



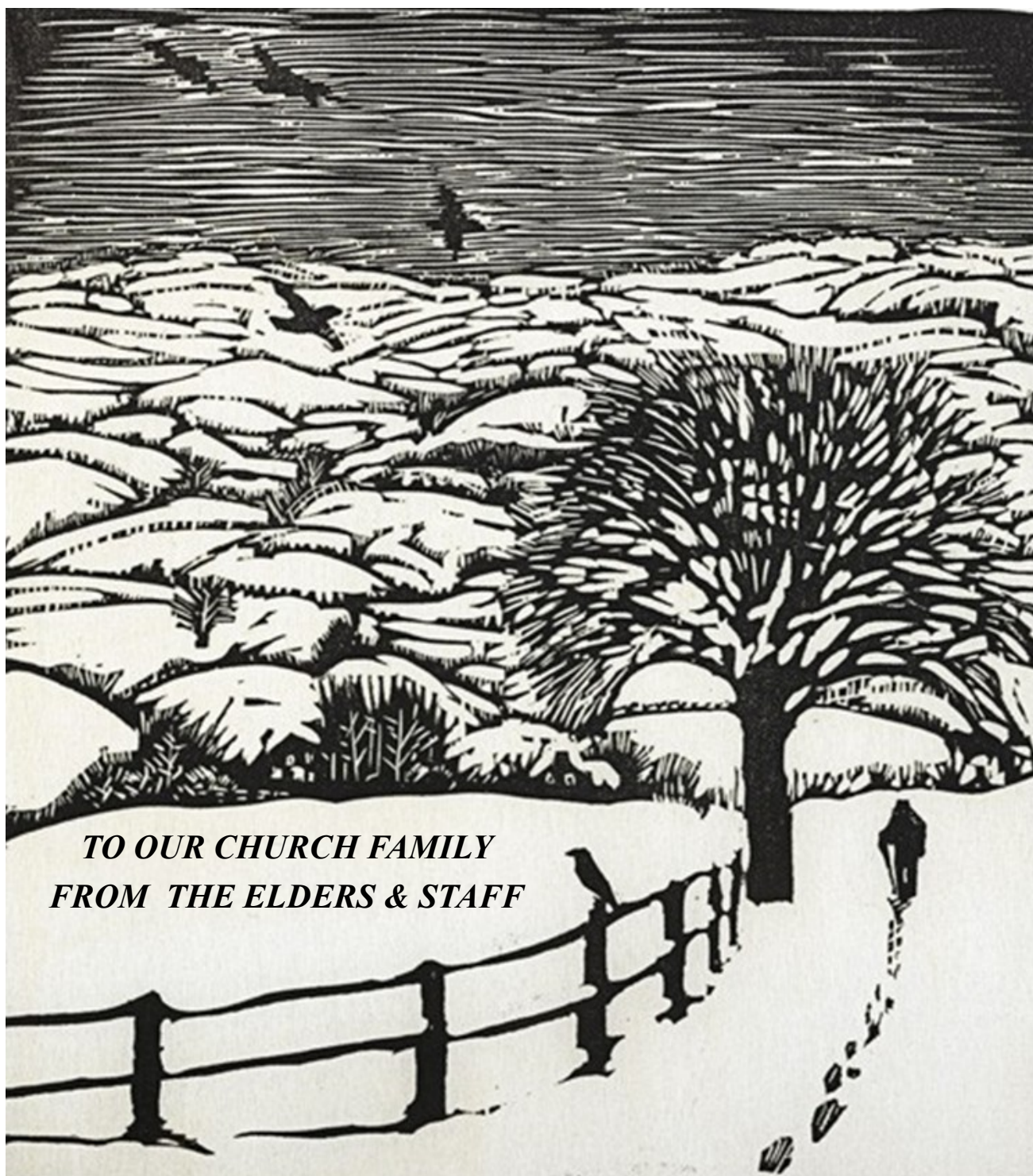
THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

December 16, 2014

Season's Greetings



*TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY
FROM THE ELDERS & STAFF*

Ten Guidelines for Giving

1. **Value Yourself**– Everyone has something worthwhile to give, and you are no exception (I Cor. 16:21). Accentuate your unique skill and talents.
2. **Do not barter**– Nothing is more repugnant than a “gift” with strings attached. Always give expecting nothing in return.
3. **Start Early**– Get started the moment your feet hit the floor. Do not procrastinate or the day and its opportunities will slip by you (Jn. 9:4).
4. **Begin at home**– Do not treat strangers better than your own family. Make home your encouragement laboratory and experiment freely (Lk. 15:11-32).
5. **Act quickly**– When a warmhearted impulse hits you, act on it right then (Acts 24:25). Otherwise it will dissipate and a wondrous moment will be lost forever.
6. **Be alert**– (Jn. 9:39) Opportunities to encourage are nearly always present to the discerning eye. See with your heart and they will materialize around you.
7. **Enjoy giving**– Encouraging is one of life’s greatest but most underappreciated pleasures. Savor the moment as God’s gift to you (Phil. 4:4).
8. **Redeem time**– Too many precious minutes are wasted that could be put to good use (Eph. 5:15,16). Take advantage of waiting rooms and long lines.
9. **Respect everyone**– Above everything else on earth, prize people, and treat the very least with the same dignity you would afford Jesus (Matt. 25:45).
10. **Do not wait**– Nothing ever gets done tomorrow (Pro. 27:1). Replace good intentions with good actions and you will be going places! Get started now!



A GREAT GIFT — MAKE A VISIT

The days of sitting, rocking, and talking on the front porch with a neighbor, friend, or even total stranger may be gone. However the need for visiting folks is just as important as it ever was.

"Well, we don't have a visitation program in our church," someone says. Who says you need a program to do what should really just be part of your Christianity. "Easy for you to say, preacher. You're paid to visit."



If I know my heart, I would be engaged in regular visitation even if I wasn't a preacher--in part because of my upbringing. I can't remember a time that my family and I didn't make regular visits to homes, hospitals, nursing homes, door knocking to set up Bible studies, and so on.

It started with my childhood, and I've carried it through to the present, a heart for ministry--visiting. There has rarely been a month (for the last many years, a week) go by where visitation and personal Bible studies have not been part and parcel to my life. I reckon that if I could have it both ways, I'd spend 100% percent of my work day studying, and the other 100% of it visiting and conducting Bible studies. :-) Most preachers would I suppose. Now one of my great joys is instilling this discipline in the hearts of my children.

There is a wonderful illustration of the need for visiting in Luke 10:25-37. It tells of a man who was overtaken by thieves. His clothes were stolen, his body beaten, and he was left for dead in the street. The first two who came upon the tattered and tired man were religious individuals--a priest and a Levite. The priest didn't stop. He never made eye contact. He may have even crossed the street to walk on the other side. The Levite, who also should have known better, stopped and stared, but then behaved like the priest and walked on the other side.

It wasn't until a Samaritan saw him and had compassion on him that the abused was "visited"--looked upon, inspected, and then taken care of. Notice the order of this "visit." The Samaritan (1) approached the man, (2) served the man, (3) cared for the man, and (4) cared for the man some more. While that's fascinating, what comes next should really stir us. Jesus says, "...Go, and do thou likewise" (v. 36).

Jesus wants us to visit. I can think of no greater gift you can give yourself, your family, a friend or neighbor this year than to share your love by making a visit. Think about it.

~ Neil Richey

For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

PRAYER LIST



Anne Elise Simpson, granddaughter of *Mike* and *Sheila King* had emergency appendectomy surgery Sunday night. She is at home in Ripley recovering.

Grace Lyon, is in Union Health Care Center room 209A, undergoing rehab. She is improving.

Whit Robertson, grandson of *Troy* and *Novene Robertson* received a good report from his tests this past week. He is scheduled to begin radiation Dec. 29th at Vanderbilt Hospital.

Dixie Prichard, co-worker of *Alyce Jennings* is recovering from hip surgery following a recent auto accident. She will be in the hospital and rehab for over a month.



We express our sympathy to *Madison Griggs* in the death of her great-grandmother **Maggie Wetherford** of Jackson, TN. Funeral services were held this past week in Jackson.

Continue to remember:

Harold Reeves, B. A. Stubblefield, Carl Smith, Gloria Jones, Deborah Gullick, Kay Kafar, Kyle Crotts, Sheila Thomas, Yolanda Stubblefield, Barbara Davis, Mary Butler, Nancy Petrowski, Justin Forsyth, Judy Ward, Bobbie Nunnally, J. J. Harris, Glen Jumper, Eulene Hooper, Kelly Fryar, Donna & Roy Crow, Hugh Collins, Jack Dunlap, Prebble Foster, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Claudia Senter

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Betty Lang, (Rehab) Charlene Coker, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Jennie Frohn

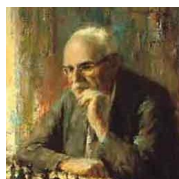
Military List:

Barry Wilhite, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud



I've Learned...

Those who walk with God reach their destination.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



December 20..... Brooke Mann
December 20..... Callie Smithey
December 21..... Janet Drummond
December 22..... Sue Marques
December 26..... Chris Smithey
December 28..... Jenna Carpenter
December 29..... Dean Dillard
December 29..... Mable Erwin
December 30..... Terry Stubblefield

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

December 26..... Troy & Novene Robertson
December 30..... Gary & Linda Turner



3RD SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP



Sunday night, December 21st, we will have our annual Christmas Fellowship following our evening service. Please make plans to attend. Our young people will be singing Christmas carols for us before our meal. You are asked to bring finger foods, soup (if you would like) and desserts. The adult III class will be in charge of the fellowship building.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Holiday Fellowship will be held Dec. 21st, following our evening services. Please bring finger foods.
- Dec. 24th, Wed. Bible Study will be moved to Tues. night Dec. 23rd.
- 5th Wed. Night Singing will be held Dec. 31st, at the fellowship building, at 7pm. We will have snack foods following the service.
- January 3rd, our youth and anyone else who would like, will be going to Tupelo to Ice Skate. The building has been reserved from 10:00am-12:00pm. Up to 50 can go so there will be room for anyone who would like to skate. For more information see *Dan Cobb*.

No Bulletin Next Week!

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

Email: nacoc15s@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

MINISTER

Mike King 507-0625
Home..... 534-6872
Office 534-4649

ELDERS

Richard Jennings316-1305
Troy Robertson316-3163

DEACONS

Greg Clayton252-9762
Roger Clayton 538-8195
Brad Pounders.....316-7931
Harold Russell..... 507-1180
Randy Wall 316-9255
Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

TO SERVE

Scripture.....Dillon Clayton
A.M. Prayer.....Phil Young
Closing Prayer.....Paul Ormon
P.M. PrayerPhillip Young
ClosingHarold Crowe
Wed.12/16.....Thomas Wall
Wed.12/16.....Anderson Parks
Usher & Lock Greg Clayton
Greeter.....S & L Todd

OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....112
Sunday A.M..... 141
Sunday P. M..... 107
Wednesday.....110
Contribution.....\$4,458.50
Budget.....\$3,989.47



PANTRY ITEM

Canned Fruit

THE INFORMER

December 16, 2014

Volume 48

THE INFORMER (USPS 581-500)
Church of Christ
511 Hwy. 15 South, P.O. Box 148
New Albany, Mississippi 38652

Periodical
Postage Paid
New Albany, MS

(662)534-4649

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
(Form 3579) to: The Informer, P.O. Box
148, New Albany, MS 38652

The Best Prayer I Have Heard In A Long Time:

Heavenly Father, help us remember that the jerk who cut us off in traffic last night is a single mother who worked nine hours that day and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry, and spend a few precious moments with her children.

Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not to just those who are close to us, but to all humanity. Let us be slow to judge and quick to forgive, show patience, empathy, and love.



~ copied