

Those Who Serve

Opening Prayer
Song Leader
Communion
Assist
Assist
Dismiss Services

January 12
 Rick Stocking
 Joe Burnsed
 John Story
 Mike Reinitz
 Wade White
 Evan Hall

January 19
 John Story
 Evan Hall
 Olan Bacon
 Jeff Torney
 Alex Torney
 Joe Holloway



Prayer List

Bob Emsweller – at home recuperating. Has asked for our prayers. Doing much better
Darlene Monreal – Mike Powell's daughter. health problems
Gregory Dozier – family problems
Lorianne Broussard – Sister in law of Nick & Lisa Barratta; son Jacob

Olivier has been missing for several months.

Sandy Parker – at home with her parents. Mom currently in St. Joseph's

Wanda Pledge – recovering from a stroke at home.

Jay Williams – Health problems

Mark & Teresa Callaway – health problems

Charles Stevens – recuperating at home in AR

Edith Cox – at home – former member of Ellabell

Elma Jean Roberson – at home recuperating

Scott Reinitz – Mike's brother – Health problems

Micky Barratta – Nick's father

Ralph Denny – uncle of Paula Reinitz, cancer patient

William Webb – Cancer patient, 3 years old Neuro Blastoma

John – suffering from cancer and had been declared terminal

Bradford Stewart – grandson of Bro and Sis Stewart of Statesboro – chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Richard Myers – Sue Holloway's nephew – cancer patient

Kevin Stanley – in Afghanistan

Nancy Nubren – Cancer patient

Linda Wilson – Cancer patient

Joe Holloway Sr. – Open heart bypass surgery Dec 13

Heather McBrayer – hospital in Charleston. Serious Condition

Jeremy Cotham – cancer patient and double amputee submitted by Sister Edith Cox

Announcements

Calendar for January – on back table-see corrections inside the bulletin

3rd Sunday at 5 – This month we will meet at 5 on January 19 – Spaghetti – Celebration – Everyone has a recipe for spaghetti of which they are proud. Come show off your Spaghetti recipe.

Save – Labels, Food Pantry Items, Change Jar, Cans, Medicine Bottles, & OTC Medicines, peanut butter
Bookmark our Facebook page. And add EllabellChurchofChrist@hotmail.com to your contact list.
 Brother Paul asks that you simply email him anything you want to appear on the Facebook page; pictures, announcements, etc.

Call List – There are forms on the back pew if you want to be added to our call list. If you want a call made, call me or text me and I will make the call and schedule it. 912-667-0519

Prayer List – There is a form on the back pew to add names to the prayer list.

Worship Services Online – Go to our website and there is a link at the bottom. Join us from anywhere in the world online. <http://ellabellchurchhome.org/>

If you enjoyed reading our bulletin, please pass or forward it to others interested in the Cause of Christ

Ellabell Church of Christ



Extension Gombe Center – From Tom's Report

Service Times:

Sunday
Bible Study 10:00am
Worship 11:00am
 6:30pm
Wednesday
 7:00pm

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Speaking Where The Bible Speaks; Silent Where The Bible Is Silent

January 12, 2014

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2013 (TOM EK POT JR)

Dear beloved in Christ,

Greetings to you all in Christ name. The year 2013 which just started yesterday is wrapping up in the next few hours. Brethren, that is part of the wonders of God. We really thank God for seeing us through the year despite all the ups and downs. I guess each and every one of us had one challenge or the other, and God saw us through. In some He helped us overcome the challenge, in some, He gave us the grace sufficient for the trouble. We all therefore should as appreciate our creator. For us in the northern Nigeria, sometime it would seem as if we would not be part of the next day, yet we will get up and get involve in so many things the next day. We owe God gratitude.

Beloved in Christ, the month of December is always a busy one for us. As I mentioned in my November's report, I was away at Gombe State for two weeks, teaching some local preachers and Bible teachers how they can be more effective in their services to the Church. Gombe is a state in the North east part of Nigeria, where the Islamic terror group also has a base. But throughout the two weeks, we did not experience any heart breaking

event, except for the accident we witnessed on our coming back. We went about the program peacefully. I have attached a picture of the class for our view. Most of them are adult, working in Government offices. They had to sign off for the two weeks. Once again, their faith challenged me. Some of them were University students who took opportunity to be part of the program since Universities were on strike; and some other are farmers. Each day, we taught for 9 hours with only one hour break. The Gombe congregation shouldered the burden of feeding us and the students for the two weeks. At the end of the program, while I longed to come back and see my family, they longed for me to remain with them. We thank God for the fellowship we have in Christ.

In my report of November, I mentioned of the incessant attack on the Foron village. Brethren, the situation is getting worse, as they poor villagers have been attacked twice in the month of December. I do not know whether the enemies want to whip off the village. On the 17th of December, the attackers sent a mail that they were coming. Everyone though it was a joke as they won't come on the said date. Lo and behold, they came at a time no one would less expect it. They killed some children who were playing outside. When the father rushed out to see what went wrong, they shot him, and then fired randomly into homes. One week later, they came back in the night killing the villages again. Brethren, the two congregations in this village that were already staggering because of issues like this, is further threatened. Do help us keep us in prayers. There is nothing God cannot do. In whatever way He wants to end this trouble to His glory, we pray His will be done. People cannot sleep again in their homes; they rather spend the night in nearby bushes, being exposed to danger of snakes and other wild creatures. This is not what God intended the world to be, definitely not.



Well, in all of these, we see the hands of God in our survival. We took some time out on 28th with our families. We wanted our children to see some wild games. We went to the game reserve for a picnic. Some Christians families came together to plan for this. It

was a wonderful time to be together and see some animals. I attach pictures of some of the animals. I thank you all for standing up for Jesus. Supporting us in Africa, praying day and night for us. Thank you so very much. I pray



that the God of Heaven will keep blessing you, individually and collectively. Let me end this by wishing you all a wonderful 2014. I do not believe everything will always go the way we want, but I am sure God will always take control of whatever He allows to come our way.

A Different Point of View!

A local couple sent a playpen to friends in another part of the state who had been blessed with the arrival of their 4th child in six years. Two weeks later the mother responded with this note: "Thanks, many thanks for the pen. It comes in so handy - I sit in it every afternoon and read and think. When I'm in it the children can't get near me." We all need our space sometimes, but what do you do when there is space between the Lord and someone you care about very deeply? Mark 2:1-5 tells about the unorthodox efforts of four unnamed heroes who used faith and works to get a hurting friend to Jesus. Hearing that Jesus was in a house in Capernaum, four men sought to bring a paralytic to Jesus on a bed. Finding the house full of people and their way to Jesus blocked, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith He said to the paralytic, Son, your sins are forgiven you.' " This incident reminds us that faith brings a different point of view in getting lost people to Jesus. Four men who believed Jesus could make a profound difference in the life of their paralyzed friend refused to give up when they found the way to Jesus crowded and impossible to pass. What to do? Wouldn't it have been interesting to listen in as these four discussed their problem and how it might be solved?! Faithless, negative thinking would have said nothing could be done and there were simply too many obstacles. But one of them lifted his eyes and expressed a different point of view: "We can get on top of the house, tear the roof off and lower him down to Jesus." Faith helped them have a different point of view! As a result the paralyzed man went home with a newly healed body and a freshly cleansed soul.

Many preachers, elders, and Christians could use a different point of view. The devil has convinced some in the church that our job as Christians is to come, sit and listen. But the evangelistic mentality of the Holy Spirit is summed up in the words of Acts 5:20 - "Go ... stand ... speak." Some insist nobody they know is interested in God, but Jesus calls us to a different point of view. He says "the harvest truly is plentiful" and "lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest" (Matthew 9:37, John 4:35). Could it be many people are being kept from getting to Jesus because negative, faithless thinking is keeping us from getting to them? Faith can help us uncover the roof and see past what we alone can do to what we can do with God's help. Has faith changed your point of view?

Dan Gulley
Smithville church of Christ

