



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

July 21, 2015

## Obligation of All

Mike King



There is little argument that the gospel must be taught for we know its power (Rom. 1:16) and that the Lord commissioned that it be done (Mt. 28:19-20). The question is who is under obligation to get the job done?

You would expect preachers to be under obligation to teach the gospel. Any capable and faithful individual is under that obligation (2 Tim. 2:2). Stress must be given to knowing the gospel so we can become faithful teachers (Gal. 1:6-9). It can be done by means of the pulpit, personal contact, television, radio or the written page. It has been said, "The power of the pen is out of our sight."

Elders are obligated to teach the gospel. God's word clearly stipulates that they must be able and it is implied, willing to teach the message (1 Tim. 3:2). They are to "*exhort and convict those who contradict*" (Titus 1:9). This would require that they know it well enough to defend the truth in a reasonable and persuasive manner. This will find them "feeding" and "overseeing" the church (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 5:1-4).

The Lord's church is obligated to teach the gospel. Members can do so by supporting various works in the brotherhood that enable the carrying out of the gospel. Congregations can help preach the gospel by supporting those who do preach both locally and abroad. They too can support the biblical teaching programs of the local church, whether visitation or the Bible School program.

Individual Christians are obligated to teach the gospel. All who have obeyed the gospel should seek to learn and grow (1 Pet. 2:1-2). The gospel is to be shared by all and as we learn, we are to teach it to others (Heb. 5:12). This is never easy work, but help can come from being friendly (Heb. 13:2), striving to be a faith builder (Rom. 15:2), live as a faithful servant (Mt. 5:13-16), and having a strong love for the lost. There are as many methods as there are people to declare the message. We can make personal contacts, distribute sound literature, and bring prospects to Bible study and worship services.

We must not fail to fulfill these obligations to God, Christ, church, others, and ourselves. We must teach in order to "birth babies" and increase the size and strength of the Lord's church. One option is that we can sit on our talents and watch the church diminish and the cause of Christ go down the drain in our community. Conscientious and discerning Christians will not and must not allow or contribute to this happening. So let us don our teaching gear and be "*busy about our Father's business!*"

## Brownies With Difference

Two teenagers asked their father if they could go the theater to watch a movie that all their friends had seen. After reading some reviews about the movie on the Internet, he denied their request. "Come on dad, why not?" They complained. Dad replied, "Because that movie contains nudity and portrays immorality as being normal and acceptable behavior."



"But dad, those are just very small parts of the movie! That's what our friends who've seen it have told us. The movie is two hours long and those scenes are just a few minutes of the total film! It's based on a true story and good triumphs over evil."

"My answer is no and that is my final answer. You are welcome to stay home tonight, invite some of your friends over, and watch one of the good videos we have in our home collection. But you will not go and watch that film. End of discussion."

The two teenagers walked dejectedly into the family room and slumped down on the couch. As they sulked, they were surprised to hear the sounds of their father preparing something in the kitchen. They soon recognized the wonderful aroma of brownies baking in the oven, and one of the teenagers said to the other, "Dad must be feeling guilty, and now he's going to try to make it up to us with some fresh brownies. Maybe we can soften him with lots of praise when he brings them out to us and persuade him to let us go to the movie."

Soon their father appeared with a plate of warm brownies, which he offered to his kids. They each took one. Then their father said, "Before you eat, I want to tell you something: I love you both so much."

The teenagers smiled at each other with knowing glances. Dad was softening.

"That is why I've made these brownies with the very best ingredients. I've made them from scratch. Most of the ingredients are even organic. The best organic flour. The best free-range eggs. The best organic sugar. Premium vanilla and chocolate."

"But I want to be perfectly honest with you. There is one ingredient I added that is not usually found in brownies. But you don't need to worry, because I only added the tiniest bit of that ingredient to your brownies. The amount is practically insignificant. So go ahead, take a bite and let me know what you think."

"Dad, would you mind telling us what that mystery ingredient is before we eat?"

"Why? The portion I added was so small. Just a teaspoonful. You won't even taste it. Don't worry! It is organic, just like the other ingredients. That secret ingredient is fresh organic...cow manure."

Both teens instantly dropped their brownies back on the plate and began inspecting their fingers with horror. "DAD! Why did you do that?"

"Why not? The amount of cow manure is very small compared to the rest of the ingredients. It won't hurt you. It's been cooked right along with the other ingredients. You won't even taste it. It has the same consistency as the brownies. Go ahead and eat!"

"No, Dad...NEVER!"

"And that is the same reason I won't allow you to go watch that movie. You won't tolerate a little cow manure in your brownies, so why should you tolerate a little immorality in your movies?"

What a good lesson about purity!

- Author unknown, *Focusing On Truth*, May 2008

## Light Up the Church Building

A little story that illustrates the problem of attendance goes like this:

In a certain mountain village in Europe several centuries ago, a nobleman wondered what legacy he should leave to people in his town. At last he decided to build them a church building.



No one saw the complete plans for the building until it was finished. When the people gathered, they marveled at its beauty and completeness. Then someone asked, "But where are the lamps? How will it be lighted?"

The nobleman pointed to some brackets in the walls. Then he gave to each family a candle which they were to bring with them each time they came to worship.

"Each time you are here the area where you are seated will be lighted," the nobleman said. "Each time you are not here, that area will be dark. This is to remind you that whenever you fail to come to church, some part of God's house will be dark." ~ "For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness" (Psa 18:28)

# For daily devotional & updates call NEWSLINE @ 534-0016

## PRAYER LIST



**Harold Crowe** was admitted to the local hospital Saturday night with stomach problems. He was released Sunday afternoon. His doctor believes they can treat his problem with medication.

**John Todd**, father of *Steve Todd* is not doing well. His kidneys are failing.

**Chrystal Bickerstaff**, daughter of *J. L. Eaton* is in the Tupelo Hospital having heart tests.

**Pam Ledford** former secretary of *Mike King* from Jacksonville, FL, is scheduled for stents, valve replacement and repair at the Heart Clinic in Cleveland, OH, Aug. 3rd.

### Continue to Remember:

Brad Bogue, Timmy Bolden, Larry Cobb, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Jackie Dodd, Deborah Elliott, John Elliott, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Sonny Gay, Natalie Griffin, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Shane Hutton, Judy Kirk, Grace Lyon, Lonnie Parker, Nancy Petrowski, Wayne Reams, Troy Robertson, Whit Robertson, Lisa Russell, Sheila Thomas, Sean Thompson, Judy Ward, Chris Windham, Andy Ulmer, Terry & Betty Young, Tommy Young.

### Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Teresa Clark, Linda Griggs, Billy Joe Garner, Claudia Senter

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Betty Lang, Miriam Styers, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris

### Military List:

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

## BIBLE QUESTION:



What service did Nehemiah perform for King Artaxerxes? \_\_\_\_\_  
(Neh. 1:11)

## I've Learned...

Happiness is not a destination. It is a method of life.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



July 27 ..... Dixie White  
August 03.....Ray Kennedy

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

July 25.....Bobby & Sue Marques



## YOUTH TRIP



Several of our youth and parents will leave Thursday for a white water rafting trip in TN. They will also be visiting Ruby Falls. Please pray for their safety while they are away.

## AREA EVENTS

- Chapman Church of Christ invites you to their Lectureship July 26-29th. Their topic is "The Sin of Unbelief" A list of speakers is listed on the bulletin board. Sunday—Wednesday night at 7:00pm.
- The Hillcrest Church of Christ will have a 'One Day Bible School' Sat. July 25th, from 9:00-2:00. They will "Discover the Courageous Super Heroes of the Bible".
- Gloster St. Church of Christ invites you to "Faith Basics Youth Rally 2015" August 15th from 9:00am-2:00pm.
- A Gospel Meeting is scheduled for July 26th-29th at the Pine Bluff Church of Christ in Tocopola, MS. The guest speaker will be *Will Anderson* of Kosciusko, MS. Worship; Sun. 11:00am and 1:30pm; Mon– Wed at 7:00pm.
- Fraley Chapel Church of Christ in Corinth, MS will have a series of Lectures on Christianity & Islam August 2nd-5th. *Duane Estill* will be the guest lecturer. Mon.-Wed. at 7:00pm.

**Christ Living in Me...  
To Be Seen in 2015!**



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

Email: [nacoc15s@gmail.com](mailto: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  
Brad Pounders.....316-7931  
Harold Russell..... 507-1180  
Randy Wall ..... 316-9255  
Lonnie Weaver.....801-8448

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Dean Dillard  
A.M. Prayer.....Cody Hardin  
Closing Prayer.....Tyler Weaver  
P.M. Prayer .....Steve Todd  
Closing .....Perry Jones  
Wed.7/29.....Ruston Adams  
Wed.7/22.....Jerry Grimmett  
Usher & Lock ...Roger Clayton  
Greeter.....R & K Clayton

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....111  
Sunday A.M.....127  
Sunday P. M.....96  
Wednesday.....102  
Contribution.....\$4,002.53  
Budget.....\$3,984.46



**PANTRY ITEMS**

Pinto Beans

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**Not on Sunday Night**

I love the church that Jesus bought,  
She is the dark world's light;  
I always go on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.  
I love to sing the Gospel songs  
And worship in daylight;  
That's why I come on Sunday morn, .  
But not on Sunday night.  
I love to hear the Gospel borne,  
It gives me such delight,  
It thrills me every Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.  
I hope the faithful few keep on  
Engaging in the fight;  
I'll do my part on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.  
I know that Christ is coming soon,  
And He will find me right,  
If He appears on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.  
Good judgment sent this poem,  
It set my heart aright;  
You'll see me there next Sunday morn,  
And also Sunday night.

~ copied & edited