

Those Who Serve

	March 31	April 7
Opening Prayer	Olan Bacon	Joe Burnsed
Song Leader	Evan Hall	Joe Burnsed
Communion	John Story	Olan Bacon
Assist	Evan Hall	Mike Powell
Assist	Rick Stocking	Mark Stocking
Dismiss Services	Joe Holloway	Charles Hall



Prayer List
Bob Emsweller – at home and feeling 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.

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 – health problems

Nell Sewell – in AR; cancer patient

Charles Stevens – recuperating at home in AR

Roland Mohsen – successful surgery

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

Kellie Kuntz – pneumonia

Roscoe Frisby – Raytown, cancer patient

Mickey Barratta – Nick's Father – Severe Health Problems

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calendar for March – on back pew

Save –Labels, Food Pantry Items, Change Jar, Cans, Medicine Bottles, & OTC Medicines, peanut butter

Social – not this Wednesday but Wednesday the 10th

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

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things
through Him who
strengthens me.

SPEAKING WHERE THE BIBLE SPEAKS; SILENT WHERE THE BIBLE IS SILENT

March 24, 2013

Meet You at the Door...



I was excited our new home had a fenced-in back yard. To me this equated, "Throw the dog in the back." We previously had one of those invisible fences but Rosco could not be trusted to stay within its limits (the shock doesn't hurt if you run through it fast enough). So with a trip to the in-laws scheduled, we put the dog in the back yard, gave him food and water, and set out. We returned that evening to an empty backyard. Now, I'm in the doghouse, since the kids begged to take the dog with us. So, we set out to our neighbor's house to ask them to keep an eye out for the dog. When we knocked on their door our neighbor met us at the door smiling, along with Rosco, (who I believe was also smiling). The kids are happy; I'm irritated. I guess I will have to watch out for the dog's favorite snack, my leather shoelaces, again.

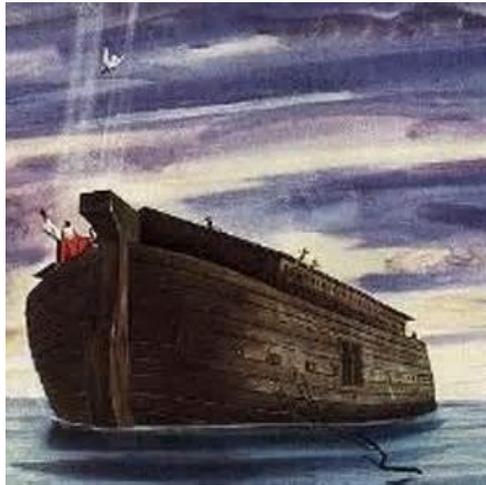
There are times when I think we are too much like my dog, meaning, what we view as restrictions, are in fact an avenues to God. The fence around the backyard is not a punishment, it allows Rosco the ability to explore under the protection of his master. Likewise, God isn't one to put up needless boundaries or burdens either. I think one of the most powerful lessons on how what we view as restrictions, God views as power, is Paul's recount of his thorn in the flesh.

To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:7-9).

At no time, are we safer than when we are putting our faith in God and not ourselves. Relying on ourselves, our power is limited to our own finite abilities or strength. Relying on God, our power and abilities are limitless. I guess God was saying, *"Understand that life with me, even at your weakest, is better than life without me, even at your strongest. When you recognize that, I'll meet you at the door."*

- Wade McKnight

Southern Oaks Church of Christ
Chickasha, OK



God's Favor

Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord... The other day as I was studying for a particular lesson, I ran across these words in Genesis 6. I had just been at a reception where someone was being honored for excellence in a particular area of service.

People were giving glowing

reports about their association with the honoree – how she had helped them, how she had been a true servant, how she had shown compassion... etc. But the statement that stuck out

above other statements was this: "Our friend has done many things in which she has found favor in our eyes, but the most important thing is this: God looks down at her with favor!" I didn't know the person who said these words, but I am thankful that he reminded us that we should all seek the divine seal of approval. Man finding favor with man is really not too unusual, nor is it as important as finding favor with God.

Have you ever thought about how much better your life would be to have God find favor with you? It is such an amazing thought that the God Who keeps the universe in perfect order, the God Who sees every need, the God Who makes provision for salvation, will look down upon me in favor. He can be pleased with me!

Noah is a good example. Noah didn't find favor in God's sight because of his own inherent goodness. Noah's favor came from his faith in God (Hebrews 11:7). It works the same way with us. I am not good all of the time. I'm not good a lot of the time! However, faith in Jesus gives me the favor I earnestly seek. *"And without faith it is impossible to please Him..."* (Hebrews 11:6).

Are you seeking favor with God, or the favor and honor of men? Remind yourself that God's grace is worth far more to you than the whole world bowing down at your feet. God's approval is infinitely more important than the approval of your friends. If you don't think your life finds favor with God, what changes do you need to make? What changes do you want to make? What changes will you make?

Pray for renewed hunger for His Word so that you will know what He wants from you. Find inspiration from the words of David in Psalm 19:14... *"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer."*

William Eudy

Southside Church of Christ
Mineral Wells, Texas