

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

In this issue . . .

P. 2

- ◆ Preacher's Pen
- ◆ Additions to the body

P. 3

- ◆ Ministry Team Report
- ◆ Financial Peace Univ.

P. 4

- ◆ Building Committee Report
- ◆ Building Fund Update

Chief Shepherd

Jesus Christ

Pastors

Gordon Addington
Forrest Cotter
Bill Sites
Bruce Wolf

Deacons

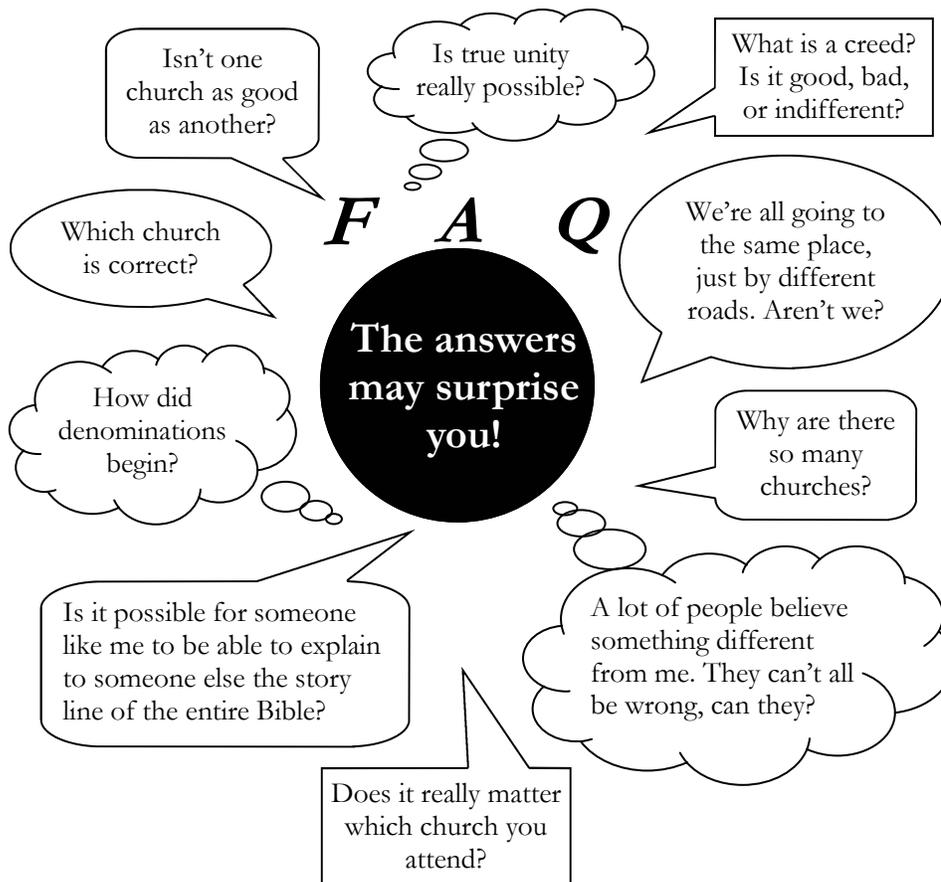
Kevin Cotter
James Darr
James Evans
Gene Frazier
Gene McCoy
Dave McQueen
Joey Peglar
Hubert Pickett

Secretary

Joy Williams

Preacher

Gene McCoy



Wednesdays in January

6:30—7:30 p.m.

Chances are good that you have asked or been asked these or similar questions. So you know firsthand that these are real questions asked by real people. Are you able to provide a sensible, Biblical response?

Every Christian should be equipped to answer these questions and to give a concise overview of the Bible story line. So we are happy to present a

seasoned and studied teacher to help us gain understanding and ability.

Lowell E. McCoy, Sr., of Jacksonville, AR, is a retired preacher who has spent his life teaching people in their homes and Christians in the church how to respond to these fundamental issues. With the use of charts and diagrams, he will walk us through the fog of confusion that has

plagued people and lead us to the clear skies of Bible understanding.

The presentations begin on Wednesday, January 9, and will continue on successive Wednesdays in January. The presentations will be beneficial for teens and adults. Your friends who have struggled with these questions are also welcome! Bring someone with you.



Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

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

Additions

Immersed believers, **David and Patsy Benedict** and **George and Gloria Rapson** have been added to our congregation, having moved to our community from CA and TX, respectively.

Gratitude

We are very grateful for your generous gift at Christmas. Our gratitude is matched by our appreciation for the opportunity to work with you.

We are also grateful for the many cards we have received.

We wish for each of you a wonderful year.

Sincerely,
Gene & Becky
McCoy

In every church in every community every Sunday there are people who think that the responsibility to make the worship service inspiring, effective, and enjoyable rests with someone else. Despite the fundamental fallacy that the primary purpose of the Sunday morning gathering is to somehow entertain us and attract others, there are simple things every Christian can and should do to fulfill the Biblical instructions relating to encouraging and exhorting one another.

ATTEND

This is so obvious, yet it seems to elude some people. Just showing up and taking up space is worth something. We all know how crowd size and excitement correspond.

ARRIVE EARLY

May we be honest and acknowledge that tardiness is rude, indicates carelessness, and communicates a lack of consideration for others? Arriving early indicates the importance and significance of the activity or event. It communicates eager anticipation of something good that you don't want to miss. It expresses consideration for others, whose fellowship you value and attention you don't want to distract by entering late.

ASSIST NEWCOMERS

Arriving early also makes you available to meet and assist newcomers, which is surely more important to the sincere Christian than a few more minutes of sleep or an extra cup of coffee.

Ten Tips *How EVERY person can make ANY worship service better*

GREET PEOPLE

A friendly and warm greeting helps to establish a familiar environment that prepares people for participation and the reception of the message. We know the impact this has upon newcomers, whom we claim to value and hope will return.

SIT UP FRONT

Sitting toward the front can indicate our level of interest and enthusiasm for what is taking place. At the stadium or arena the choice seats are close to the action. Leaving the back rows available for latecomers, mothers of young children, and those with health issues is a courtesy we encourage.

SING

Singing is a distinctive hallmark of Christianity. It is one way we minister to each other (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). It is a way to express love and devotion,

as well as emotion and enthusiasm. If you think proper consideration for those around you requires you to remain silent, at least mouth the lyrics with appropriate expression with your face and body, as if you are the great Caruso. Non-participation in the singing does not contribute favorably in any way.

LISTEN & RESPOND

Be engaged in every aspect. Focus your eyes and tune in your ears on that which is appropriate, not being distracted by others or a distraction to others. Discipline yourself to ignore potential distractions and to become a better listener. It helps those around you to develop these skills.

BE A PARTICIPANT

Worship is not a spectator event. No one can do it for you.

ATTEND A CLASS

Those who participate in a class will testify that it enhances the corporate assembly. You have to experience it to understand it.

STAY LATE

Don't rush out the door as the last "Amen" is spoken. Hang around and visit. Develop new relationships and build on established ones. Treasure your time together. ■

Property Ministry Team Report *by Jim Darr*

Six men volunteered their service at the scheduled work day on Saturday, November 17th. They were Bill Butler, Joey Peglar, Ted Tigard, George Rapson, Bruce Wolf, and Gene McCoy, who power-washed part of the Banquet Center on Friday, the 16th, because he would be out of town on Saturday.

A lot of work was done. Shrubs were trimmed, leaves were cleaned up, light bulbs were changed, furnace filters were changed, and cabinets in the Banquet Center were repaired. Thanks to all who volunteered.

The ladies are reminded that there is something for them to do

on the church work days.

The next scheduled workday is Saturday March 22, 2008. It begins at 8:30 am.

New entrance doors to the Banquet Center have arrived and will be replaced soon. Volunteers to install the doors will be needed. If you are interested, please contact me.

JANUARY MEETINGS

- 7 *Willing Workers*
- 7 *Worship Ministry Team*
- 14 *Elders*
- 15 *Benevolence Ministry Team*
- 18 *Property Ministry Team*
- 23 *Missions Ministry Team*

Vesper Reflections *by Gene McCoy*

The last special event of the year was again validated by a large audience. We were delighted to welcome people from

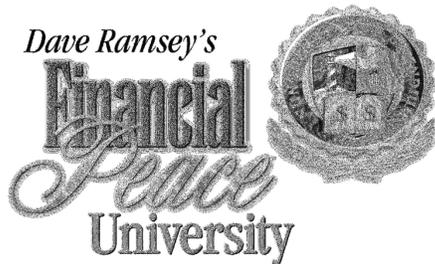
various states and from our own community. Although no official count is available, it is estimated that it was the largest Holiday Vespers crowd.

One of the highlights was David Benedict's presentation of his original Christmas Meditation, entitled, "Don't Worry, Joseph." Of special interest in this regard is the fact that this was not the first time his meditation was presented at a Holiday Vespers. Bruce Wolf presented it several years ago, when we discovered it in some publication. When preparing for this year's Vespers, we came across this first-person meditation, noticing for the first time the name of the author. It was the same as one of our newest members. Upon investigation, we discovered that "OUR" own David Benedict was THE David W. Benedict credited for the piece. Well, we just had to have the author present his creation. And he did — with an excellent middle eastern accent.

Holiday Vespers was a special way to end a special year at Memorial Christian.

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

Weather or Not ❄️ ❄️



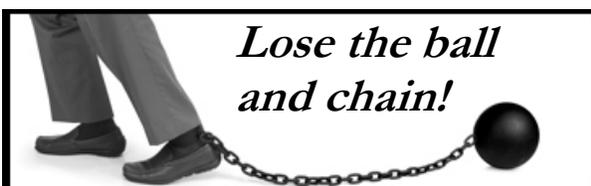
BEAT debt; BUILD wealth!

**FREE! Preview — Sunday, January 6
4:00 — 5:00 p.m.**

**First class — Sunday, January 13
3:30 — 5:30 p.m.**

ENROLL NOW! The \$100 enrollment fee is due on January 6. Complete the enrollment form at church, or ask for one to be mailed to your home.

Gain the freedom thousands of people just like you are enjoying as a result of this life-changing course that applies Biblical principles to make your money behave.

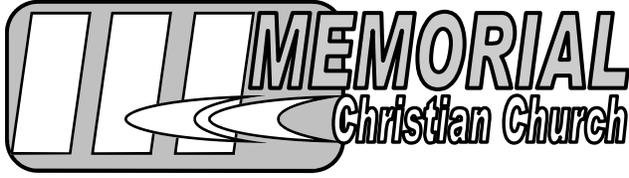


**Lose the ball
and chain!**



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

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



315 W. 6th St. Mtn. Home, AR 72653 870-425-8323

Non-Profit Org.
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Mtn. Home, AR
72653

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sent With a Prayer to

www.memorialchristian.com

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

Building Committee Report

by Jim Darr

The Building Committee has completed the process of narrowing the field of design / build companies that will present and interview with the Building Committee and the Elders. Following this presentation / interview process, the Building Committee will make its recommendation to the Elders. The Elders will make the final decision who is hired to plan, design, and build our new church building.

The four Companies that will present are:

1. January 7, 2008
Building God's Way (BGW)
Lonny Houk, presenter
2. January 21, 2008
Goodman Architectural
Services

3. February 4, 2008
Akers Church Building
Services Gil Tobias, presenter
4. February 18, 2008
Elton Roe Architect
Elton Roe, presenter

The members of the Building Committee, Bob Haines, Norm Lueck, Joey Peglar, Gene Frazier, and Lesli Neuenschwander, have worked very hard to this point and still have a lot of work to do.

Walt McKay, who is a very capable young man, has replaced Lesli Neuenschwander, who is moving. Thanks, Lesli, for your input and your desire to serve the young people in our church. ■

Building Fund Update

As of December 30, 2007, the total amount in our Building Fund is \$23,059.62. The mortgage balance is \$65,547.49. The Elders have set a goal of retiring this debt by the end of the first quarter of 2008, at which time dirt work may begin.

In a statement made by Bruce Wolf on behalf of the Elders at the conclusion of the worship service on Sunday, December 23, the congregation was commended for the contributions toward this goal. But the Lord was credited and glorified for the circumstances surrounding the sale of the building on the Commerce St. property, which retired a large portion of the debt. The Elders encouraged the congregation to set their sites on achieving the debt-free goal by the end of March by accelerating the rate of contributions to the Bldg. Fund. ■