

Those Who Serve

	Dec 30	Jan 6
Opening Prayer	Charles Hall	Evan Hall
Song Leader	Joe Burnsed	Evan Hall
Communion	Olan Bacon	Joe Burnsed
Assist	Joe Burnsed	Charles Hall
Assist	Charles Hall	Joe Holloway
Dismiss Services	Rick Stocking	John Story



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. Several treatments in the future

Will Harley – friend of the Storys. Rare form of gastric cancer

Phyllis Smith – mother of Grace Cannon – not expected to live much longer.

Edith Cox – at home – former member of Ellabell

Lisa Hursey – car wreck and med problems

Shirley Hursey – med problems

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar for December – on back pew

Meetings – tonight after services

New Year's Eve – 7:00 at the building, 9:30 at the Halls for fireworks

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 30, 2012

Happy New Year Everyone!

In the next several hours and days you and I will share and receive that greeting a number of times. Wishing others a happy new year is a good custom. But what is a happy new year? I would like to share some thoughts about the meaning of those three words.

Let's focus on the word "year" first. A year is a measure or milestone of time. If time was a race, a year would be a marker. Ask any runner and they will tell you how important a marker is. It confirms accomplishment. Maybe 2013 is a special year for you because it will mark the year you graduate, get married, or retire. If time was a book, a year would be a chapter. We celebrate a new year like we enjoy finishing a chapter of a book only to begin another.

That leads me to the word, "new." We Americans are in love with the word "new" and why not? The Bible likes the word "new" too. It speaks of positive things like a new birth (spiritual birth), a new and living way (walk with Jesus), a new song, a new hope and a new Heaven and Earth. New is good. Using the book analogy again, maybe the reason we are excited about finishing a chapter is because it was boring or painful. Beginning a new chapter can be very

hopeful. So can a new year! If you had a dull or hurtful 2012, I hope this New Year begins something better.

Finally, and perhaps most elusive, is the word “happy.” Of the three words in our greeting, this word is the one we underscore the most. We wish for others a New Year that will be happy. But what will make any New Year happy? Different people answer that in different ways. The things that this world offers are very conditional and superficial and lead to disappointing results. Basing our happiness on them may or may not bring the happiness we seek. As we begin 2013, I wish you a Happy New Year based on the clear and limitless happiness that only the Lord can bring. Consider Lamentations 3:19-26. You’ll note that the Lord’s compassions (mercies) never fail; and that ARE NEW EVERY MORNING, not just every year.

Lamentations 3:19-26.

*19 I remember my affliction and my wandering,
the bitterness and the gall.*

*20 I well remember them,
and my soul is downcast within me.*

*21 Yet this I call to mind
and therefore I have hope:*

*22 Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.*

*23 They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.*

*24 I say to myself, “The LORD is my portion;
therefore I will wait for him.”*

*25 The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him,
to the one who seeks him;*

*26 it is good to wait quietly
for the salvation of the LORD.*

May the compassions of the Lord bring you a Happy New Year. If you are not sure what the compassions of the Lord are, I would love to share that with you!

-Mike Abbott (edited)

Denham Springs Church of Christ

Email from Nigeria – rec’d Dec 25, 2012

Hello brother Holloway,

Greetings to you and to the Christians families all over United States. I pray that the purpose of Christ coming to this sinful world be accomplished in our individual and collective lives. I returned to Jos

last Sunday night. My two weeks in Delta was memorable. Many splendid things happened and sad occurrences equally took place. I lost one of my students while teaching Synoptic Gospel. The trauma affected me until we left the place. One other student had an accident on his way back from classes. Well, we give God the glory for everything. Please, kindly say our Christmas greetings to everyone. Have a blessed Christmas.

Grace and Peace,

Tom

(I asked Tom the details JH)

Email from Nigeria – rec’d Dec 26, 2012

Hi brother Holloway,

Thanks for your condolence. I am not out of the trauma yet, but your kind words really soothe my mind. He came into the class unusually, because he travels every day on a motor bike to attend the program. He covers about 40 miles each day with his bike. I guess he was stressed up. We noticed that he was sweating profusely in the class. A sister sitting by him offered him water to take. After taking the water, he walked outside. We then all went with him to find out what was happening. The situation was fast deteriorating. We immediately rushed him to the nearby hospital, but he could not make it. His wife is now left a widow. The following another of my student was returning home, then he had an accident on the road. Though he managed to come to school after three days, he is complaining of chest pains because all the passengers were heaped on him when the accident happened. Keep them in your prayers. Same week, I got news of my friend, a faithful preacher who had an accident on his way back from worship on the 16th of this month, and he died the next day. Keep us in prayers. All of these are coming at the same time. Stay blessed



Ellabell
wishes you
a Happy
New Year –
Continue

your walk with Christ in 2013