

The **Weekly Communicator**

A publication of :

Lehman Avenue

Church of Christ

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From Where I Sit...

Michael D. Greene

Put it on your calendar. Our **Gospel Meeting** with Garvis Semore will be September 25-28. The

theme of the meeting will be "What is Right With the Church?" The lessons will be particularly appropriate for those who are not members of the church although all can profit from them. Why not make a list now of those you can invite to the meeting and begin praying for them? Lets make this one of the best meetings we have had in a long time.

In addition, our **Men's Retreat** will be October 28 and 29 at Taylor Christian Camp. Bart Warren from South Green Street in Glasgow will be our speaker. More information on both of these events will be in the bulletin in coming weeks.



While at Polishing the Pulpit last week, I spent some time with a friend who is much more tech savvy than I am. He likes to keep up with the latest technical advances and gadgets. He had a phone that would do just about everything but make coffee in the morning. It reminded me of how quickly technology is changing. What I do on my desktop or lap top computer, folks are now doing on their ipads, phones and other hand held devices! Makes one wonder, what is next? Is there anything that is not changing or out of date?

One then realizes, yes, there are some things that never change and that never get out of date. There are some unchanging realities. God lives and is still in control. I may not know how to use all the new fangled technology, but my fate is in the hands of a loving God. Jesus Christ is still Lord. He is still the same yesterday, today and tomorrow (Hebrews 13:8). Obedience to His will still obtains favor with God and salvation to all who obey Him (Hebrews 5:9). The word of God, the Bible, can still produce faith in the good and honest heart, and give the peace that passes understanding (Romans 10:17, Philippians 4:6-9). Technology will continue to change, but the spiritual realities will not. To these we can truly anchor our lives.

Gaines Explains

Daniel Gaines

John 13:35 (NKJV)
"By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Ten Minutes Before and After Services

A family visited two different congregations near their home for a month each. Both came highly recommended. They arrived early and stayed late, and made themselves available. Yet despite their eagerness, no one from congregation #1 greeted them or even seemed to notice them. The next month, they visited congregation #2. During the first two visits, dozens of people welcomed them, several people had invited them out to eat, and four families even had them into their homes for dinner. Guess which congregation this couple decided to attend? The friendliness of congregation #2 made a deep impression. The ten minutes immediately before and after services are significant times for our guests. Friendliness must be constantly practiced. Seemingly every week people visit Lehman Avenue for the first time. Extend a smile and a hand. Be warm and friendly. Lehman is a very friendly congregation already, but as Paul said (1 Thess. 4:10), *indeed you do so... but we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more.*

One Day at a Time

A popular author once said, "No man ever sank under the burden of the day. It is when tomorrow's burden is added to the burden of today, that the weight is more than a man can bear." It is so easy for us to become consumed with worry over what might happen tomorrow or next week that we forget to enjoy today.

Jesus speaks about this very concept in **Matthew 6:34 (NKJV)** "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Remember, no matter how hard you try, you can only take one day at a time. Trying to do more than that is futile and unnecessarily stressful.

Someone told me that the reason today is called the "present" is because it is a gift, to be enjoyed and used to its fullest. That's not a bad way to look at it.

Decently and in Order

(In light of our special Men's Training Class this past Sunday, I thought you might find the following article challenging. M.G.)

If one looks closely at what the creative hand of God has wrought he is immediately impressed with the order of the creation. Such order is the basis of one of the most compelling arguments for God's existence. Both the Psalmist and the apostle Paul make reference to this argument. The Psalmist expressed it this way:

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained (set in place, NIV), what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor.

Psalm 8:3-5

The apostle Paul expressed it with these words:

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.

Romans 1:20

Modern scientists so impressed with the order of creation have refined the argument into what is called Intelligent Design. Based upon the order we see in nature, which reflects design, not chaos, it is reasonable to believe there is a Designer responsible for that order.

It doesn't take an advanced scientific degree for someone to observe the order in the world. We can see it everywhere we look, from the vastness of outer space, to the world that is only perceptible with a powerful microscope. Everywhere we look in God's creation there is order.

Would this God of order then bring into existence something that was not orderly? What about the church which God provides through His Son? Even there we see order as God has decreed that elders are to shepherd the flock (Acts.20:28, 1 Timothy 3:1-7). What about the worship of the church?

In some "worship assemblies" there is such a cacophony of sounds and sights that confusion reigns. One might wonder: "Are we in a worship assembly or an entertainment venue?" Is God pleased and glorified with such spectacle? In others

there is such confusion it is obvious that little preparation has been made to worship Him. Paul, in addressing some abuses of the assembly at Corinth, gave the following inspired worship principle in order to help correct those abuses: "Let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40). One translation has "in an orderly way."

That word translated "order" is an interesting word. It is the Greek word which has been transliterated into English as the word "taxis" which is defined as "arrangement or order as in one of the physical sciences." It is also the root of the word "taxonomy" which is the science of identifying, naming, and classification of organisms. That is, putting scientific information into a usable and meaningful order.

The Greek word "taxis" is found ten times in the New Testament and, in the New King James, is consistently translated as "order." Eight of those occurrences reference the order of the priests as in Luke 1:8 and Hebrews 5, 6, and 7. The Greek word "taxis" is defined as:

"an arranging, arrangement, order ... is used in Luke 1:8 of the fixed succession of the course of the priests; of due 'order,' in contrast to confusion, in the gatherings of a local church, 1 Cor 14:40; of the general condition of such, Col 2:5 (some give it a military significance here); of the divinely appointed character or nature of a priesthood, of Melchizedek, as foreshadowing that of Christ, Heb 5:6,10, 6:20; 7:11, 17." (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright © 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers.)

I find it fascinating that Paul uses this word in reference to the worship of God. "Let all things be done decently and in order." What does he mean? I think that principle is certainly amplified by an earlier worship principle in 1 Corinthians 14:33: "For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints."

What is the real life, practical application of all this? While Paul is not arguing for two songs, a prayer, another song, etc. he is certainly telling us that the God of order expects the worship we offer Him to be orderly, not filled with confusion. Would anything less be consistent with His nature as a God of order? When we come together to respond to God, to approach God in worship, to give Him our praise and adoration, let it be done decently and in an orderly way as the God of order has instructed.

—Michael D. Greene

News and Notes

LIFE GROUPS

Life Group #4 will meet Sunday after Bible class for assignments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rosewood Devotional at 2:15 p.m.	August 28
Ladies Eat Out - Panera 6:00 p.m.	September 15
Men Eat Out - Chic Filet 6:00 p.m.	September 15
Men's Retreat	October 28-29
Ladies' Day	November 12

SUMMER SERIES

The theme for Lehman Avenue's Summer Series is "When My Time Is Over...". Our speaker on Wednesday night, August 31, will be Sellers Crain from Rivergate church of Christ in Madison, TN. His topic is *Therefore Comfort One Another*.

LADS TO LEADERS/LEADERETTES

It's registration time!! Your first opportunity to register for the 2012 convention will be Sunday, September 11 following Bible study. There will be a table set up in the MPR where you will be able to get information about the events, the convention and pick up registration forms. ANYONE attending the convention or participating in an event MUST complete a registration form. Please plan to stop by the table and start your registration process. See Harold or Kelli Nicks if you need more information.

If you are participating or would like to participate in *Bible Bowl*, please see Stephen Pitcock for a copy of the questions.

All girls participating in GIFTS need to meet Sunday, August 28, at 5:15 p.m. in MPR4 to get your books and class assignments. Please see Joyce Johnson if you have questions.

EVANGELIZE KENTUCKY

Sunday August 21, 2011

GRANT COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Attendance: 48 Contribution: \$570.00

OWENTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

Attendance: 12 Contribution: \$266.00

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Please continue to remember Gene Christy, Charlie Cook, Martha Mason, Dorothy DeWeese, Marvin Jones (father of Jim Jones and Shirley Mills), and Casey Cooper (son-in-law of Jerry Carmichael) in your prayers.

BRIDAL SHOWER

There will be a bridal shower for Ashley Wells on Sunday, September 18 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the MPR. Ashley and Jared McGuire are registered at Target, Kohl's and Home Depot. All ladies are invited to attend.

WE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD BOOKS!

Just a reminder, don't forget to return borrowed books to the church library. Please check around your home, car, camper, barn, boat, workshop, RV, garage, motorcycle, condo, vacation home, outhouse, tree house, dog house, deer stand, duck blind, fishing hole, etc. for any books on loan that may need to be returned. Here is a list of the missing books:

TITLE	AUTHOR
I'll Stand on the Rock	Leo Boles
Holman Bible Atlas	Thomas Brisco
Work of the Holy Spirit in Redemption	Franklin Camp
Death Brings Hurt and Help	Wayne Coats
Growing Through Grief	Bill Flatt
Questions People Ask Ministers Most	Harold Hazelip
Daughters of Eve	Lottie Beth Hobbs
All the Men of the Bible	Herbert Lockyer
All the Women of the Bible	Herbert Lockyer
Press to the Prize (Philippians)	Avon Malone
Patterns for Living	Irene Young Mattox
Lectures on the Holy Spirit	Gus Nichols
The Lord's Supper, Prayer, & Thanksgiving	C. R. Nichol
Jerusalem	Frederick G. Owen
Syllabus on Paul's Epistles	Ridley J. Stroop
The Church of Christ	Edward Wharton
The Work of the Holy Spirit	Howard Winters
The New Testament Church	F. B. Srygley
Jehovah's Witnesses Errors Exposed	William J. Schnell
Sermon Design and Delivery	

WKU MINISTRY

We are preparing 30 WKU Bags to welcome our students back. Please place donations in the WKU baskets by this Sunday, August 28.

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship.....9:30 A.M.
 Bible Class.....10:40 A.M.
 Evening Worship.....6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday Mid-week Service.....7:00 P.M.

Minister

Michael D. Greene

Associate Minister

Daniel Gaines

Elders

Darrell Dubree
 Bobby Gilbert
 John K. Gott
 Warren Vaughan

Deacons

Don Cole	Dan Grise	Hugh Runner
Larry Cole	Eddie Hughes	Russell Simpson
Gil Ray Cowles	Derek Johnson	Jim Tabor
Rick Emerson	Danny Jones	Roger Watt
Kevin Eubanks	Riley Keown	Rick Wheat
Butch Gilbert	Mike McGuire	Ronnie Wilson

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**August 28, A.M. Worship
 Assignments**

Announcements..... Braden Wilson
 Song Leader.....Phil Hartnady
 Sermon.....Mike Greene
 First Prayer.....Ronnie Wilson
 Lord's Supper Prayer..... Rick Emerson

SERVE AT TABLE

Leroy Johnson..... Carley Dickerson
 Ray Jones.....Jim Jones
 David Duncan.....Corbin Cowles
 Russell Simpson.....Alt.....Ethan Keown

Closing prayer.....Justin Lohden
 Bus Driver.....Russell Simpson

6 P.M. WORSHIP

Announcements/Prayer.....Jared McGuire
 Song Leader.....David Leo Floyd
 Closing Prayer.....Nicholas Dubree

August 31, P. M. WEDNESDAY

Announcements.....Barrett Hammer
 Song Leader.....Dan Grise

Shut In At Home

Fred Adams; Dorothy Herrington;
 Lucyrene Price; Joyce Siddens (Atlanta);
 Eugenia Smith; Geraldine Garrison; Charles
 Cook; Doug Bean; Jessie Thomas; Nellie Brown;
 Hazel Sensing; Pauline Nowicki; Ruby Wilson

In Nursing Care

Christian Health Center
 Lois Devore 203B

Rosewood Manor
 Flossie Haynes 114A

Morningside
 Rolena Greathouse 133