

Those Who Serve

| | Dec 16 | Dec 23 |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Opening Prayer | Olan Bacon | Joe Burnsed |
| Song Leader | Joe Burnsed | Evan Hall |
| Communion | Rick Stocking | John Story |
| Assist | Mike Powell | Rick Stocking |
| Assist | John Story | Joe Burnsed |
| Dismiss Services | Evan Hall | Joe Holloway |



Prayer List
Bob Emsweller – at home and feeling better
Olan Bacon – at home recuperating
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.

Jessie Shuman – Health Problems

Sandy Parker – at home with her parents

Jason and Tracy Sheehy – upcoming adoption in Uganda

Wanda Pledge – recovering from a stroke at home.

Jay Williams – Health problems

Mark & Teresa Callaway – Mark in St. Joseph's

Nell Sewell – in AR; cancer patient

Charles Stevens – recuperating at home in AR

Elma Jean Robinson – home

Grace Murphy – sis in law of Donna Murphy – severe health problems

Roland Mohsen – home making health decisions

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar for December – on back pew

Meetings – 2 weeks from tonight

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



SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday

Bible Study

10:00am

Worship

11:00am

6:30pm

Wednesday

7:00pm



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

December 16, 2012

The Wooden Bowl

I guarantee you will remember the tale of the Wooden Bowl tomorrow, a week from now, a month from now, a year from now.

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The



family ate together at the table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. 'We must do something about father,' said the son 'I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor.'

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.

When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone.

Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food.

The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, 'What are you making?' Just as sweetly, the boy responded, 'Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food in when I grow up.'

'The four-year-old smiled and went back to work.

The words so struck the parents so that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

On a positive note, I've learned that, no matter what happens, how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.



I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles four things: a rainy day, the elderly, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that making a 'living' is not the same thing as making a 'life.' I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands. You need to be able to throw something back sometimes. I've learned that if you pursue happiness, it will elude you. But, if you focus on God, your family, your friends, the needs of others, your work and doing the very best you can, happiness will find you.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day, you should reach out and touch someone. People love that human touch -- holding hands, a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back.

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.

-Author Unknown

From the Bulletin of the Booker Church of Christ

“Regrets”

I was always skeptical of that old song, “I Did It My Way”. One line said, “Regrets, I’ve had a few, too few to mention”. My regrets surely run into hundreds if not thousands. Many have to do with judgmental attitudes. Almost any atheist can quote at least one scripture, Matthew 7:1 “Do not judge, or you will be judged”. Verse 2 goes on to explain that we will be judged by the same standard we use. Often we are tempted to make snap judgments when we hear of someone else’s sins. Do we really want to be judged “in the same way we judge others”? Oops!

Christians are told we can judge in small matters (1 Corinthians 6:2-4) Even then, however, it cannot be quick, harsh or vindictive. Oops! Webster defines this type of judging as, “to decide or settle authoritatively”.

Any other type of judging or condemning is reserved for “The one Lawgiver and judge, the one who is able to save and destroy...” James 4:12.

Obviously we do not show approval for evil, sinful behavior. However, to avoid regretting our words or actions, we need to:

Talk to the offender and try to listen to their motives.

Pray for the offender and those affected.

Examine all sides of the issue.

Walk a mile in his/her shoes.

Remember our past sins and failures.

In the upper room Jesus said “...one of you shall betray me” Matthew 26:21 KJV. The apostles were very sad and everyone of them asked, “Lord is it I”? This is the attitude every Christian should have before judging others and thus avoid having those “oops” regrets.



Jim Bailey

from

Northwest Church of Christ
Westminster, Colorado