

# Those Who Serve

<b>Opening Prayer</b>	<b>January 5</b> Joe Holloway	<b>January 12</b> Rick Stocking
<b>Song Leader</b>	Evan Hall	Joe Burnsed
<b>Communion</b>	Rick Stocking	John Story
<b>Assist</b>	Alex Torney	Mike Reinitz
<b>Assist</b>	Jeff Torney	Wade White
<b>Dismiss Services</b>	Charles Hall	Evan Hall



## 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

**Social** – this Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> after Bible Study

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto: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



*The first Sunday of 2014 – You made the right decision today – 51 more to go!*

## 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 5, 2014

### LIFE'S GREATEST QUESTIONS

Gary McDade

The most important and the most basic questions of life are actually very few in number. Many, many important and basic questions exist and must be dealt with, but the most basic and the most important questions are "From where did we come," "Why are we here," and "Where are we going." The one who will not consider these questions is recklessly irresponsible and has a poor awareness of the reality of life. Accurate basic answers to these questions are also very few in number. Worldly philosophers (professional or otherwise) are offering the widest range of answers to the question "Why are we here?" And the leading reason for the broad scope of answers to this question is due to a lack of attention directed toward the other two questions. Ignorance of or indifference toward from where we came and where we are going encourages one to live only for the here and the now and yields the carnal motto, "Go for all the gusto you can get?"

### "FROM WHERE DID WE COME?"

Only three possible answers to this question exist. Either the universe came from nothing or the universe originated from the impersonal (energy, mass, motion, etc.), as evolutionists aver, or the universe originated with a personal being (deity), as Christians affirm. It is axiomatic that something

does not come from nothing. If you begin with nothing, you stay with nothing! If the universe did originate with impersonal matter, the personality of humans is unaccounted for, man is just a particular, no more significant or meaningful than a rock or a roach, and the other two questions, “Why are we here?” and “Where are we going?” are left unanswerable. Life has no real meaning. The French chemist, Louis Pasteur (1822-1895), who is recognized as “The father of bacteriology” struck the deathblow to the notion that life sprang into being from non-life through his bacteriological research disproving spontaneous generation. The conclusion is therefore irresistible that the universe originated from the wishes of a personal being (God). Evidence for this conclusion is found in the Bible, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Gen. 1:1). This view is reasonable and true because it accounts for the existence of other personal beings (mankind) and gives solid answers relative to the purpose and origin of man.

### “WHY ARE WE HERE?”

Since man owes his origin to God and since God has revealed himself to man through the Bible, it is necessary to search this revelation in quest of an answer to this question. Revelation 4:11 suggests God’s motive in creation, “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” I Corinthians 10:32 tells man’s purpose for existence, “. . . Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” The New Testament is God’s special revelation which shows man how to glorify God (II Tim. 3:16, 17).

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Phil. 4:8). This is what life is about. Elevation of character, dedication to a worthy end, everything that is good and honorable should be embodied in our character and conduct. One of the intellectual vacuums created in the past century has been the loss of our ability to transfer wisdom from one generation to the next. Characteristics like responsibility, commitment, emotional strength, tenacity, perseverance, honesty, faith, love of God and country must be passed on from one generation to the next.

We do not need more intellectual power,

We need more moral power.

We do not need more knowledge,

We need more character.

We do not need more government,

We need more culture.

We do not need more law,

We need more religion.

We do not need more of the things that are seen,

We need more of the things that are unseen.

If the foundation be firm,

The foundation will stand.

—**Calvin Coolidge**

Previous generations believed in the Bible and an eternal God.

“All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated through the Book but for the Bible we could not know right from wrong. All the things desirable to man are contained in it.”

—**Abraham Lincoln**

“The First and almost the only book deserving of universal attention is the Bible.”

—**John Quincy Adams**

“Go to the Scriptures . . . the joyful promises it contains will be a balsam to all your troubles.”

—**Andrew Jackson**

### “WHERE ARE WE GOING?”

The wishful thinking of many is that at death man just ceases to be. His life here is meaningless, he is not accountable for his actions and thoughts, and he is going nowhere. However, “Let God be true, but every man a liar,” for he affirms through his word that as surely as he brought this physical universe into existence he shall cause it to be dissolved (Matt. 24:35, II Pet. 3:9-15). The Old Testament story of the burning bush in the wilderness is known to many people. Moses was told to return to Pharaoh and demand the release of the enslaved Jewish people. Moses was obedient to God. He demonstrated his love for God’s people all through his life. When Israel sinned and God wanted to destroy them Moses plead for the people, and God spared them. Oh, that men today would love God’s people, the church, enough to care when they stray. We must live a faithful life and never allow ourselves to become entrapped in sin (Rom. 4:15, Heb. 10:26). Our lives must illuminate the world for all to see the will of God. The eternal destiny of man is to spend eternity in either heaven with the righteous or in hell with the wicked as God shall determine through Christ at the judgment (Jn. 5:22, Matt. 25:46). These then are “Life’s Greatest Questions.” May the Lord help us look to him for the answers.

Email from Nigeria December 30, 2013

Hi brother Holloway,

Greetings to you, dad and mom. Please, tell me. How is dad doing now. We are praying for his fast recovery. It is just few days to the end of the year. We thank God for His grace towards us. **But the village of Foron is attacked again. They are living in real panic at this moment. Keep them in prayers.** Say my greetings to dad.

Grace and Peace,

Tom