

Those Who Serve

Opening Prayer
Song Leader
Communion
Assist
Assist
Dismiss Services

February 2
 Joe Burnsed
 Jeff Torney
 Charles Hall
 Joe Burnsed
 Evan Hall
 Joe Holloway

February 9
 Charles Hall
 Evan Hall
 Evan Hall
 Brent Dozier
 Mike Powell
 John Story



Prayer List

Bob Emsweller – at home recuperating. Has asked for our prayers.
 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
 Donna McFarland- surgery soon.
 Family of Carol Askdal,

Announcements

Calendar for February – on back table-see corrections inside the bulletin
Social – not this Wednesday; next week, the 12th
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

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

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

February 2, 2014

Valentine's Day

As a child I remember this as a day to reflect on who were my best friends and my favorite teachers in elementary school. I wanted to ensure they got the best or nicest cards from the box of valentines my parents would buy for me each year. Obviously, as I got a bit older, and into my teen years, it was more about relationships with female friends, but still, all very innocent. Back then it was all about making sure the friends you truly cared about felt special, if only for a day. My! How things have changed... this year many of the commercials about Valentine's Day that I heard over the radio and saw on TV had little to do with real love, instead they had a sexual connotation attached; while some were subtle others were more overt, and most perverted the true meaning of love. By now you may be thinking that for true believers there is nothing remotely religious about Valentine's Day, which is true, however, it can serve as an opportunity to reflect on 3 important questions: What is love? Who do we love? How do we show our love?

First and foremost "God is love" 1Jn 4:8. He is our first love; we show this by committing our lives to him. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your

bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" Rom 12:1-2. We also love God's Son; and as a sign of our discipleship we have taken his name. Jesus tells us if we love Him, we will do what He asks; Jn 14:15. He also tells us that all men will know that we are his disciples if we have love one for another; Jn 13:35. The latter is sometime easier than the former. It is easy to love those Christians who believe as you believe; those that assemble together each week to praise God; remember and commemorate Christ's sacrifice; and fellowship with likeminded believers. While it can be much harder to follow the teachings of Christ concerning those individuals we encounter who are not as close to us; don't believe as we believe; or may even be antagonistic towards us.

Knowing that there would be individuals that would challenge our ability to love, Christ still instructed those that would be his disciples to love their neighbors as themselves. To emphasize this point He told the parable of the Good Samaritan, in which He instructs a lawyer on the true meaning of "love your neighbor as yourself" Lk 10:25. While this parable deals specifically with meeting physical needs; we know that Jesus' ultimate objectives were always to enhance our spiritual knowledge and lives. With that in mind, if we have the type of love for our neighbors Jesus taught in this parable, it compels us to share the gospel with them. You've heard me say the most important thing you can do while you are on this earth is "find Salvation for your soul". The second most important thing is to "help someone else find salvation for their soul". Caring for a person's spiritual welfare demonstrates true love for them and was essential to the great commission. Just as the Apostles' love compelled them to carry out the great commission, our love for God and Jesus continues to compel us to share Christ teachings and to make disciples of as many as will accept Christ as their Lord and Master.

It is through Christ that we are reconciled to the father and have our hope for eternal life. We also know and understand that this relationship is to be paramount in our lives. We are told to "seek ye first the Kingdom of God", and all of our other needs will be met. This understanding is just as important for our neighbors to hear and understand, even if they are not ready to accept it today. Because of our relationship with God and Jesus we have a unique and special relationship with the lost of the world. Jesus talked about His disciples bringing light into the world; Mt 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be

hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Every day we are to be a light to our family, friends, neighbors, co-worker and classmates.

Referring back to the parable of the Good Samaritan: Jesus asks the lawyer; "Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise" Lk 10:36-37. The parable showed a man meeting the earthly needs of a man who was physically hurt and disabled. The principle of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ is at the heart of the parable, every lost or hurting soul we encounter is an opportunity to do good.

Valentine's Day is over and with it a lot of the superficial gestures, gifts and emotions that have become suitable substitutes for real love will soon fade into the past. However, God's love will never fade. Two last questions for Christians today:

Who do you know and love enough to share the most important thing they will ever hear about true love?

Will you share Christ's Gospel with them today?

In Service to our Lord,

– Rod Ellison

Randolph Church of Christ
Universal City, TX

The Vineyard Of The Lord

A young preacher recently came upon a farmer working in his field.



Being concerned about the farmer's soul the preacher asked the man, "Are you laboring in the vineyard of the Lord my good man?"

Not even looking at the preacher and continuing his work the farmer replied, "Naw, these are soybeans."

"You don't understand," said the preacher. "Are you lost?"

"Naw! I've lived here all my life,"

answered the farmer.

"Are you prepared for the resurrection?" the frustrated preacher asked.

This caught the farmer's attention and he asked, "When's it gonna be?"

Thinking he had accomplished something the young preacher replied, "It could be today, tomorrow, or the next day."

Taking a handkerchief from his back pocket and wiping his brow, the farmer remarked, "Well, don't mention it to my wife. She don't get out much and she'll wanna go all three days."