

*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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Bill Sites  
Bruce Wolf

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Joy Williams

**Preacher**

Gene McCoy

## ***Youth Programs Up and Running***

*by Joey Peglar, Deacon — Education Ministry Team*

One of the great things about Memorial Christian Church is that we can cope with change. As previously reported, Titus Neuenschwander and his family recently moved to Joplin, MO, leaving MCC with some big shoes to fill. While we are in the process of finding a new youth minister, I am happy to report that all youth activities and classes for 2008 are up and running full speed.

We are so grateful for the willingness of Angi Littlejohn and Becky McCoy for taking over the Wednesday night elementary youth program. Angi and Becky are currently working on some great new ideas to implement into the program. The Junior and Senior high classes, however, have been hijacked by a group of youth sponsors that don't want to grow up. We can praise God that so many adults from our congregation have a heart for the youth of MCC. This group of youngster wannabees include: Walt McKay, Vanessa Peglar, Charles Monahan, Rick and Jan Schmeski, Courtney Pickett, Ashton Morris, Brett Schmeski, and myself (Joey Peglar).

We kicked off our first class opening with worship time and a study on Proverbs taught by the great "Tiny" Charles Monahan. Walt McKay will be

our primary teacher for this class, assisted by our eager youth sponsors.

The Junior and Senior High class will be traveling to Little Rock the first week in February for a Christian concert and a team building ropes course. This will be a great opportunity for the youth to bond with each other and grow closer to Christ.

On Sunday mornings, Kid's Praise is back in action with Vanessa taking the lead. We're extending the ages to 3-10 years old at this time. I want to thank Vicky Wolf for combining Titus' Sunday school class with her current class. This consolidation of classes will be temporary, with Jan Schmeski soon to take over the 5th and 6th grade class.

The pre-school class is still running strong on Sundays and Wednesdays with the help of Sandy Lloyd, John Lloyd and Linda Martin.

MCC should be very proud that we have such a great group of leaders willing to step up and take charge, leading our youth to Christ. This is not an easy job and we thank every teacher and every helper for all their hard work and dedication to the kids and our Lord. ■

**Youth program hijacked!  
by sponsors who don't  
want to grow up**



## Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

For other articles and information about our congregation, go online [www.memorialchristian.com](http://www.memorialchristian.com)

### Obituary

Former member, **Jim Nail**, departed this life on Monday, January 7.

### Gratitude

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Joy Williams

Dear Friends in Christ,  
Ed and I had the privilege of enjoying your Christmas Eve Vespers. Your program and music were awesome. Quiet, simple and solemn is what we need.

Thank you for sharing your talents and the hours of preparation are appreciated.

With God's Blessings,  
Ed & Sherrie Parkin  
Flippin, AR

The Mtn. Home Christian Clinic Board of Directors sent a note thanking our congregation for providing the meal for the volunteer staff in December.

What constitutes the most important issue is debated during every election cycle. The catch phrase of a previous presidential campaign — "It's the economy, stupid!" — has been resurrected in the present one. The economy is an important consideration. So is immigration or the war against terrorism.

The correctness of a position and priority of an issue with many people is founded upon subjectivism and selfishness. It is decided upon the basis of what advances their own interests. It may not be what is best for the country. And it doesn't necessarily take God into consideration. The Christian considers what issue is most important to God.

There is a recurring issue in our presidential elections that is most important to God. And the correct position is based upon the objective truth found in God's Word and in the very nature of God. It is the most fundamental issue upon which all other values and issues are based and to which they are secondary. We refer, of course, to the sanctity of human life.

Albert Schweitzer said, "If a man loses reverence for any part of life, he will lose his reverence for all life." A candidate's position on the sanctity of human life measures integrity, principle, trustworthiness,

character, and godliness more than any other issue. If you want to know the candidate's soul and the validity of his/her claim to know and love God, probe the strength of his/her stance regarding the sanctity of human life. This will also reveal the sincerity of any claim to be compassionate toward the poor and needy. It will also reveal the motive underlying their position. Is it really out of genuine concern for the individual and the country? Or is their true motive to simply gain power and influence? Is it *principle* or *politics*?

### The most important issue in the election

The Bible says God created all that is (Gen. 1:1) and that man is distinctly superior to all other creatures (Gen. 2:7). God recognizes viability and personhood before birth (Ps. 139:13-16). God not only knows each person before birth (Jer. 1:5), but He has a purpose for each (Is. 49:1, 5; Gal. 1:15-16).

Taking human life is a capital offense (Gen. 9:6; Ex. 21:12; Lev. 24:17). The only exception ordained by God, other than self-defense, is the execution of evildoers (e.g., murderers), and that only by government (Rom. 13:4).

God requires us to defend the innocent and protect the defenseless (Ps. 82:3-4; Prov. 12:6; 31:8-9).

There are presidential

candidates who favor legislation that jeopardizes these Biblical values and principles. We cannot afford to give consent of power to these candidates.

The likelihood that two pieces of such legislation will be enacted depends upon the person who next occupies the White House. One is the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA), which would nullify the ban of partial-birth abortion and reverse virtually all laws that protect the unborn. Another related issue is the Equal Rights Amendment. This would have sweeping implications on abortion laws, resulting in the continued slaughter of the innocents.

Educate yourself on these issues and vote accordingly. Access the information at [www.nrlc.org](http://www.nrlc.org). Click on Legislation, then Current Issues, and scroll down to these two issues.

The Declaration of Independence states that we have not only the right, but the duty to remove or prevent a government that does not promote and protect the unalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. To fail in this is not only to jeopardize our liberty and to become subject to godless despots, but also to forfeit the blessing of Almighty God.

The Declaration of Independence states the fact that government

*(Continued on page 3)*

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## Our Bible College Students

We presently provide scholarships for three young people attending Bible college. **Tim Deutscher** and **Sabreena Massey** began their studies last fall. **Brandon Bausano** joined them last month. All three are attending Ozark Christian College in Joplin, MO.

Our congregation is happy to provide

scholarships to students from our congregation who attend a Bible college within the Restoration Movement. *[If you are unfamiliar with that term, you will want to attend the midweek classes during the month of February. See below.]* Our missionary families qualify for this scholarship, as well as those who attend our congregation.

Full-time students (12 hrs. or more) receive \$800/semester. Part-time students receive a pro-rated amount. We require recipients to formally request the scholarship each semester and to report their progress by submitting their grades.

This is administered by our Missions Ministry Team. ■

### FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- 3 Education Ministry Team
- 4 Willing Workers
- 4 Building Committee
- 6 Missions Ministry Team
- 11 Elders
- 14 Outreach Ministry Team
- 19 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 21 Property Ministry Team

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## That The World May Believe

The midweek class for adults in February and March will feature a video series taught by Dr. James North, professor of History at Cincinnati (OH) Christian University. Dr. North traces the exciting movement on various fronts in the United States and Europe away from denominational division to unity that is based upon the authority of the Scriptures. The American frontier in the early nineteenth century was the setting for a unity movement that swept like a wildfire across Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Ohio.

In these lessons you will learn about the personalities and principles in this movement that continues to plead for unity resulting from the disposal of human creeds and removal of denominational designations, both of which divide

followers of Jesus.

Dr. North tells the amazing story of individuals who, many times unknown to one another, came to similar conclusions independently regarding the only way to unite sincere people from the denominations — specifically, a common commitment to the authority of the Bible as the inspired revelation of God's will.

The series concludes with a brief summary of the three main groups which make up the churches of the Restoration Movement: the non-instrumental Church of Christ, the Disciples of Christ, and the independent Christian Church. Dr. North challenges us to work toward fulfilling the prayer of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane - "that the world may believe." ■

The church building will be opened and the Lord's Supper served every Sunday

## Weather or Not ❄️



The Elders have appointed the following to search for another youth minister candidate:

Forrest Cotter, Elder  
Gene McCoy, Chmn.  
Walt McKay  
Rick Schmeski

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### Preacher's Pen

*(Continued from p. 2)*

derives power from the **consent of the governed**. The Christian citizen must recognize and reject any candidate who does not honor the government's role as it pertains to preserving our unalienable right to life.

Any candidate who favors the taking of innocent life (e.g., the unborn, the sick and infirm, etc.) and the preservation of a capital offender's life is not only self-contradictory but also rebelling against God. **We cannot honor God by giving government the**

**power to destroy human life!** Your consent is given at the ballot box. Voting for a presidential candidate who can justify the taking of any human life apart from capital punishment and self-defense is consenting to government-sanctioned murder. ■



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### Meeting Schedule

Sunday Morning	Wednesday Evening
9:30 Worship	5:30 Supper
11:00 Bible Classes	6:30 Bible Classes

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

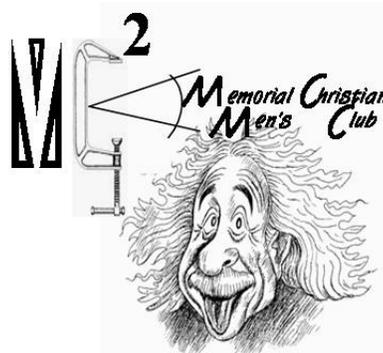
## Note from Neuenschwanders

*Ed. Note: This came just after the January CONTACT was published.*

Dear MCC Friends,

Thank you so much for the love you have showered on us through the years and even in the midst of our moving to Joplin. In our preparation to move we have probably neglected to express our thankfulness to everyone. Please know how grateful we are for all of you. Our move to Joplin was successful. Our volunteer laborers did an outstanding job. Thank You! We had the truck unloaded in about an hour with no casualties. We are still trying to recover from the last few weeks, but are starting to feel motivated again. We are missing everyone this week. I think the realization of the move is starting to soak in. Anyway please continue to remember us in your prayers as we remember you.

Best Wishes to All,  
Titus, Lesli, and family



**Saturday, February 9**

**9:00 — 10:30**

## Gone Fishin'

Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.  
Dismiss by 10:30 a.m.

Guys, bring your favorite **LURES** and **LORE**.

At least one of our men will bring his bass boat to show. Others may do so, as well. Any trophy mounts to show?

**Lure** your buddies to participate in this fellowship among Christian men.