

*A monthly publication of Memorial Christian Church
in the interest of promoting the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and goodwill among His people, our friends.*

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Jesus Christ

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David Benedict
Forrest Cotter
Rick Schmeski
Bill Sites
Bruce Wolf

Deacons

Kevin Cotter
James Darr
James Evans
Gene Frazier
Gene McCoy
Joey Peglar
Rick Schmeski

Secretary

Joy Williams

Preacher

Gene McCoy

Youth Minister

Eric Dwyer



Pastor's Pen

by Gordon Addington, Elder

The leadership is keenly aware that there has been ongoing interest in what progress has been made toward the sale of our current property and movement on the beginning of construction on our proposed new facility. It is our desire to keep everyone informed

of progress as it occurs.

Although a lot of work has been going on, there has not been a great deal of information to pass on. Sometimes progress seems slow. But I assure you that it has been steady.

The Building Committee has been meeting regularly with our

architect, Elton Roe, who tells us we are only a few weeks away from having blueprints completed and taking bids from general contractors. This could happen as early as May. As soon as the city grants the appropriate permits dirt work may begin. And that won't be too soon because

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Special Worship Set

"Good Friday" Vespers

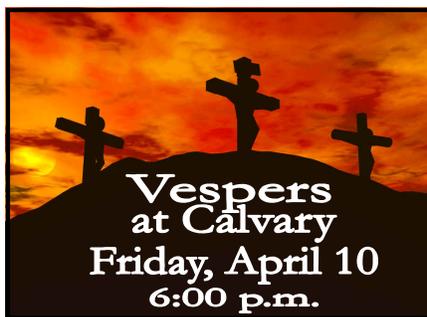
For the third year in a row, we will be offering a Friday evening worship format instead of a traditional sunrise service. The response to this format has surpassed by far any sunrise event.

As usual, the hour long worship will feature pertinent musical messages and devotional thoughts. There may be something unusual about other

segments, however.

Please invite your associates to join

you for this meaningful presentation of the gospel message of reconciliation and peace through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. ■



Friday, April 24

Rally at the Rock (Rock Garden Christian Camp)

This year's pre-season camp rally will feature two Rock Garden Camp alumni. Titus Benton will speak and Allen Tyger will lead the music.

This rally is planned to

promote the upcoming summer camp program. We urge all campers to attend, of course. But we especially encourage the parents and other adults from the congregations to

come out for the one-night rally kicking off the 2009 camping season.

The meal will be served at 6:00. The church van will leave the parking lot at 4:30. ■



Preacher's Pen *by Gene McCoy*

For other articles and information about our congregation, go online www.memorialchristian.com

Personal Note

I appreciate the participation of Elders and others who fasted and prayed during my sabbatical. Your active involvement was a meaningful support to me.
Gene McCoy

Condolences

are extended to **Steve Hayward**, our preacher in Papua New Guinea, whose father graduated to Glory on Thursday, March 19.



Convention

April 17 & 18
Russellville

Featuring Bob Russell

At their January meeting, the Elders granted my request for a two-week sabbatical. The academic world customarily awards sabbaticals to professors for the purpose of doing research or in pursuing further education in their field. It isn't a vacation, in other words! My purpose was to "push the 'reset' button" in various areas of my life.

I had long wanted to read the Bible in a "single sitting." This I was able to accomplish, and that in only nine days! I am not a speed reader. I wasn't reading for speed, but for a better comprehension of the entire Bible in context. See p. 4 for a breakdown of how long it took me to read each book.

The practice of fasting had been something I had experienced for only very short periods of time when an important decision in the life of the church or my life was pending. What would it be like to live on nothing but water for two weeks, much more the very extended periods reported in the Bible with reference to Moses, Elijah, and Jesus?

I also wanted to isolate myself from all outside noise and influences so as to concentrate on the Bible reading and my thoughts and reflections. So I did not read a newspaper, listen to any radio or television, or have access to the Internet. I lived in seclusion, having no contact with people, except for daily text messages to my wife to assure her of my well-being. My plan was to remain utterly silent for two weeks.

Although I did not accomplish all of my goals, I am satisfied that all of my objectives were fulfilled, including the objective of resting. I did succeed in not listening to the radio or television, or in reading a newspaper the entire period. Nor did I access the Internet or look at my mounting e-mail messages (a feat my wife and children thought would be my greatest

challenge!).

After a week of existing on water alone, my two resident nurses (my wife and older daughter) prevailed upon me to take some nourishment. Being a compliant patient, I did relax that aspect of my plan.

Blurriness in my vision prompted me to come home early so as to consult with my ophthalmologist. She said allergies related to the changing of the season had caused bumps to form under my eyelids, thereby creating the irritation and the blurriness. After filling the prescriptions for eye drops, I finished my sabbatical in parks at our beautiful lakes and rivers nearby.

One of our former preachers at Memorial Christian Church takes a week each year to be alone for planning and to recharge his batteries. This could be a very healthy practice. It would be good for every aspiring preacher to devote a solid week or ten days for the sole purpose of reading the entire Bible without the pressure of deadlines and duties at home and the office or the distractions of the world.

I discovered some things about myself. I need to be around people (especially Becky) — and my doggies. Seclusion is not for me.

There IS no place like home! And no bed like MY bed.

Confirmed was also the fact that I enjoy reading most when I am not preparing for a test, sermon, or lesson.

I also demonstrated that a person can live happily and peacefully without the daily news, the blaring radio, television, or the Internet.

And I am satisfied that most people eat more food and more often than is necessary. I don't advocate the practice of living on only four gallons of water in a week. But drinking more water every day would probably do all of us a lot of good. And get us back into those "skinny" clothes!

Gratitude Continues

Thank you, Mike, B.J., and Gene for cutting and getting my limbs to the curb. I don't know what we oldies would do without help from great folks like you!
With love, Sissy Lieb

A belated thank you from the bottom of my heart for the tree clean-up on my property. What a blessing you were to me and a tremendous example of Christian principles.

Love,
Karen Robinson

I thank each and every one who helped to get my yard picked up. You are angels here on earth. "Each one of the volunteers is an angel.

Thank you all, Kay Bolinger

Genesis New Midweek Series

Rick Schmeski is facilitating a new study in a DVD format that brings the former preacher of our largest congregation into our classroom. Bob Russell was for decades the preacher at Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY and is a popular convention speaker. In fact, he is the

featured speaker at our state's convention this month. Each lesson includes segments for class discussion, which makes an otherwise impersonal video presentation more personal.



Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Risky Creation

a study of Genesis taught by Bob Russell

Come directly from work and enjoy a nice dinner at 5:30. Then gain from the fellowship in the Word of God.

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WE HAVE SOLD OUR CURRENT BUILDINGS!

We have a signed contract with a buyer and have a tentative closing date of April 19. The contract stipulates that we will lease the auditorium and downstairs classrooms on Sundays and Wednesdays for a period of up to eighteen months.

We continue to see the hand of God in this process and we put our complete trust in Him. Our buildings have been on the market for a relatively short time and we are certainly blessed to sell an old church building so quickly. And we are especially blessed to have a buyer that is willing to pay our asking price and to work with us to ease the transition.

When we look back on the many things that have gotten us to this place in the process and the way in which they

have come together, we believe that our trust has been well founded indeed!

Though we have been incurring bills all along, we have been able to pay them without asking for additional giving up to this time. We are now beginning to move into a new phase and would like each of member and friend of the congregation to prayerfully consider increasing your gifts and offerings as we take this next step. Start by keeping this endeavor in your daily prayers. Keep in mind always that our main goal is to build the Kingdom of God and reach the lost. The new building is merely a tool to help us reach that goal.

We are excited to be moving forward and pray that you, too, are excited to be engaged in Kingdom work. As new information arises we will do our best to keep everyone aware of what is happening.



APRIL MEETINGS

- 1 Finance Ministry Team
- 6 Willing Workers
- 7 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 13 Elders
- 16 Building Committee
- 26 Missions ministry Team

Thank You

To the Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Memorial Christian Church:

Thank you for the prayers, gifts and even thoughts at the time of Russ' loss.

May God bless you!
In Christian love,
Lesa Dunham and Family



Reserve these dates!

- MAY**
 - 26-28 B'ball Camp
- JUNE**
 - 7-12 Sr. High
 - 14-19 Intermediate
- JULY**
 - 5-10 Jr. High
 - 12-15 Pee Wee
 - 16-17 1st Chance
 - 19-24 Base Camp

Local Preacher Goes Home Homegoing for Russ Dunham

On Wednesday, February 25, our preacher at the Flippin Christian Church was killed in a boating accident on Bull Shoals Lake. Bro. Russ Dunham was 43 years of age and had been the preacher at Flippin since January of 2001. He leaves his wife, Lesa, and three children.

The Sunday following his death, more than a dozen members of our congregation joined in fellowship in the Lord's Supper with our brothers and sisters at Flippin, hoping to display our unity in their grief as well as their hope and joy in Christ. The preacher that morning was Dr. Don Ott, a Timothy of that congregation who was a close friend of Bro. Russ. His message was perfectly formed and delivered and may be accessed on his web site. It will bless and stir you, even though you may never have known Bro. Russ. Go to www.drdonott.com, click on the Seminars tab, and then click on the red text, "Tribute to Russ Dunham."

We extend our condolences to the family and to the congregation, all of whom loved and appreciated their preacher.

How long did it take the preacher to read the Bible?

Genesis	6:20	Isaiah	4:00	Romans	:55
Exodus	3:00	Jeremiah	5:00	1 Cor.	:50
Leviticus	2:00	Lamen.	:25	2 Cor.	:35
Numbers	4:00	Ezekiel	4:25	Galatians	:15
Deut.	2:30	Daniel	1:00	Ephesians	:15
Joshua	1:25	Hosea	:30	Philippians	:10
Judges	1:35	Joel	:15	Colossians	:10
Ruth	:15	Amos	:25	1 Thess.	:10
1 Samuel	3:10	Obadiah	:05	2 Thess.	:05
2 Samuel	2:05	Jonah	:05	1 Timothy	:13
1 Kings	2:20	Micah	:20	2 Timothy	:12
2 Kings	2:05	Nahum	:10	Titus	:05
1 Chron.	1:45	Habakkuk	:08	Philemon	:03
2 Chron.	2:35	Zeph.	:10	Hebrews	:35
Ezra	:40	Haggai	:05	James	:12
Nehemiah	:45	Zech.	:40	1 Peter	:15
Esther	:30	Malachi	:13	2 Peter	:10
Job	1:35	Matthew	3:20	1 John	:13
Psalms	3:45	Mark	1:10	2 John	:02
Proverbs	1:40	Luke	2:20	3 John	:02
Eccles.	:30	John	1:35	Jude	:13
S.O.S.	:20	Acts	2:15	Revelation	1:13

Grand Total 80:32

The LORD'S COMMISSION is OUR MISSION
Matthew 28:19-20

Sunday Morning 9:30 Worship
Wednesday Evening 5:30 Supper
6:30 Bible Classes

Meeting Schedule

www.memorialchristian.com

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