



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

February 5, 2013

## HEALING IN HIS WINGS

MIKE KING



Most readers have experienced some kind of physical anguish necessitating surgery and the fear and trauma of anticipating it. There is a seriousness that overwhelms an individual when contemplating such an undertaking. The pains now being experienced are pains of healing and they, though distasteful, are a source of hope quite unlike the excruciating ones that were being experienced prior to surgery. The nights were lonely, the pain was intense and no one seemed to feel the anguish quite like the victim. Just maybe with the arrival of morning something will have changed and the anguish will subside. If only the touch of a physician could be felt, security could be realized, fears would subside, and mending could be enjoyed.

The anticipated time arrived and all the longed for amenities were available. Now, at last, the joy of deliverance from anguish enjoyed and thanksgiving abounds!

As difficult as it is to realize, there is anguish worse than a physical malady encroaching upon a delicate nerve...that of being in sin and without hope! The children of Israel served as examples of pain in the presence of sin. *“Have you utterly rejected Judah? Has your soul loathed Zion? Why have you stricken us so that there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, but there was no good; and for the time of healing, and there was trouble. We acknowledge, O Lord, our wickedness and the iniquity of our fathers. For we have sinned against you”* (Jer. 14:19-20). The attitude of God was, *“For I will restore health to you and heal you of your wounds, says the Lord”* (Jer. 30:17) and *“Behold, I will bring it health and healing. I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth”* (Jer. 33:6).

We must understand the seriousness of our condition, realize the qualified source of deliverance, and seek help. It may be the emergency room, a physician, an X-ray or MRI, whatever is necessary to get to the bottom of the anguish being felt. It was imperative that the people of God understand the sin-sick condition in which they were before healing could be enjoyed.

The struggling Christian fraught by sin can only find release by seeking the “Great Physician” who possesses proper credentials for making wellness. Hear the words of Malachi, *“But to you who fear my name the Son of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings”* (Mal. 4:2). He will come to our aid as He graciously did to Israel in the long ago. The song written by *William Hunter* (1859) and put to music by *John H. Stockton* (1869) expresses it very well, *“The Great Physician now is here, the sympathizing Jesus, O hear the voice of Jesus!”*

## Are You a Bread Squeezer?



Samuel Feldman is the world's most famous bread vandal.

He did \$8,000 worth of damage to bread and cookies throughout the Yardley, Pennsylvania, area. He was going around "squeezing, smashing, and poking" bags of bread and packages of cookies. Finally, one store, suspecting Feldman, put him under surveillance and caught him in the act three times. He is charged with one count of criminal mischief. Three years of aggravation and loss were caused by an idle person with a mean streak.

There can be a bread squeezer in any group. The church even sometimes harbors a few bread squeezers. These are the sore tails and nitpickers, the storm clouds who live to rain on others' parades; those who seem to enjoy causing friction and irritating others; those who hold petty grudges, and general pot-stirrers. They are the busybodies (2 Thess. 3:11; I Tim. 5:13). Solomon describes one as a worthless and wicked person who "soweth discord" (Proverbs 6:14,19). Paul laments lovers of controversy because they provoke "envy, strife, railings, evil surmising, perverse disputing of men of corrupt minds" (I Tim. 6:4-5).

Bread squeezers flatten a congregation's morale, squeeze the worst side out of others, and pick and poke at everyone from the church's leaders to any other Christian whose name comes into their cross-hairs. They taint the productivity, good will, good deeds, attitude, and joy of a congregation. They brighten entire rooms just by making an exit.

Are you a bread squeezer? How well do you speak of other Christians? Are you moody? Do you lash out at others when you feel you have been wronged? Do you give the cold shoulder? Do you not speak to others, only to complain that others are unfriendly? Do you wear your feelings on your sleeve? Are you the type that prefers the role of critic, since there are plenty of others to be the "cheerleader"? Then you are a bread squeezer!

A bread squeezer is as needed in a congregation as Feldman was needed in Yardley! He was entirely destructive and he caused others to pay for his bad habit. Barnabas wasn't a bread squeezer (Acts 4:36). Neither were Judas and Silas (Acts 15:32). Certainly, Jesus wasn't! The church is always in need of more encouraging, uplifting, positive, happy, and contented members. Don't squeeze the Bread!

~ Neal Pollard, Denver, Colorado, Glad Tidings of Good Things 4/29/12

## What Manner of Person Ought Ye to Be?

Peter concludes his second epistle by assuring us that God will keep His promises, that He is patient with us, that He wants all to be saved, and that this earth will be burned up (II Peter 3:9-10).

Then he asks a piercing question based on these facts. "*Seeing then that all these things are thus to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness*"... (II Peter 3:11)?

When we consider the swelling tide of immorality, crime and sin in the world, the disregard and disrespect for the Bible on the part of many, the disregard for right living, the obvious indifference, unconcern and negligence even in our own nation, this question takes on a new dimension of magnitude and importance.

We should be a people who do not live selfish lives. While it is true that we must be concerned about our own personal salvation (Acts 2:40; Phil. 2:12), we must not become preoccupied with selfish concerns.

We should live as though God knows our every move. We cannot escape His all seeing eye (Psalm 139). Nothing we do is hidden from the eyes of God. (Hebrews 4:13).

We should love as though this were our last day on earth. It might be (Lk. 12:20)! Death is an appointment all must keep (Heb. 9:27).

The piercing question: "What manner of persons ought ye to be..." should be a source of motivation for us to continually live in a manner in which God is well pleased.

~ Kelby Smith





**PRAYER LIST**

**Barry Yancey**, friend of the *Pounders*, cancer has returned.

**Carol Anson**, sister of *Terry Young*, is undergoing tests for blood pressure problems.

**Robert & Jennie Frohn**, brother and sister-in-law of *Bill & Nancy Frohn* continue to need prayers for the many health problems they are facing.

**Randy Dunnam**, has been diagnosed with multiple myeloma. He will most likely be facing a bone marrow transplant in the future. He also fell this past week and broke his arm. He and his family are in need of our prayers.

**Will Neely** is in the Memphis Med following a car accident in which he suffered a broken neck and jaw. He was scheduled to have surgery Tuesday.

**Continual Prayer :**

**Joe & Pat Reed, Darrell Crow, Boyce Reed, Ben Paist, Bill Lyon, Jack Dunlap, Anna Claire Ellis, Melissa Reed, David Thornton, Whitney House, Suzette Renix, Diane Sloan, Randall Haney, Rosie Wilson, Rex Lyon, Tauso Branch, Prebble Foster, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Al Pless, Shane Crotts, Terry & Betty Young**

**Shut-Ins:**

**Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Teresa Clark**

**Nursing Home/Assisted Living:**

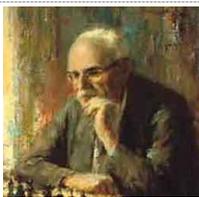
**Belle Cross, Mattie Golden, Amy Vest, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb**

**Military List:**

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

**“I BELIEVE”**

**A careless word may kindle strife  
A cruel word may wreck a life  
A timely word may level stress  
A loving word may heal and bless.**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**



February 09..... Marie Beard  
February 15..... Greg Clayton  
February 17..... April Pounders

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

February 12..... Mike & Sheila King  
February 14..... Andy & Sharon Clemmer



**FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY**



Our Friends and Family Day is scheduled for Sunday, February 24th. Please begin inviting your family and friends to come and worship with us that day. There will be a covered dish meal following our morning services. The adult II class will be in charge of set-up and clean-up of the fellowship building. Our evening service will be at 1:15. Our goal is 250. We can meet and even surpass that goal if we all work together!

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR LADIES**

\*Ladies Thursday night Bible Study has started back. They will be studying the Fruits of the Spirit. *Jessica Garrett* will be teaching this class. They will meet this Thursday night at 7:00, at the home of *Sarah Walker*. All ladies are invited to take part.

\* A ladies group ‘M & M’ (Mary and Martha ) will be meeting the last Thurs. of each month at 9:00am in the annex building. This group will enjoy a light breakfast together, have a short devotional and spend time working on various projects. All ladies are invited to take part. Our next meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 28th.



- Sunday Feb. 10th: Lads to Leaders Boys Song Leading practice and Girls Speech practice begins at 4:00pm. Girls Songs of Praise and Boys Speech practice begins at 5:00pm.
- Area Wide Youth Meeting will be held at the Church St. Pontotoc congregation, Feb. 10th. The van will leave at 5:55.

**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 .....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

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Mark Jennings  
A.M. Prayer.....J.L. Eaton  
Closing Prayer.Daniel Drummond  
P.M. Prayer.....Bill Frohn  
Closing.....Ronnie Griggs  
Wed 2/13.....Ray Kennedy  
Wed.2/13.....Bill Lyon  
Usher & Lock.....Harold Russell

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....120  
Sunday A.M.....155  
Sunday P.M .....122  
Wednesday.....83  
Contribution.....\$ 4,119.41  
Budget.....\$ 3,817.55



**PANTRY ITEM**

Canned Tuna or Chicken

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Volume 6

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Join Us Sunday, February 24th, 2013 for:

**Friends and Family Day**



**Sunday School: 9:30am**  
**Morning Worship: 10:25am**  
**Noon Meal**  
**Afternoon Worship: 1:15pm**

