



THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

www.nacoc.us

December 18, 2012

TOGETHER AGAIN

Mike King



You may remember the melody and lyrics of the song “Together Again” which was one of the musical numbers in *The Muppets Take Manhattan*. The characters, giftedly created by the late Jim Henson; Miss Piggy, Fozzie, Gonzo, Scooter, Rowlf and Camilla sang it with Kermit the Frog with the musical accompaniment of Dr. Teeth and the Electric Mayhem. It appeared at the beginning of the movie, during the carriage ride through Central Park and once again during the credits of the movie. Kermit’s tapping of the notes on a glass at a diner brought the separated Muppets back “together again.”

We are reminded, during the holiday season, just how important the togetherness of the church family really is. So much of what we are and do involves togetherness. We are exhorted in the Scriptures to do many things “*together*.” We are to be “*together in the likeness of His death*” (Rom. 6:5), we are “*quickened together*,” “*raised together*,” and then made to “*sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus*” (Eph. 2:5-6). When Jesus returns, we shall “*be also glorified together*” (Rom. 8:17).

Since Christians begin and end up together in their Christian sojourn, it seems only plausible that we also walk together, at least in spiritual oneness and agreement. We know that this is true of Christian husbands and wives who have been “*joined together*” by God and not to be “*put asunder*” (Matt. 19:6) for they are “*heirs of the grace of life together*” (1 Pet. 3:7).

This same unity should characterize the whole Christian family with our hearts “*knit together in love*” (Col. 2:2). We should “*stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel*” (Phil. 1:27). Then as “*workers together with Him*” (2 Cor. 6:1), “*we should also be helping together by prayer*” (2 Cor. 1:11).

The Scriptures give us quite a selection of opportunities for togetherness: abiding, loving, accepting, forgiving, praying, carrying, confessing, suffering, comforting, encouraging, restoring, rejoicing, building, giving, working, devoting, honoring, instructing, serving, bearing, submitting and admonishing one another. We are blessed!

Full of Joy

By: Jeff Johnson

The world can be depressing at times, but God wants His people to be happy. Over 20,000 Americans commit suicide each year. To some, life is simply not worth living. Often as we watch the daily news, the only thing we see is bad news. None of us want to hear or see bad news; we want to see and hear the things that make us happy. A former president of Harvard University said: "The world is looking for a creed to believe, and a song to sing."

Joy is the emotion excited by the acquisition or expectation of good; it is gladness or delight. Christians in the early church rejoiced.

When we read Acts 2:46, we notice that the saints had glad hearts. They had daily teaching programs (5:42); they had consistent lives (2:42); but, most of all, they loved coming together for they had glad hearts.

Numerous examples fill the New Testament. Phillip, when preaching Christ in Samaria, caused great joy in the city (Acts 8:5-8). The eunuch went on his way rejoicing after his conversion into Christ (Acts 8:39). The disciples were filled with joy in Antioch (Acts 13:52), and the jailor rejoiced (Acts 16:34). The brethren had their trials, temptations, burdens, persecutions, and pressures of life but still found time to rejoice. They did not have wonder drugs and hospitals. They did not have the modern conveniences, but they did have the one thing that kept them going: God. God's people are urged to rejoice. Further examples are the saints at Philippi, who were told to rejoice (Phil. 4:4). The church was born in the midst of persecution. If they were in the Lord, they were fit for heaven (Col. 1:12). If they were in the Lord, they were redeemed from sin (Col. 1:14). They were then delivered from Satan's power (Col. 1:13), and they were chosen in Christ (Eph. 1:4), for they now had an inheritance in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-5).

The Thessalonian Christians were instructed to rejoice evermore (1 Thess. 5:16). The church in Thessalonica was born in the midst of persecution, but they could rejoice in spite of their problems, trials, and persecutions. Similarly, God's people at Rome could also rejoice in hope while they were patient in tribulation.

One thing to remember is that the angel brought "good tidings of great joy" when he told the shepherds that Jesus was born. During the last twenty-four hours of His life on earth, Jesus spoke often of joy and peace. Anyone who doubts that God wanted His creation to be happy should read the Genesis account of Eden before sin came. God did not mean for us to be miserable even though the bad news we see depicts the world at its worst. God simply wants His children to be happy. *"Happy is that people, that is in such a case: yea, happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."* (Ps. 144:15).
Via ~ Bulletin Gold

A Prayer For Every Day

Every day I need you Lord, but this day especially,
I need some extra strength to face whatever is to be.

This day more than any day I need to feel you near,
To fortify my courage and to overcome my fear.

By myself, I cannot meet the challenge of the hour,
There are times when humans help, but we need a
higher power.

To help us bear what must be borne, and so dear Lord,
I pray -
Hold on to my trembling hand and be near me today.

- Author Unknown

INFORMER MAILING UPDATE

If you would like to keep receiving the Informer by mail please clip your address from the front of the bulletin and mail it to us at: P.O. 148 New Albany, MS 38652. You may also contact us at 662-534-4649 or by email at: nacoc15s@gmail.com. Please let the office know by **Dec. 31st**.

HELP NEEDED!

Sarah Walker will be moving into her new home Sat. Dec.29th, and needs help moving. If you can help *Sarah* please be at her home on Glendale Road at 9:00am. Her new address is: 1001 CR 361 in the North Haven community. Thanks in advance for your help.





PRAYER LIST

Eden Thompson, newborn daughter of *Justin and Jenny Thompson* of the Ripley congregation is in the Tupelo hospital with lung problems.

Eleta Grimmett is doing much better, but still unable to be out and about.

Anna Claire Ellis, the infant from Greenville, MS who had a tumor removed from her liver received a good report from her doctors at Le Bonheur. Her family sent a note thanking everyone for their prayers.

Continual Prayer

Taterrian Wilson, Louise Vickers, Josh White, Jeff Denton, Melissa Reed, David Thornton, Whitney House, Suzette Renix, Grace Anderson, Diane Sloan, Randall Haney, Rosie Wilson, Rex Lyon, Tauso Branch, Perrin Drummond, Mary Alice Holloway, Prebble Foster, Jack Dunlap, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Al Pless, Hugh Collins, Shane Crofts, Terry & Betty Young

Shut-Ins

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Teresa Clark

Nursing Home/Assisted Living: Belle Cross, Mattie Golden, Altha Rogers, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris

Military List:

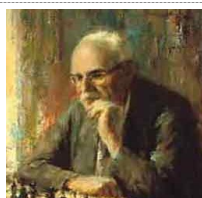
David & Barry Wilhite, Jimmie Stutts, Tiffany Erwin, Aaron Raines, Michelle Hamm, Raegan Cole, Derek Bradley, Jesse Stroud & Christopher Phagan



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

“I BELIEVE”

**...that JOY comes when:
J-esus O-ccupies Y-ou**



NO BULLETIN NEXT WEEK



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



- December 21.....Janet Drummond
- December 22..... Sue Marques
- December 23..... Tony Cross
- December 25..... Wadie Lepard
- December 26..... Chris Smithey
- December 28..... Jenna Carpenter
- December 29..... Dean Dillard
- December 29..... Mable Erwin

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

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



SYMPATHY



We express our deepest sympathy to the family of *Mary Nell Smith* who passed away early Mon. morning, Dec. 17th. Visitation will be from 11:30-1:00pm, Wed. Dec. 19th, with the service beginning at 1:00pm, at United Funeral Home in New Albany. Please remember *Carl* and his family during this difficult time.

REJOICE!

Olivia Pounders was baptized by her dad Sunday morning, Dec. 16th. *Olivia* is the daughter of *Brad* and *April Pounders*. We congratulate *Olivia* on her decision to become a Christian and pray for her as she begins her new life in Christ.

ALL DAY SERVICE

On Sunday, Dec. 30th, we will have an ‘ALL DAY SERVICE’ with a covered dish meal following our morning worship. Our afternoon service will begin at 1:15. The adult III class will be in charge of the fellowship building. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

OPEN HOUSE

You are invited to an Open House at the home of *Mike and Sheila King*, Sunday, Dec. 30th from 4:00-6:00. Their address is: 1008 CR 357 New Albany, located in the Beulah Community.



OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....	116
Sunday A.M.....	130
Sunday P.M.....	100
Wednesday.....	106
Contribution.....	\$ 3,380.91
Budget.....	\$ 3,567.55

TO SERVE

Scripture.....	J. L. Eaton
A.M. Prayer.....	Dalton Beard
Closing Prayer.....	Terry Young
P.M. Prayer.....	Roger Clayton
Closing.....	Shane Crotts
Wed 12/26.....	Harold Crowe
Wed. 12/26.....	Daniel Drummond
Usher & Lock.....	
Greeter.....	H & D Crowe



PANTRY ITEM

Pudding Mix

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

ELDERS

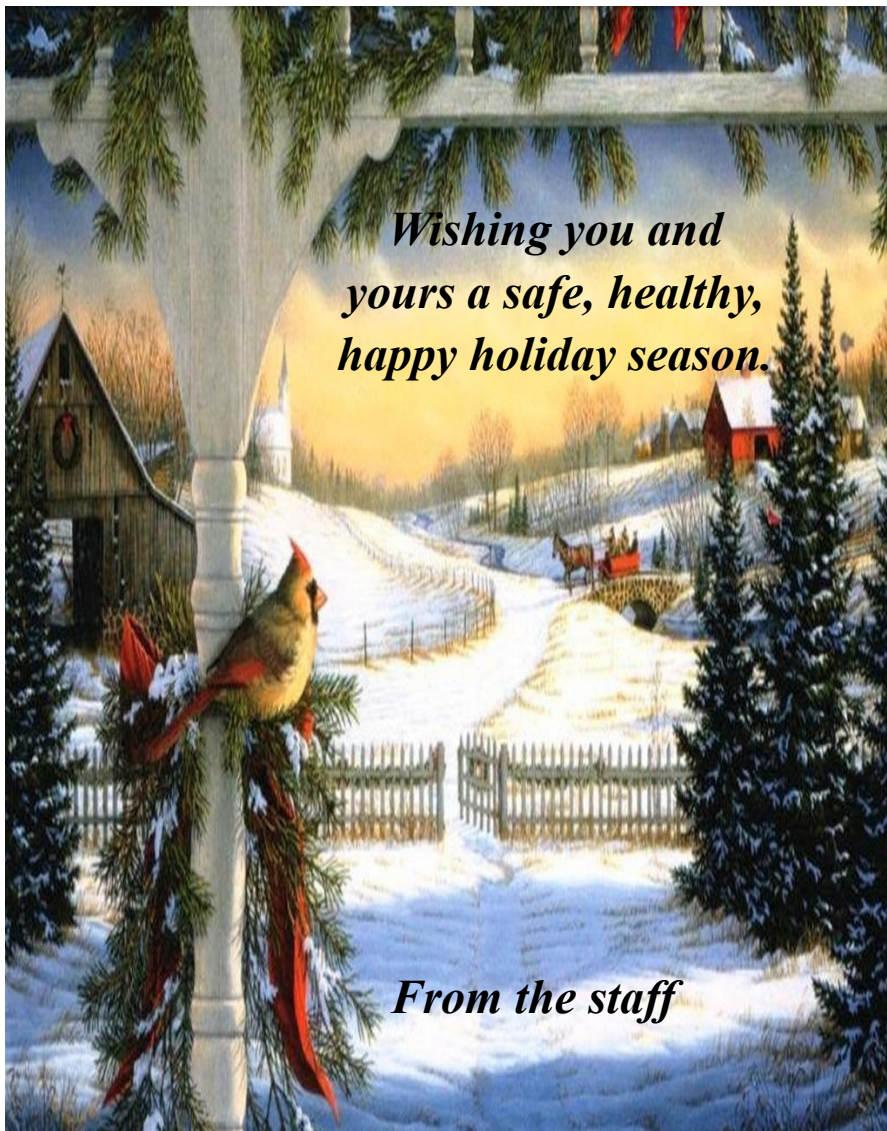
Richard Jennings	534-6671
Troy Robertson	534-3491

DEACONS

Greg Clayton.....	252-9762
Roger Clayton.....	538-8195
Harold Russell	534-4648
Randy Wall	316-9255
Lonnie Weaver.....	801-8448

MINISTER

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



*Wishing you and
yours a safe, healthy,
happy holiday season.*

From the staff



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