

Those Who Serve

	June 26	July 3
Opening Prayer	Joe Burnsed	Kwesi Garvin
Song Leader	Joe Burnsed	Kwesi Garvin
Communion	Joe Holloway	John Story
Assist	Kwesi Garvin	Charles Hall
Assist	Mike Powell	Olan Bacon
Dismiss Services	John Story	Olan Bacon

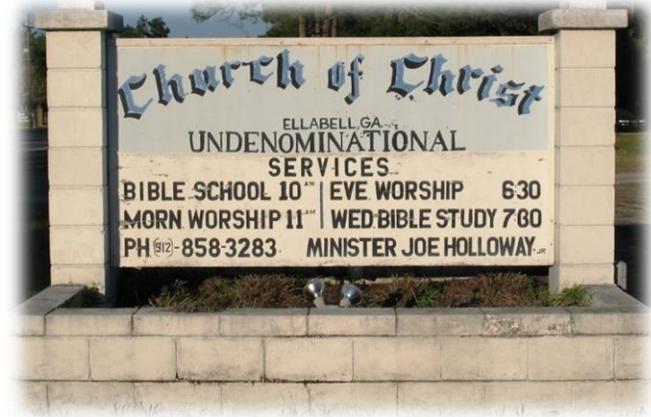


If you enjoyed reading our bulletin, please pass or forward it to others interested in the Cause of Christ

<http://ellabellcofchome.webs.com/>

Ellabell Church of Christ
 PO Box 72
 Ellabell, GA 31308

ELLABELL CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

June 26, 2011

Baptized Into Christ

By Ron Boatwright



Image from La Vista Church of Christ; Omaha, Nebraska

The denominational world says that baptism has nothing to do with our salvation, but let's see what the Bible says. Notice that it is baptism that puts us **into Christ** so that we can be saved. Galatians 3:27 says, "For as many of you as

were **baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**" Baptism is the only way a person can get **into Christ.** The preposition **into** indicates a change of relationship. You can search from the front to the back of your Bible, and you will find no other way to get into Christ except by being baptized into Christ. What is the advantage of being baptized into Christ?

Ephesians 1:3 says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with **every spiritual blessing** in heavenly places **in Christ.**" This verse tells us that

every spiritual blessing is located in Christ. Only those who are in Christ can enjoy these spiritual blessings.

We read in 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if anyone **is in Christ, he is a new creation**: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." If one is in Christ, he has become a new creation. This is how we are born again.

The Apostle Paul says in 2 Timothy 2:10, "Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the **salvation which is in Christ Jesus**, with eternal glory." Here we see that salvation is located in Christ, and for one to be eligible for salvation, he must be in Christ. It will be a horrible thing for a person, who thinks he is saved, when he stands before the Lord on the Day of Judgment, if he is still outside of Christ. He will have no salvation. He will be lost eternally in Hell.

In 1 John 5:11 we read, "And this is the testimony, that God has given us eternal life, and **this life is in His Son**." Only those who have been baptized to be saved are in Christ and have the promise of eternal life. Those who are outside of Christ have no promise of eternal life but are lost.

Email from Nigeria (rec'd June 23, 2011)

Hello brother Holloway,

Good morning to you and the entire brotherhood over there in the States and beyond. It is good to be back on line. I was very sick after I sent my last pictures. I was down with typhoid and malaria all at the same time. The treatment drove me crazy. I had actually expected the sickness because of where we lived during our last campaign for Christ in Benue State. I thank God that it did not cripple me during the series of programs we had in May. I am glad that I am up again, and bit strong. In the next few hours, I will be leaving for Toro, I need to meet with preacher there to work out modalities for the work there. My appreciation to everyone there. Have a good day.

Grace and Peace,

Tom

Live for Greatness

I had actually meant to mention this when it happened but the bulletin became full with our mission reports and just did not have the room. Go back in time about 30 years. It was the 80's and I was in college and not real happy about it. It was a lot different from high school. I walked to a local Mexican restaurant and got in line to order. I was asked how I liked college. I told him I wasn't too happy about it. He was entertaining friends but left them with his wife and spoke to me about his own experiences many years ago when he first attended college. I thought it over and walked home. I spoke to others at the University about my problem getting used to it. I received advice from Dr. Joe Pryor and

others. I decided to stay. The man I the restaurant that night was Brother Clifton Ganus who was University President. After all if the University President would take this much time with one student, how bad could it be? I saw his picture on the University bulletin a couple of weeks ago and decided to let him know what he had done many years ago and how grateful I was. There have many Universities since and each



Dr. Ganus (left) with his wife Louise with present president Dr. David Burks receiving recognition for 65 years of service to Harding University

time I looked for a Dr. Ganus and couldn't find one. Harding has a powerful force for good in Dr. Ganus who still serves as University Chancellor. He called me after he opened my letter. This shows how much he still cares for students even once we leave for 30 years. Imagine what that meant to me. The picture in the bulletin was Dr. Ganus's award for 65 years of

service to the University. The older I get, the more I realize the debt we owe to the past. There are giants in the faith who have paved the Way for all of us. In my own life, several great men of the Faith influenced me: Dr. Ganus, Gentry Stultz, John Gipson, Tom Ekpote Sr., Walenty Davidow, Dr. Joe Pryor, and quite a few others. These are truly men of whom the world is not worthy. Some are still with us and still make a difference for good; some have gone on to hang their swords on the wall of that Great City. All are great men of the Faith.

Why spend this much time in the bulletin about one phone call? I realize I need to live my life in such a way that someone will write such a letter in the future. I know it is easy to fall into the trap of "just getting through" life. Instead, let's live to achieve greatness in the Church of Our Lord.

-Joe

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Calendar for July– on back pew

SOCIAL – today after morning worship

Meetings – tonight after evening worship