other chores that needed doing.

An undeniable truth was evident: until the globes were clean, the wick trimmed, and the bowl filled up there was either no light or very poor light.

The same is true with living the life of a Christian. Jesus’ comparison was that the Christian’s life is like a city set on a hill that can’t be hid. The lives we live daily, shine according to the degree of perfection we maintain in keeping our lamps. When our

globes are covered with the soot of neglect, indifference, carelessness and lukewarmness, then our lights will not shine brightly at all. When our wicks are charred by the heat of animosity, hatred, greed and envy, then the flame will flicker and die. When our fuel bowls burn dry because of insufficient prayer, Bible Study, communion with God, fellowship with other Christians and service to Christ, then there is no source of energy to fuel our spiritual lives.

*Oh, Christian, do not hide your light  
For Ye are the light of the world,  
But keep it· trimmed and burning bright,  
For ye are the light of the world.*

Jesus said in Matt. 5:14 “Ye are the light of the world.” He is talking about people who have taken on the “new way of life” to be Children of God – people who realize that living the Christian life IS different – people who are willing to admit there must be power in their lives other than their own self-sufficiency.

So as we hear the psalmist say, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path,” let’s go get the polishing rag, the scissors and the coal oil. Our “lamps” need trimming. Let’s get busy! ☞

