

*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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Eric Dwyer

The Heat is On! by Eric Dwyer

I left for Rock Garden to work high school camp last month and thought to myself, "I'll be gone for a whole week. I won't need to run my A/C at my house. I'll save a BUNDLE on my energy bill!" So I worked the week of camp (It was a BLAST by the way. We have a great church camp) and came home thinking all would be well. I not only returned to a furnace, but all my doors had swollen up because of the humidity.

A good friend of mine told me something that snagged my interest shortly after my trip. He told me never to fully shut off my A/C, but to turn the thermostat up a bit. It actually would end up costing me more to cool the whole house all over again than if I just maintained a higher temperature. It

would also prevent my doors from swelling so I can shut them! Here I was thinking I was giving myself a break in my bills, but I just made things worse!

It's summer time. Things are warming up and we can find ourselves being quite busy with summer fun, activities, and kids. It can be tempting to want to take a

break from working with the church to soak up the sun. I think that would be even more costly a mistake than turning your A/C all the way off when you're out of the house. It will take much more energy to start back up again...and you may start swelling up! Even worse...you may be tempted to just stay off. Let's stay cool this summer and not neglect our service to the King!



***Happy Anniversary
Fifteen Years of Ministry***

by Gene McCoy

The second Sunday of July in 1993 was our first with this congregation. Our two previous ministries had ended in disappointment, so we needed a place to heal emotionally and to receive affirmation and support. God has blessed us with all that we need through this congregation, and we give Him thanks for you.

One of our greatest blessings is the maturity we have witnessed among the leaders, who are improving in ministry every year. The friendships and relationships we have established also make this a very happy anniversary.

Enjoying a place of stability where our children could finish their secondary education has been another blessing.

We have been grateful, too, for the opportunity to work in an environment of mutual respect and trust that has provided the freedom and flexibility to minister through the Preachers Quartet and on the board at C.C.C.B.

Having the privilege of working with capable associates (e.g., youth ministers) is another of the blessings we have appreciated. Please accept our thanks for the happy years that have been fulfilling and satisfying.



Preacher's Pen by Gene McCoy

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

Additions

We welcome those recently added to the family:

Jack & Marie Demjen

Mike & Beverly Buchs



Congratulations to the following who were married in May:

Bob & Laurie (Thurman) Wheeler

Steve & LaDonna (Chappell) Mendleski

Condolences

to the family of **Vern Bolinger**, who departed this life on Wednesday, May 28.

God has established places or occasions to mark significant events. The cross stands as one of those "stakes in the ground," marking the occasion when God provided the payment for our sins. Calvary is the definite place where God provided atonement for our sins through the blood of His Son.

The Lord's Supper is an occasion for reflection and rededication — the place ordained by God to recall the atoning sacrifice of Jesus and occasion to repent of our sins and to celebrate our redemption.

God has also provided a place where or occasion when His salvation is granted to sinners. It is a definite point in time and place in history to which we may look with confidence and say that our sins have been blotted out, covered, and washed away. It is an event every bit as definitive in time and space as Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, which it portrays (Romans 6), and as our physical birth, which is why Scripture refers to it as being "born again" (John 3). It is a corner post, if you will, from which our lives of faith derive strength and

direction.

It is an objective basis, not a subjective one. In other words, the basis for this confidence comes not from within ourselves, but from without.

It isn't based upon our feelings or our experience, but rather upon the solid and secure guarantee of



One Who is higher and holier. It isn't founded upon our wishes but upon the sure word of the One whose word cannot be broken (John 10:35).

A problem with subjective bases is the fact that they depend upon our interpretation of feelings and experiences. The determination of their meaning comes from within ourselves. The problem with that is the fact that salvation does not originate with or emanate from us. The only sure basis for salvation must be the promise of the One Who gives it.

The basis for salvation is the same for everyone (Galatians 3:28). It isn't something we determine, but it has been determined by the One who gives it.

It isn't subject to personal or private interpretation, as are feelings and personal experiences, but is a definite and determined point in time that the Giver ordained. It isn't subject to speculation or second-guessing. It is, simply, an offer made that we may either accept or reject.

Salvation is God's to give and the sinner's to receive. The sinner is in no position to dictate or determine when or how the gift is given. That is the prerogative of the Giver alone. Faith simply accepts the terms and receives the promised benefits. Grace gives and faith receives.

Sin creates two distinct problems for the sinner. One is a legal problem. He has broken God's law and is subject to the penalty, which is eternal death. The other is a health problem. We are sick. Our heart is diseased and we are spiritually sick. Paul refers to this in Ephesians 2 as spiritual death.

Salvation addresses both of these problems. Baptism is the place, the occasion, the point at which both of these problems begin to be remedied. This is related

(Continued on page 3)

This article is adapted from the sermon, "The Grace Place," preached by Gene McCoy on Sunday, June 22, 2008. A recording of it is available on CD. All the sermons in the series on grace reflect the teaching of Dr. Jack Cottrell, professor at Cincinnati Bible Seminary, 2700 Glenway Ave. Cincinnati, OH 45204. I urge you to express your appreciation to him for his teaching ministry by sending a card to the address provided.

Louisiana MISSION: SLIDELL

A team of volunteers is planning a return trip to Slidell, LA this October to assist in the reconstruction of the hurricane-

ravaged Gulf region. If you would like to participate, please sign your name to the list on the Missions Bulletin Board in the foyer. Direct inquiries to either Gene Frazier or Dave McQueen.

Slave Labor at MCC

by Eric Dwyer

Are you in need of some help around the house? Do you need a break from mowing your lawn or pulling some weeds from your flower bed? Is there so much dust on your furniture that you can write a novel with your fingers? Have we got a deal for YOU!

This summer our teens

would like to attend the Christ in Youth Conference (CIY) in Tennessee. Our fundraiser this year puts our kids at your service. You can sponsor a kid by purchasing him/her off the auction block during the midweek meeting on Wednesday July 9th.

These slaves will then be

available to do your chores on Saturday July 12th. For more information, or to make a donation for the kids to go to CIY, send me an e-mail at the address below. Offer good only while supplies last! Get your kid TODAY!

youthminister@memorialchristian.com

The GRACE Place *Continued from p. 2*

in Acts 2:38, that says baptism is “for the remission of sins,” which addresses the guilt resulting from breaking God’s law. And Peter goes on to say that in baptism “you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” This addresses the health issue. The Holy Spirit provides the power by which our heart is regenerated — the power to get well.

Baptism is, then, the grace place.

It is the occasion when the Giver has promised to do what is necessary to forgive and to heal, to reconcile and restore, to save and empower us. Grace gives. Faith receives.

The grace of God is seen most clearly in the action of baptism. There is nothing that is more indicative of God’s grace — nothing that illustrates God’s grace better—than baptism for the remission of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. In baptism, we are passive participants who are lowered into the watery grave, where the old man of sin is crucified and we put on the new man (Rom. 6:6; Gal. 3:27; Col. 3:9,10).

Baptism is the sinner’s expression of faith in the working of God (Col. 2:12, 13), providing for us what we could never accomplish. It is acceptance of the atonement God provides in our place and for our benefit.

Baptism is God’s promise to relieve us of guilt and to give us power over sin. Baptism is the occasion when God promises to regenerate our heart, cleanse us, and raise us to life everlasting. The same power that raised Jesus from physical death is exerted in baptism upon the dead sinner, raising him to spiritual life. No passage of Scripture is more clear than Romans 6 to show that baptism is where the blood of Jesus is applied to sinners.

It is the place where God promises to forgive all sin and to give His blessed Holy Spirit to be our resident Counselor, Comforter, and Guide. It is where the Great Physician promises to heal us and make us strong. Rightly understood, baptism is not something we would argue regarding its necessity, but a promise to receive with gratitude and in humility.

JULY MEETINGS

- 1 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 7 Willing Workers
- 8 Worship Ministry Team
- 10 Missions Ministry Team
- 14 Elders

Salute!
To Nathan Wolf, who has enlisted in the U.S. Navy.



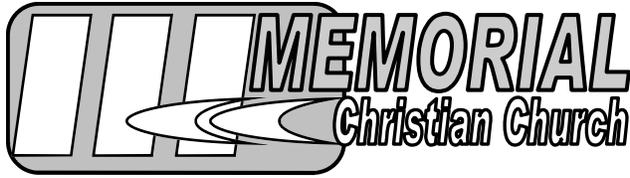
Offering Report

Contributions toward Tiffany Deutscher’s mission trip to Malawi, Africa amounted to \$2,060.



Mandolyn Klos
Flippin High School

She plans to attend ASU-MH this fall.



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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



Church Picnic

Sunday, July 20

Noon

Food provided by the
Family Life Ministry Team
Memorial Christian Banquet Center



Many of our readers know **Jack Holland**, the bass singer in the Preachers Quartet who suffered a broken hip and other injuries in an automobile wreck in 2007. His joint has not healed following the surgery to repair the hip, so the hip will be replaced on Thursday, July 24. Please ask God to work through the surgeon and all who assist.



Memorial Christian Church is officially on the market and Peglar Real Estate Group is aggressively searching for prospective buyers. The property is currently advertised on several web-sites such as peglarrealestate.com, loopnet.com, homes.com, yahoo.com and our local MLS system. The property is listed for 795,000 dollars consisting of 3 acres m/l. The purchase price does include both church buildings. The

property will have a sign posted on the corner of west 6th and Dyer. If you need more information on the property please feel free to call Joey Peglar @ 421-1233.

Board the Boat

bound for Branson on Thursday, July 24. All us critters are going to see "Noah" at the new Sight and Sound Theater. If the water recedes before then, we'll just pile into the church van.

Hilltoppers is a group comprised of our seasoned saints who enjoy socializing with other Christians.

Please contact Rosemarie Hood (425-9202) for information about this outing.