

# THE INFORMER

Church of Christ ~ New Albany, Mississippi

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

September 3, 2013

## The First Day Of The Week

Mike King



Despite there being other days in the week, the early church recognized “the Lord’s day” as being distinctive (Rev. 1:10). It was on the first day of the week that Christ rose victoriously from the grave and was to be observed regularly by His church.

Christians gather at other times, but it is incumbent that we gather on the first day of the week for worship (Acts 20:7). Meeting on other days for gospel meetings, classes, etc., cannot replace the Lord’s Day. Since this was their common practice, Paul taught the Corinthians that it was a convenient time to contribute towards the needs of the Jerusalem church (I Cor. 16:1-4).

We question why Christ’s resurrection on the first day of the week has stamped so indelibly Sunday as the Christian’s day of worship. Consider the following related events: (1) It was not originally called “Sunday,” but was merely numbered and referred to as the “first day” of the week. It was this day that Jesus rose from the dead becoming the Lord of both the living and the dead (Rom. 14:9). (2) The first day was when Jesus met with His disciples. He appeared to Mary, the disciples and those on the road to Emmaus (Jn. 20:1, 11-23; Lk. 24:1, 13-15). It was on the Lord’s day (Sunday), just a week later, that Jesus appeared to Thomas and the disciples (John 20:26). (3) Since Jesus’ death and resurrection delivered us from the power of sin and death (I Cor. 15:20-23; Rom. 5:10, 17; 8:11), Sunday is the Christian’s day of celebration of deliverance and salvation. (4) According to the calendar of the Sadducees, the events of Pentecost of Acts 2 would have occurred on a Sunday. If Luke was following this calendar, then the church’s birthday, the coming of the Holy Spirit, the first gospel sermon, the conversion of 3000 and the start of Christian worship all took place on a Sunday. This being the case, it should never be a day that we allow to be reduced to “having to attend” event, but consider it an honor and privilege to observe. The Sabbath day is not the same day because the first day followed the Sabbath (Matt. 28:1).

What about Sunday evening? An injunction has been given to the elders to “feed the flock” (Acts 20:28). If they determine it important that we be present to be fed on Sunday evening, it is as vital that we be present as Sunday morning. If we do not, we become insubordinate to God’s designated overseers (Heb. 13:17).

## Is Social Drinking a Sin?

Tim Dooley

It's all right if I have a beer or two in the privacy of my own home, isn't it? It is not a sin to drink alcohol so long as I don't get drunk, right? Paul told Timothy to drink a little wine for his stomach's sake, so it must be okay to drink a little, right? How many times have we all heard statements and questions such as these? How many times have we ourselves asked these things? Well, the answer to all these questions is simple...NO.

### A Stumbling Block

Romans 14:13, *"Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way."* If for no other reason but this one, social drinking is a sin. If you were to come into my home and see beer and wine in my refrigerator, what would you think? In verse 21, Paul then said, *It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak."* If we know that we should be setting a good example and we don't, what is it? *"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin"* (James 4:17).

### "Drunk" and "Excess" of Ephesians 5:18

Ephesians 5:18 states, *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;*" To be "drunk with wine" is derived from the Greek verbiage meaning "To intoxicate" or the process of becoming drunk. When a person takes a drink of alcohol he has become intoxicated. Certainly every one has a different tolerance level and the blood alcohol level will vary. Yet the fact remains that after one drink a person begins to become drunk. Now as for the word "excess" please read 1 Peter 4:4 and apply the same logic many do to our test. 1 Peter 4:4 states, *"Wherein they think it strange that ye run not with them to the same excess of riot, speaking evil of you:"* In light of the logic used by some in Ephesians 5:18 it would certainly be okay to "riot" a little as long as we don't "riot" a lot! 2 Peter 2:13 states that those who "riot" will receive the reward of unrighteousness. Does it matter if it is just a little controlled, social rioting or an excess of such?

### 1 Timothy 5:23

Paul wrote to Timothy, *"Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities."* Many have tried to use this verse in an attempt to justify alcohol as a beverage. It does no such thing; in fact it does quite the opposite. Timothy refrained from drinking wine and strong drink all together, even when sick. This was done no doubt, not only in order to set a good example, but as a matter of Christian purity.

We have made great advancements in recent generations in the medical field. If a doctor tells you today to *"use a little wine for the stomach's sake"* I would suggest a second opinion!

### Don't Be A Fool

Strong words indeed, but Proverbs 20:1 states, *"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."* Proverbs 14:16 tells us, *"A wise man feareth, and departeth from evil: but the fool rageth, and is confident."* Those who are wise will avoid wine and strong drink. To know what happens to the foolish we need only read what Jesus has to say in Matthew 25:1-13.

### Conclusion

Psalms 75:8, *For in the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them."* What shall be of those who partake of that which the Lord himself has discarded?



- The Area Wide Youth Devo will be held Sun. night Sept. 8th at the Verona congregation. The van will leave at 5:50.
- The Senior Bible Bowl will meet Sunday, Sept. 15th, at the Skyline congregation.
- The Junior Bible Bowl will meet Sat., Sept. 28th at the Mayfield congregation.
- A party for the 6th grade and under will be held at the home of Sarah Walker Saturday, Sept. 21st. We will have more details later.

### AREA EVENTS

- Gospel Meeting at the Antioch Church of Christ; Sun. Sept. 8-Wed. Sept. The guest speaker will be *Windell Fikes* of Tupelo. Mon.-Wed at 7:00pm.
- 50 Year Homecoming and Gospel Meeting; Sept. 15-18 at the Sherman Church of Christ. Gary Barnes will be the guest speaker. Mon.-Wed at 7:00pm
- Looxahoma Ladies' Day 2013 (Senatobia, MS) will be Sat. Sept. 14th from 9:00am—12:00 noon. Lunch will be served.



### PRAYER LIST

**Bill DePriest**, is in room 328 of the Oxford Hospital. He was given more blood this past week due to an ulcer.

**Dixie White**, is still very weak and not able to be up and about.

**Tauso Branch** is at home under Home Health Care and will be on IV antibiotics for 10 days.

**Lisa Norris** of Oxford, a former member of this congregation, was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.

**Lashon Mitchell**, a second grade student of Victoria Botts was diagnosed with a brain tumor. He will see a neurologist for more tests Oct. 8.

**Kathy Clayton** will be going for test on her hip at the Bone and Joint Clinic in Tupelo.

#### Continual Prayer :

Steve Stokes, Myka Wise, Darrell Crow, Martha Collins, Britt Lindley, Luther Williams, Ken Joines, Polly Sago, Jayce House, Mayola Holley, Justin Forsyth, Kelly Fryar, Nancy Petrowski, Ruth Ann Stroud, J.V. Davis, Judy Ward, Pat Reed, Rivers Robertson, Ruth Brown, Barry Yancey, Jack Dunlap, Rosie Wilson, Prebble Foster, Tony Cross, Norman Brown, Shane Crofts, Terry & Betty Young

#### Shut-Ins:

Jean Drummond, Billy Joe Garner, Tauso Branch, Teresa Clark

#### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

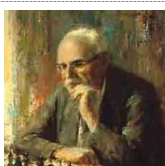
Mattie Golden, Laura Mae Harris, Louise Holcomb, Maxine Carlisle, Jennie Frohn

#### Military List:

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

### Wise Thoughts

People are lonely because they build walls instead of bridges.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



September 07..... Sarah Walker  
September 09..... Jerry Gibson  
September 09..... Allyssa Dunn  
September 10..... Nicki Weaver  
September 11..... Ab McCullough  
September 13..... Grayden Dunn



### SYMPATHY

We express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of *Vernell Wimberley* who passed away Thursday, August 29 in Port Lavaca, TX., at the age of 91. *Otis* and *Vernell* placed membership with the New Albany congregation in the spring of 1976 and were faithful members until the death of *Mr. Wimberley* in 2003. At that time *Ms. Vernell* went to live with her daughter *Barbara Foos* in Medina, TN. At the time of her death she was living near her daughter, *Connie Moehler*, in TX. She is also survived by her youngest daughter *Vicki Raines* of Olive Branch, MS. Funeral services were held Tuesday, Sept. 3rd here at the church building. Burial was in Glenfield Memorial Park in New Albany.



### BRIDAL SHOWER

There will be a Bridal Shower for *Melissa Gregory* bride elect of *Cody Rodgers*, Sunday Sept. 8th at 2:00pm at the fellowship building. *Melissa* and *Cody* have set Nov 8th, as their wedding date. *Melissa* is registered at Belk, Southern Traditions, and Wal-Mart.



### WORK DAY

A work day has been scheduled for Sat., Sept. 21st at 8:00am. All men are encouraged to be present. There are a variety of projects around the building that are in need of attention. Please make every effort to come and help!



**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  
Brad Pounders.....316-7931  
Harold Russell ..... 507-1180  
Randy Wall ..... 316-9255  
Lonnie Weaver..... 801-8448

**TO SERVE**

Scripture.....Matt Jennings  
A.M. Prayer.....Richard Adams  
Closing Prayer....Ruston Adams  
P.M. Prayer.....Greg Clayton  
Closing.....Dan Cobb  
Wed 9/11.....Dalton Beard  
Wed.9/11.....Ronnie Griggs  
Usher & Lock....Lonnie Weaver  
Greeter.....T & N Robertson

**OUR RECORD**

Sunday School.....118  
Sunday A.M.....145  
Sunday P.M .....103  
Wednesday.....118  
Contribution.....\$3,487.10  
Budget.....\$3,817.55



**PANTRY ITEM**

Tuna

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**PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN**

*May we suggest:*

1. Relax! God put the wiggle in children—don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house...just limit it.
2. Sit toward the front where it is easier to see and hear.
3. Use a gentle touch: an arm around your child's shoulder, your hand in his/hers to give reassurance and appropriate attention.
4. Explain quietly the parts of the service.
5. Help your child find the pages in the hymnal and Bible.
6. Encourage the use of the worship bulletin.
7. Sing the hymns, pray, and listen intently and children will learn from your behavior.
8. Bring a Wiggle Bag for their use which may include soft toys, pencils, pad, educational games, etc.

