

NEWS AND NOTES

- ◇ Please remember in prayer– The Hicks family, Edith Miller, the Ryland and Lawhon families, Mike Sadler, Patti James' son (Brian), Kathy Gray, Debbie Montgomery, Alma Townsley (Angela Wisdom's aunt), Jane Ross (Nick & Robin's Grandmother), Nadine Fields (Moses' sister), Hugh and Paulette Sills, Ted Penland, Joshua Dykes (Butch Morgan's cousin), and Bob Calkins (A friend of the Millers).
- ◇ The Groenhof family is out of town.
- ◇ Group 1 meets tonight.
- ◇ Please remember also our shut-ins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Last Friday of each month - Teen Bible Study (*Postponed until next week*)
- 2nd Sunday each month - Afternoon Song Practice
- 2nd Monday night each month - Ladies' Bible Class. (*On hold throughout summer*)
- 4th Sunday of each month -Men's Bible Class (*Today*)

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Assignments

Wednesday Night: 8/28/13

Song Leader: Ronnie Henderson
 Opening Prayer: Bucky Day
 Invitation: Charles Rawdon
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Eddie Lawson
 Parking Lot: Larry Hicks

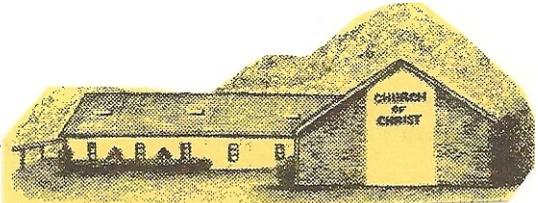
Sunday Morning: 9/1/13

Lord's Table: Nick Ross (B)
 Clay Sadler (C)
 Serving: Jordan Lawson
 Jim Abram
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom
 Opening Prayer: Butch Morgan
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams
 Parking Lot: (9:00) Norm Blackburn
 (9:50) Mike Sadler

Sunday Evening: 9/1/13

Song Leader: Song Leader
 Opening Prayer: Sherman Johnson
 Lord's Table: Nick Ross
 Announcements: Larry Hicks
 Closing Prayer: Nick Groenhof
 Parking Lot: David Williams

Our 28th Annual Singing will be held at the building this Friday, August 30, 2013 @ 7pm. Make your plans now to come and worship God in song!



Lakeland Hills LEADER

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST
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<p><u>ELDERS</u> Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378</p>	<p><u>SERVICES</u> Sunday Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Morning Services 9:50 A.M. Evening Services 6:00 P.M. Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 P.M.</p>	<p><u>DEACONS:</u> Robert Marschall Michael Sadler Eric Stevens Moses Stevens David Williams</p>
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EVANGELIST:
 Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“A New "NOMENCLATURE" is a Clear Indication that Many Churches of Christ have Departed from the New Testament Order”

"Nomenclature" is "the system of names used in a particular branch of knowledge." The "nomenclature" or names used to describe the New Testament church -- its organization, work, members and their functions -- were given by the God of heaven by inspiration (I Cor. 2: 9 - 13; II Tim. 3:16, 17). Inspiration says that there is a "form of sound words" (I Tim. 1:13; Tit. 2:1; I Tim. 6:3) that must be held to by God's people if they are to be considered faithful children (II John 9 -11).

One of the sure signs that there has been a departure from the faith (I Tim. 4:1) is the "language of Ashdod" (Neh. 13:24) that begins to be spoken by the children of God. There is an entirely new vocabulary or "nomenclature" being used by many congregations today.

We in the church of Christ have preached against denominationalism -- showing in sermon after sermon that the nomenclature of denominationalism does not fit the New Testament pattern of sound words. We have condemned their unscriptural use of the word "pastor" in applying it to the preacher, pointing out that the "pastors" are the eld-

ers in a local church (Eph. 4:11; Acts 20:28); we have preached long on the subject that one cannot "join the church universal", that the Lord adds you to it when you obey the gospel (Acts 2:47); we have shown from the scriptures that the New Testament church is not a denomination; that the word "church" is used in two senses in the New Testament -- (1) in the universal sense, including all the saved (Matt. 16:18); and (2) in the local sense (I Cor. 1:2; Phil. 1:1). From these Bible truths we have shown that a denomination could not be the New Testament church because a denomination claims to be larger than a local church and smaller than all the saved (the church universal).

We have condemned the denomination in days gone by for having what they call "educational directors", "youth directors", "youth ministers", and have pointed out that the Lord only authorized elders, evangelists, teachers, and deacons (Eph. 4:11; Phil. 1:1; I Tim. 3:8).

We have also pointed out that denominationalism was wrong in their celebration of special days such as "Mother's Day" and "Christmas" (Gal. 4:10). We have contended that the Lord's Day is just what it implies -- the Lord's day. The day is to be centered upon the Lord alone -- we eat the Lord's Supper on each Lord's Day in remembrance of Him (I Cor. 11:

24 - 25). The special importance of this day is not to be shared with anything or anyone by the people of God.

I ask this question, "Brethren, have we been wrong in this contention in the past? If not, how do many congregations justify their big "special homecomings" to be celebrated in connection with the Lord's day? Also, how do they justify using this day to hold some preacher in honor?" Brethren, are there not six days in every week in which honor may be given to whom honor is due? (Phil. 2:29; Rom.

13:7) The Lord's day belongs to the Lord!

We have pointed out that denominations emphasize work that the New Testament does not authorize such as the emphasis they put on the physical man -- appealing to his carnal nature with "church kitchens", "fellowship halls", "church camps", and all kinds of "socials and parties". Gospel preachers used to say that a church that had "ice cream suppers" and "tea parties" was as "cold as the ice cream" and as "weak as the tea".

In days gone by gospel preachers would fight hard against the denominational idea of the "clergy and laity", pointing out the sinfulness of exalting the preacher above the members by calling him "Doctor" or "Reverend" (Matt. 23:8). Now it is common to see advertisements

announcing that "Doctor So and So" will be speaking somewhere.

In by-gone days preachers would condone the sinfulness of denominational forms of church government such as synods, associations, conferences, and missionary societies, pointing out that these centralized forms of government controlled the work of the local churches, and that the local churches were dependent on these central agencies to do their work. Preachers would point out that the only form of church government in the New Testament was the local church with its elders and deacons (Acts 14:23; Phil. 1:1). Now many churches of Christ have their centralized agencies to do much of their work -- "sponsoring churches", colleges, benevolent and "care-taking" institutions.

Let us now list some of the new nomenclature (or names) that are being used by many churches of Christ in this area and over the world today: (1) "work-shops", (2) "kindergartens", (3) "Christian student center", (4) "chorus", (5) "bus ministry", (6) "fellowship supper", (7) "Youth-Quake", (8) "Youth-in-action workshop", (9) "teen leaders", (10) "youth meeting", (11) "young people's retreat", (12) "ball team", (13) "a rap session", (14) "Educational Director", (15) "youth rally", (16) a woman advertised as "well-known as a church speaker throughout the country", (17) "fellowship hall", (18) "youth forum", (19) "sponsoring church", (20) Preachers called "Doctor",

(21) "men's retreat", (22) "homecoming", (23) "campaigns for Christ", (24) "Life groups", (25) "revival", (26) "youth ministers", (27) "family camp-out", (28) "ladies' fellowship".

Now, I want to ask two questions: (1) How can these churches of Christ use the "nomenclature" of denominationalism and not become denominational?? and (2) Is it not a fact that the reason many churches of Christ are using denominational nomenclature is that they are practicing many things that are denominational and can only be described with a denominational nomenclature because the New Testament pattern of sound words does not allow for these practices??

Do some of you older folks (say at least forty and above) still remember here in Lauderdale county when gospel preachers would go into the pulpit and say, "we speak where the Bible speaks and are silent where the Bible is silent"? They would say to the people, "if our practice is not in the Bible, we will give it up." THINK BRETHREN!! God's people are a people under authority!! (Matt. 28:18)

~Donald Townsley