



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.org

March 9, 2010

Propelling Our Prayers

By: Frank Starling

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“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matthew 6:33

It escapes me as to who first said, “we should pray as if everything depended upon God, and then work as if everything depended upon us!” There is surely a great amount of truth in this statement. God does not do for us what we can do for ourselves and he expects us to use the ability he has given to us in glorifying him. There is an expression in the sports world that calls attention to the player who “Plays his position.” That’s like saying regarding a child of God, he lives up to the job description of a Christian. And that means that we need to go to our heavenly Father often in prayer...and then we need to propel our prayers! We’ve all heard of the good work termed “meals on wheels.” In a similar way Christians need to develop the ability to propel our prayers.

Once upon a time sickness came to the family of a poorly paid preacher of a country church. It was in the winter and the preacher was having a difficult time financially. A number of the members decided to meet at his house and offer prayers for the speedy recovery of those who were ill, and for material blessings upon the preacher and his family. While one of the deacons was offering a fervent prayer for blessings upon the preacher’s household, there was a loud knock at the door. When the door was opened, a stout farm boy was standing there, wrapped up warmly against the cold air. “What do you want?” asked one of the elders. “I’ve brought Pa’s prayers,” replied the boy, “and they’re out in the wagon, Just give me a hand and we’ll get ’em in.”

A brief investigation disclosed the fact that “Pa’s prayers” consisted of potatoes, flour, bacon, cornmeal, turnips and jellies for the sick ones.

It isn’t difficult to recognize needs in the lives of those whose lives touch ours, or even to bring ourselves to ask God that the needs may be supplied. But it is far more difficult for many of us to recognize that partnership with God that it is ours to provide. James said you remember, “If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled: notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?” (James 2: 15-16).

Friends, opportunities to supply spiritual wants are even more often overlooked. If there’s a correction called for here for any of us, let’s attend to it! There is a story that’s been around for years, telling of an Atlantic ocean passenger who lay sick in his bunk, suffering a terrible case of seasickness. A cry of “man overboard” was heard. The man in his bunk with his agony, thought—“God help this poor fellow.” And then he thought, “At least I can put my lantern in the porthole,” which he promptly did. The man overboard was rescued and recounting the ordeal the next day, he said, “I was going down for the last time when someone put a lantern in a porthole. It shined upon my hand, and a sailor in a nearby lifeboat grabbed it and pulled me to safety!”

Let us determine in the year 2010 that we will use what we have to the glory of God. It may be just a sack of potatoes or a lantern in a porthole, but it can be used by the Lord in his honor. Let’s strive to put some wheels on our prayers. Propelling our prayers to their greatest impact will be a worthy contribution to fulfilling God’s plan for us on earth and suit our souls for heaven!

Haiti Update

Roberta and her kids are doing well. A shipping container filled with rice arrived last week. Three more are coming very soon. Healing Hands, Int. purchased some containers of beans already in the country and they will be coming to Roberta's to be matched with the rice and given to those in need. Last week, the folks at Sonlight and the relief workers packaged 3,000 family packs of food, saw 155 patients at a medical clinic, and gave food to 2,000 people at a "feeding day" in addition to the regular food distribution. Things got a little rowdy when 2,000 people showed up at the gate to be fed, but the U.S. Air Force sent officers to help with crowd control and everything went well. Although the "feeding day" was a special occasion, Roberta and her kids continue to hand out food packs every day at their gate in addition to the normal food distribution program using local congregations and children's homes. They estimate that they distributed more than 100,000 lbs. of food last week. Some of the children have invented a "bean bagger", and they reported that it "works great".

The Santo Church of Christ had 7 baptisms last week. They are looking for a building to rent where they can set up another bulk food organization and distribution site. If one can be found, the church members will set up an operation similar to the one they are working with at the Sonlight Children's Home now and that will double the output. A full container of tarps for temporary shelter is about to be shipped before the rainy season begins.

Here's a reminder of how serious the situation still is in Haiti: Tuesday, two local preachers picked up truckloads of family packs of food at the children's home to distribute in their home areas, and they were robbed at gunpoint before they could get home with it. Please keep the Haitian people, our relief workers, Roberta Edwards, and the children in your prayers daily.

Team 6, including workers from Henderson, Jackson, and Nashville, TN, is in Haiti now. Their primary focus this week, aside from helping with food distribution, is to work on the guest house and property to get it ready for a large medical mission team in a couple of weeks. This mission trip is a yearly event. They will have 39 campaigners who will perform medical clinics at multiple church or other locations, put on a VBS for local

YOUTH NEWS

The next Area Wide Youth Meeting will be Sunday, March 14th at the Zion Rest congregation. The van will leave at 5:20.

The Junior Bible Bowl will meet Saturday, March 27th at the East Main congregation. This will be this last session until fall.

The Senior Bible Bowl will meet Sunday afternoon, March 28th, at 2PM at the Nettleton congregation.

The Monthly youth Devo will be Sunday night, March 28th, following services at the fellowship building.

Let me give:

***I do not know how long I'll live
But while I live, Lord, let me give
Some comfort to someone in need
By smile or nod-kind word or deed
And let me do what e'er I can
To ease things for my fellow man.
I want naught but to do my part
To "lift" a tired or weary heart.
To change folks frowns to smiles again-
Then I will not have lived in vain
And I'll not care how long I'll live
If I can give-and give- and give.***

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Perrin & Jean Drummond, will be in Memphis this week to see their heart doctors and possible other tests run.

Ray Camp, (father of Janet Drummond) will have a pace maker installed.

Janet Drummond, is improving and will return to the doctor this week to have the staples removed.

Betty Adams, (mother of Richard Adams) may be needing total knee replacement in the near future, but for now they will try injections.

Bobby & Mary Montgomery, doing fair

Betty Colston, (aunt of Christy Wall) has been diagnosed with cancer.

Nell Hood, (aunt of Kim Clayton) in the hospital after a fall. She is a cancer patient.

Rivers Robertson, (mother of Troy Robertson) will have hip surgery on Wednesday.

Continual Prayer List

J. D. & Sue Stroud, Jeanne Perkins, Shane Hutton, Sue Collins, Donald Burke, Justin Forsythe, Diane Bowlin, Bell Cross, Terry Young, Lessie Bryant, Billy Joe Garner, Laura Mae Harris, Raymond & Amy Vest, Jean Drummond

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Joyce McNutt; Corrine Hall; Willie Jackson; Dessie Lee Allred; Mattie Golden, Eunice Mabry, Faye Owen & Anna Davis

Military List:

David Wilhite-Navy-Florida Barry Wilhite-Marine-Navy -Virginia, Jimmie Stutts-Air Force-California, Tiffany Erwin- Army-Fort Campbell, KY; Aaron Raines-Army, Afghanistan; Jamie Vansandt, Afghanistan; Michelle Montgomery, Fort Leonard, Missouri, Jim Vest-Afghanistan

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

It's time to "Spring Forward", Sunday, March 14th. Be sure to move your clocks ahead 1 hour Saturday night.

BIRTHDAYS

March 12..... Leah Lambert
March 15.....Masey Kate Adams
March 15.....Andy Clemmer
March 17.....Patricia Crow
March 17.....Laura Mae Harris
March 19.....Dan Cobb
March 19.....Clay Jennings

THANK YOU!!

We would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to Harold Russell, Troy Robertson, Price Senter and Bobby White for the great job they did in fixing a new walkway to the gym/fellowship building. This will be a tremendous help to all.

HELP NEEDED

The bible class teachers could use some help cutting out lesson cards. If you can help with this please check the teacher work room. Your help with this will allow the teachers more time to prepare for the up-coming quarter.

AREA EVENTS

- **Area -Wide Singing** to be held March 20, 2010 at the Ashland church of Christ from 6:00 – 8:00PM
- **Annual Senior Adult Rally @ Henderson TN Church of Christ** Saturday, March 27.
- **Bible Lectureship X 3** to be held March 28-31, 2010 at the Charleston church of Christ in Charleston, MS check bulletin board for details
- **Six State Gospel Singing** to be held at the Southwind Church of Christ in Memphis on Friday, April 16 from 7:00-10:00 PM
- **West Main Church of Christ 50th Anniversary Celebration/Homecoming** to be held April 24-25, 2010 Check bulletin board for details

Visit our website @ <http://www.nacoc.org>

OUR RECORD

Sunday School	106
Sunday A.M	116
Sunday P.M.	86
Wednesday	81
Contribution.....	\$2,637.50
Budget	\$3,305.70

TO SERVE

Scripture	Harold Russell
A.M. Prayer	Andy Clemmer
Closing Prayer	Jason Jennings
P.M. Prayer.....	Phillip Young
Closing.....	Daniel Drummond
Wed. 3/17..	Richard Jennings
Wed. 3/17.....	Carl Smith
Usher & Lock	Andy Clemmer
Greeters.....	G & K Clayton

PANTRY ITEM: Muffin mix

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday School.....	9:30
Morning Worship	10:30
Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00

Elders

Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson.....	534-3491

Deacons

Bill Botts	316-2422
Greg Clayton	538-0791
Roger Clayton.....	534-5240
Andy Clemmer	816-5887
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall.....	538-6038

Minister

Office.....	534-4649
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God's Minorities

During the time **NOAH** was building the ark, he was very much in the minority—but he won!

When **JOSEPH** was sold into Egypt by his brother, he was a decided minority—but he won!

When **GIDEON** and his three hundred followers, with their broken pitchers and lamps, put the Midianites to flight, they were in an insignificant minority—but they won!

When **ELIJAH** prayed down fire from heaven and put the prophets of Baal to shame, he was in a notable minority—but he won!

When **DAVID**, ridiculed by his brothers, went out to meet Goliath, in size he was in a decided minority—but he won!

When **JESUS CHRIST** was crucified by the Roman soldiers, he was a conspicuous minority—but he won!

What about you my friend? Are you in the minority, standing with Christ, or are you on the other side? Why not stand where the faithful have always stood—in the minority!

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