



# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

August 4, 2015

## Sweet Peace, The Gift of God's Love

Mike King

The *peace of God*,  
which surpasses all  
understanding,  
will guard your hearts  
and your minds in  
Christ Jesus.  
- Philippians 4:7

Our friend, the apostle Paul, encouraged all of his readers to “*walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called*” (Eph. 4:1). He continues to identify a primary trait that would allow this to be possible. He encouraged that it be done “*with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love*” (v. 2). There are many things that often grab our attention and cause us to be distracted or discouraged in doing the Lord’s work that are not important. Paul stresses the importance of the church being at peace, with brethren reacting and relating to each other in love. Love serves as a buffer to eliminate friction that destroys brotherhood.

Think of the satisfaction felt when hearing Jesus say in judgment, “*Well done;*” to know that you have done what He sent you to do.

Due to the fact that there is only one God, body, Spirit, etc., it is incumbent upon the followers of God to be as one as well. Paul instructed that this would require energy and effort on behalf of each and every follower of the Lord. He said we should be “*Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace*” (v. 3). If Christians are the followers of Jesus, and He was the “Prince of Peace,” we must follow after peace.

Peace with others often comes hard because we are not at peace within our own hearts. We are angry with self for failures, inadequacies, jealousies and lack of spirituality. This restlessness and unhappiness is often aimed at the congregation of which we are a part or toward innocent individuals. This becomes a means of venting and reducing those personal hostilities. I read a marquis a few years ago while driving in northeast Texas that said, “No God, no peace; know God, know peace.” A good internal evaluation and coming to grips with what is found will put us well on the road to discovering solutions. When the discovery or creation of the person we want to be is realized, it ironically makes a difference in how others are perceived and responded to by us. Take a look in the mirror of the soul and remember what you saw therein to be used for our betterment (James 1:21-25).

## Essential Church Members

by: Greg Gwin

In every healthy congregation you will find certain people that comprise the essential “heart and soul” of the church. Note . . . -- They are always present at the assemblies. They make it a point to never miss any of the services. If it is necessary to make changes, adjust schedules, suffer inconvenience or simply miss out on other activities, they will do so because they are committed to being present every time the doors are open.

-- These folks actually look for opportunities to serve. If there is work to be done, Bible classes to be taught, weak members to be encouraged, sick folks to be visited, menial chores to be fulfilled, they will step up and get the job done. They are not waiting to be told what to do. Instead they are searching for more and more that can be accomplished.

-- In matters of personal purity and morality, these people are setting a worthy example. They don't look for “loopholes” to justify untoward behavior. Rather they “go the extra mile” to make sure that there is not even an “appearance of evil” (1 Thess. 5:22). In the clothes they wore, the language they use, the places they go, the movies and TV they watch, these brethren are determined to do the right thing.

-- Most surveys indicate that 80% of what is contributed in any church comes from about 20% of the membership. The kind of people we're describing here are among that 20%. They are truly sacrificial in their giving.

-- When conflicts arise in the church, these people can be counted on to help make resolution. They are not the sort to get their feelings hurt easily. Instead, they work hard to address situations that -- unheeded -- could lead to serious division. They stand firmly and without compromise for the truth, they love their brethren, and they care about the church.

More could be said, but the picture is pretty clear. Local churches depend on these members. In fact, without them a congregation will never prosper. Now, the simple question is: Are you one of these ‘essential’ church members? Think!

### From Cody's Desk

*“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.”* (Matt 16:24). This verse depicts a level of dedication to Christ that many don't realize is necessary. So many today want to give the bare minimum to God, then keep the rest for themselves. This verse tells us to deny ourselves of the things we want and to live our lives for Christ. Even if someone realizes the level of dedication that it takes to be a Christian, it can be incredibly difficult to consistently hold that dedication. So many have devoted their lives to Christ over and over again, only to lose that devotion and focus their lives on themselves yet again. It is near impossible for many people to say, “From this day forth I will only serve God and not myself!” It's hard for me to promise something months down the road, much less for the rest of my life. Taking things one day at a time is an idea that you hear quite often in addiction rehab, it is something that we can take to heart in our Christianity as well. It may be difficult to promise everyday for the rest of our life to God, but what we can do is promise today. Luke puts a little different spin on this quote, “take up their cross DAILY.” Don't worry about tomorrow and the trouble that it might bring, take up your cross today, and follow Christ.



### Something Good

Wouldn't this old world be better  
If the folks we meet would say,  
“I know something good about you.”  
And then treat us just that way?

Wouldn't it be fine and dandy  
If each handclasp warm and true  
Carried with it this assurance  
I know something good about you.

Wouldn't life be lots more happy,  
If the good that's in us all  
Were the only thing about us  
That folks bother to recall?


Wouldn't life be lots more happy,  
If we praised the good we see?  
For there's such a lot of goodness  
In the worst of you and me.

Wouldn't it be nice to practice  
That fine way of thinking, too?  
You know something good about me  
I know something good about you.



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

## PRAYER LIST

 **Nancy Petrowski** underwent surgery at Vanderbilt Hospital Monday to amputate her left foot. She broke her foot a while back and it was not healing.

**Perrin Drummond** was admitted to Union Health Care Center on Bratton Road for rehab. He has been falling a lot lately.

**Troy & Novene Robertson**, *Novene* is being scheduled for a stress test and ultrasound in New Albany and *Troy* has a follow-up with his surgeon in Memphis, Mon. August 10th.

**Nicki Weaver** is waiting to begin IGG treatments. She is hopeful these treatments will help her.

**Natalie Griffin**, great-granddaughter of *Janice Griffin* continues to have health problems. Her prognosis is not good.

**Pam Ledford** former secretary of *Mike King* from Jacksonville, FL, underwent heart surgery Aug. 3rd, at the Heart Clinic in Cleveland, OH.

### Continue to Remember:

Chrystal Bickerstaff, Brad Bogue, Timmy Bolden, Larry Cobb, David Crossings, Roy Crow, Harold Crowe, Jackie Dodd, Deborah Elliott, John Elliott, Justin Forsyth, Preeble Foster, Sonny Gay, Natalie Griffin, Donna Haynes, Dianna Hodges, Shane Hutton, Judy Kirk, Lonnie Parker, Wayne Reams, Whit Robertson, Lisa Russell, Sheila Thomas, John Todd, 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:

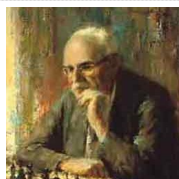
Perrin Drummond, Betty Lang, Miriam Styers, Grace Anderson, Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris

### Military List:

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

## I've Learned...

The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts.



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



August 08..... Kathy Jennings  
August 10..... Sue Stroud  
August 11..... J. D. Stroud  
August 12..... Bailey Adams  
August 13..... Ronnie Griggs  
August 15..... Jessica Garrett

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

August 08..... David & Cindy Ashmore  
August 09..... Jason & Lea Ann McMillen



## THANK YOU NOTE

New Albany Church of Christ

Thanks so much for your prayers, calls, visits, food and cards during my recent illness. We love and appreciate all of you. May God Bless each of you. You all are the best.

Love, Harold and Deloris Crowe

## AREA EVENTS

- Area-Wide Singing Aug 9th, from 2:00-3:00pm at Hwy 15 Church of Christ in Pontotoc.
- Gloster St. Church of Christ invites you to "Faith Basics Youth Rally 2015" August 15th from 9:00am-2:00pm.
- Fulton Bible Institute is offering: "The Book of Galatians" with classes beginning Tues. Aug. 25th. Classes are from 7:00-8:30pm each Tues.

## CHRISTIAN CLIPPINGS

Little Bobby, scolded for being naughty, was asked by his mother, "How do you expect to get into heaven?" He thought for a moment and then replied, "I'll just run in and out and keep slamming the door until they say, 'For goodness sake, come in or stay out', Then I'll go in."



**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.....Phil Young  
A.M. Prayer.....Brad Pounders  
Closing Prayer....Phillip Young  
P.M. Prayer .....Thomas Wall  
Closing .....Andy Clemmer  
Wed.8/12.....Roger Clayton  
Wed.8/12.....Jerry Grimmatt  
Usher & Lock ....Brad Pounders  
Greeter.....R & C Wall

### OUR RECORD

Sunday School.....103  
Sunday A.M.....119  
Sunday P. M.....101  
Wednesday.....NA  
Contribution.....\$4,302.50  
Budget.....\$3,984.46



### PANTRY ITEMS

Pancake mix

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### SUPPOSE



“Suppose,” said I, that you should see  
A small boy tumble from a tree;  
How would you tell that tale to me?”

“Why, dad,” said he, “I’d simply say,  
I saw a fellow hurt today,  
And two men carried him away.”

“How many injured would there be,” I asked?  
“Just one, of course,” said he,  
“The boy who tumbled from the tree.”

“No, no,” I answered him,  
“That fall which hurt the lad brought pain to all,  
Who knew and loved that youngster small.”

“His mother wept, his father sighed,  
His brothers and sisters cried,  
And all his friends were hurt inside.”

“Remember this your whole life through;  
Whatever may cause hurt to you  
Must hurt us all who love you too.”

“You cannot live your life alone;  
We suffer with your slightest groan  
And make your pain and grief our own.”

“If you should do one shameful thing,  
You would not bear alone the sting;  
We’d spend our years in suffering.”

“How many hurt?” We cannot state.  
There never falls a blow of fate  
But countless people feel its weight.”

~ Edgar A. Guest ~

