



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

[www.nacoc.us](http://www.nacoc.us)

February 28, 2017

## The Religion of the Childlike

Mike King



Someone humorously commented after reading Matt. 18:1-6 that there would be no old people in heaven. The Lord was saying that He needed those in the kingdom who have the disposition of children.

The disciples sort of necessitated the onset of this discussion by quarreling about who was the greatest in the kingdom. Salome, mother of James and John, asked for prominent positions for her sons after hearing the Lord speak concerning the kingdom. Some people are born great like Simon Peter, some achieve it through length of service like Andrew, greatness is thrust on others because of position like Judas, and greatness comes to some through influence which is what Salome wanted for her two sons (Mt. 20:20-23). This concept was common, so Jesus told His disciples, “*You need to be converted*” (Mt. 18:3).

Greatness in the kingdom is almost a paradox in that greatness in the kingdom consists not in trying to be great at all. “Heaven’s gates are not so highly arched but one must go through on bended knees.” Entrance will not be made as a scientist, military genius, etc., but as little children.

Childishness must be put away and childlikeness must be adopted to be acceptable by the Lord (1 Cor. 13:11). Only in some respects are we to strive to regain and retain childish characteristics. “*Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect*” (Matt. 5:48) does not mean sinless, but complete, full-grown, or mature. We are to be mature spiritually, but possess the attitudinal attributes of children. Childish traits that are to be avoided are: self-centeredness (desire for attention), easily discouraged, lack of patience, easily influenced, without mature understanding (Eph. 4:14), or having a domineering spirit.

We need to become like children in that we are teachable so as to endure and grow. A child lives in a world filled with mysteries and questions. Children are trusting due to their faith in parents’ ability to provide, work out difficulties, and lead. They learn to persevere in following requests of their parents. They are impartial in love and oblivious to social position or racial barriers. He loves without pretense. They do not carry malice or stored up hate. Their lives are characterized by purity of truth. They do not make false estimate of character, or parade piety. Children are pure in their love. Someone said, “To take care of self maybe is the first law of nature, but to deny self is the first law of grace.” Spiritually speaking, to be like a child is the manly thing to do!

## THOSE TO SERVE THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

**Announcements:** Troy Robertson  
**Sound Room:** Shane Crotts  
**Usher:** Chris Smithey

**Lead Singing:** Sun. A.M.: Greg Harrison  
 Sun. P.M.: Dalton Beard  
 Wed.: Dillon, Thomas, Tyler  
 David

### Sunday Prayers:

March 05:  
 A.M. Phil Young  
 Dillon Clayton  
 P.M. Dan Cobb  
 Jerry Grimmitt

March 12:  
 A.M. Greg Clayton  
 Andy Clemmer  
 P.M. Greg Harrison  
 Matt Jennings

March 19:  
 A.M. Tim Dye  
 Hunter Jennings  
 P.M. Richard Jennings  
 Troy Robertson

March 26:  
 A.M. Jim Gann  
 Mark Jennings  
 P.M. Paul Ormon  
 Ruston Adams

### Lord's Supper:

|                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| North Head: Roger Clayton        | South Head: Phillip Young       |
| North Helper I: Perry Jones      | South Helper I: Will Bowlin     |
| North Helper II: Brian Carpenter | South Helper II: Jason Jennings |

### Scripture Reading:

March 05 — Olen Clark  
 March 12 — Michael Crotts  
 March 19 — Caleb Jennings  
 March 26 — Dean Dillard

### Wednesday Prayers:

March 01 — Richard Adams; Ronnie Griggs  
 March 08 — David Clayton; Bill Lyon  
 March 15 — Harold Crowe; Bobby Marques  
 March 22 — Alvin Parks; Harold Russell  
 March 29 — T. Stubblefield; Kevin Simmons

### Prepare Communion:

Kaye Parks

### Usher & Lock:

March 05 — Roger Clayton  
 March 12 — Randy Wall  
 March 19 — Lonnie Weaver  
 March 26 — Greg Clayton

### Host Youth Devo:

Jim & Emily Gann

**\* If you are unable to carry out your assignment please let Randy Wall know before service time.**



## Dangerous Assumption

A beautiful white rabbit, used in Willie's nature class, was to be given away to one of the children in a drawing. To take part in the drawing each child had to bring a note from his or her parents saying they could keep the animal if they won it. Willie's mother was terrified by the thought of a rabbit as a pet. She emphatically said, "NO!", much to the disappointment of Willie. Willie's father, seeing the deep hurt on Willie's face, intervened.

"I don't think it would be such a difference around here if we had one little rabbit." He then turned to Willie's mother, winked, and said, "Besides, what are the chances of Willie winning the rabbit with twenty-eight other students in the class?" And so they gave Willie the permission note the next morning. That afternoon Willie rushed through the front door and excitedly announced that he was the big winner. The rabbit was his! "You mean that out of all twenty-eight students in your class you won the rabbit?" his mother asked trembling. "Well, not exactly," said Willie, I was the only one with a note!"

Assumption can often be disastrous, leading to much worse than that above. Think of our assumption that leaves so much of the Lord's work undone. A friend or neighbor well known to us is ignored rather than taught the Word. We assumed someone else would do it. A brother or sister in Christ who is well known by us becomes negligent. We say or do nothing in their behalf, assuming someone else will encourage or admonish them, and they fall away. Visitors are observed at our worship services, but we make no effort to welcome them and invite them back. They never return and we wonder why. Could it be because we assumed that someone else would make them feel welcome. Contributions fall short, Bible class attendance drops, teaching positions go unfilled, facilities are uncared for, -etc., all because of our assumptions, dangerous assumptions, that someone else will meet the need.

Let us never be guilty of assuming that others will fill the place we ourselves fail to fill. No one can do the work God has marked for YOU!!

~ Tim Woodward

PRAYER LIST



Julia Parks, mother of Alvin Parks is scheduled to have a defibulator installed Thursday, at the Tupelo Hospital.

Jessica Garrett had kidney stone surgery this past Thursday at the local hospital. Her surgery went well and she is at home recovering.

Faye Montgomery, sister of Dixie White is not doing well and has been placed under Hospice Care.

Ronnie & Linda Griggs are both dealing with health problems at this time. Ronnie has an infection and Linda is recovering from surgery.

J.L. Eaton had a spinal nerve block this past week in Memphis. He is doing well and in no pain.

Betty Young is slowly improving from a lung infection. She is still very weak.

Carl Smith is improving from his leg problems and hopes to be released from his doctor this week.

Sympathy:

We express our sympathy to the family and friends of Alec Thomas of Myrtle. She was a senior at Myrtle High School who was killed in an auto accident over the weekend. She was a classmate of Audrey Anna Young.

We express our sympathy to Jean Drummond and family in the death of her nephew Terry Montgomery. Funeral services were held Feb. 27th, at United Funeral Home in New Albany.

Continue to Remember:

Bob Clement, Wade Chism, Todd Coleman, Liz Collins, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Preeble Foster, Ray Franks, Jacqueline Golden, Pam Hall, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Laura Hollowell, Shane Hutton, Judy Kirk, Taylor Kirk, Dean Long, Cliff Sanders, Kayla Thomas, Sheila Thomas, Judy Ward, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

Shut-Ins:

Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Grace Anderson, Genice Collett, Wanda DeLoach, Jean Drummond, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Cornelia Kennedy, Betty Lang, Mary Frances Reid, Price & Claudia Senter, Ione Wall

Military List:

Derek Bradley, Tevin Bradley & Chase Seals



I've Learned...

An ounce of keeping your mouth shut is worth a pound of explanations.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



March 05. .... Price Senter

March 06. .... Bill Lyon

March 10. .... Richard Jennings



LADS TO LEADERS

Practice for the Lads to Leaders convention is in full swing. All participating will meet each Sunday evening for practice at 5:00 unless otherwise announced. This year's competition will be held Easter weekend, April 14-16th, in Memphis, TN.

FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY

All of you made our "Friends & Family Day" a great success! We had a lot of visitors who came to be with us, for which we are very grateful. Thanks to all who helped prepare the wonderful meal (so much food), and to all who helped with set-up and clean-up of the fellowship building. We enjoyed two good lessons from Mike King and enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship. Thanks again for inviting and bringing your family and friends.

TIME CHANGE MARCH 12TH

It is almost time to set your clocks ahead one hour. Sunday, March 12th, Daylight Saving Time begins. Be sure to move your clocks ahead one hour Sat. night, March 11th.



YOUTH NEWS

- March 12th, Area Wide Youth Meeting at the Fulton Church of Christ.
School, Spring Break week; March 12-18th.
Senior Bible Bowl here at New Albany, March 19th, at 2:00pm.
Youth Devo March 26th, hosted by Jim & Emily Gann.



OUR DREAM:

To become better friends with God in 2017!

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 Jennings .....316-1305  
Troy Robertson .....316-3163

**DEACONS**

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

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Olen Clark  
A.M. Prayer.....Phil Young  
Closing Prayer...Dillon Clayton  
P.M. Prayer.....Dan Cobb  
Closing .....Jerry Grimmett  
Wed.3/8.....David Clayton  
Wed.3/8.....Bill Lyon  
Usher & Lock.....Roger Clayton

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....107  
Sunday A.M.....184  
Sunday P. M.....95  
Wednesday.....98  
Contribution.....\$3,937.00  
Budget.....\$4,385.16



**PANTRY ITEMS**

Canned Chicken

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**A Pit**

*“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets” (Matt. 7:12).*



A man fell into a pit and couldn't get out.  
A Realist said: "You have fallen into a pit."  
An Objective person said: "It's only logical that someone would fall into that pit."  
A Subjective person said: "I sympathize with you down there."  
An Evasive person said: "Let's avoid the subject of his pit altogether."  
A Self-pitying person said: "You haven't seen anything until you've seen my pit."  
A Christian scientist said: "You only think you are in a pit."  
A Pharisee said: "Only bad people fall into a pit."  
Confucius said: "If you would have listened to me, you would not be in that pit."  
Buddha said: Your pit is only a state of mind."  
An Evolutionist said: "Your are a rejected mutant destined to be removed from the evolutionary cycle."  
An Optimist said: "Things could be worse."  
A Pessimist said: "Things will get worse."  
A Christian, seeing the man, took him by the hand and lifted him out of the pit.

~ Author Unknown ~