

*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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Chief Shepherd

Jesus Christ

Pastors

Gordon Addington
Forrest Cotter
Bill Sites
Bruce Wolf

Deacons

James Darr
Gene Frazier
Bernie Hill
Gene McCoy
Walt McKay
Titus Neuenschwander
Hubert Pickett

Secretary

Joy Williams

Preachers

Gene McCoy
Titus Neuenschwander

Financial Peace University Experiences High Enrollment

There are 82 people enrolled in this session of FPU! Of the 82, 65 are first-time participants and over half are from the community.

Everyone is excited about the class and enthusiastically pursuing financial peace. We are very

fortunate to have such a qualified and personable coordinator in Dave Bettenhausen. His beautiful and very

capable assistants also contribute to the success of this course. They are Gail Bettenhausen, Becky McCoy, and Jan Schmeski.

We are indebted to our child care workers, as well. Among them are Linda Martin, Amy Deutscher, Ariel Wells, and Arlene Dixon.



Benevolence collecting Blankets for Sudan

by Bernie Hill, Deacon

The Benevolence Ministry Team will be collecting blankets for the people in Sudan until February 25, 2007.

Blankets can be any size (infant, child, twin, full, etc.). Any

new blanket or good clean blanket from home is fine.

These will be collected and sent to "The Voice of the Martyrs" in Oklahoma. Questions will be answered by any

member of the Benevolence Ministry Team.



Property Ministry Team Update

by Jim Darr, Deacon

The Property Ministry Team continues to function, despite low attendance at meetings.

Please mark your calendar for the following dates.

The next scheduled meeting is February 15th at 6:30 pm. in the old fellowship hall of the church building.

The next scheduled workday is scheduled for March 24th at 8:30 am.

This will be a combined inside and outside workday, so bring tools and supplies that can be used in whichever area you wish to work.

The local newspaper solicited opinions regarding the use of federal funds for embryonic stem cell research. Our preacher was asked to submit a reply on behalf of the Baxter County Right to Life organization.

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

Additions

Laura Hummitsch was baptized into Jesus on Sunday afternoon, January 21. We welcome her into the family of God.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Jack Stein was immersed into Christ for the forgiveness of sin on Tuesday, January 16. We welcome him to the family of God here at Memorial Christian. Jack was brought to the Lord through the teaching ministry of Bro. Ken Fortier.

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

by Gene McCoy

A person's opinion about embryonic stem cell research and its funding is a reflection of his basis for determining what is right and wrong.

If the basis for determining proper action is emotion, it would be easy to support embryonic stem cell research. Who among us would not like to see every person suffering from Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and diabetes cured? Emotion is the exclusive basis upon which many (Dare I say "most?") people are discussing this issue. Upon this basis, just the hint and hope of cures for dreaded diseases is enough for many people to justify it. The character of these people is not to be questioned or maligned unless their emotions cause them to disregard the fact that embryonic stem cell research requires the destruction of a human life.

Such disregard for reality transforms so-called "compassion" for the diseased into either delusion or brutality. Regardless, emotional approaches are not

consistent with either science or morality. Truth and morality are neither determined nor governed by feelings.

Others claim a scientific basis for their position that favors the harvesting of embryonic stem cells. These people ignore the lack of even one instance that anyone has been cured of any disease thereby. Is it not true that embryonic stem cells have never been tested in humans for any purpose because of the dangers exhibited by the frequent formation of tumors in animals used in this research? Conversely, humans with 72 different diseases and conditions have received therapeutic benefit from treatment with adult stem cells.

Could we not say,



therefore, that science thus far overwhelmingly favors adult stem cell research by a score of 72 to 0?

Favoring the destruction of a human

embryo and denying that anything immoral and criminal has occurred flies in the face of science that is increasingly verifying the fact that this pre-born baby is every bit as much a human being as those who kill him in the name of compassion for those suffering from dreaded diseases. Science has demonstrated beyond any reasonable doubt that a baby feels pain when the abortionist penetrates the baby's skull and sucks out his brains or when the saline solution injected in the womb burns the baby to death. Empirical evidence, upon which science is based, favors other forms of stem cells to the exclusion of those derived from embryos.

If the basis for reaching a decision about embryonic stem cell research is morality, the answer is very clear. The taking of innocent human life is never

justified. Those who can rationalize it or justify it are guilty of gross selfishness that is not guided by the moral compass.

(Continued on page 4)

Building Committee Report

by Jim Darr, Chairman

The Building Committee is in the process of analyzing input from the congregation and the various ministries in the church. This information will help the committee assess the size / space and

type of building and the size of property needed.

The committee is still aggressively pursuing the best possible site to locate the new church building. If anyone has a lead on property, please let

Joey Peglar or me know so the committee can follow up on it.

The next Building Committee meeting is scheduled for February 5th at 6:00 pm.



Noon
Sunday, February 18

Welcome To Memorial

*an orientation for
newcomers*

1:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 18

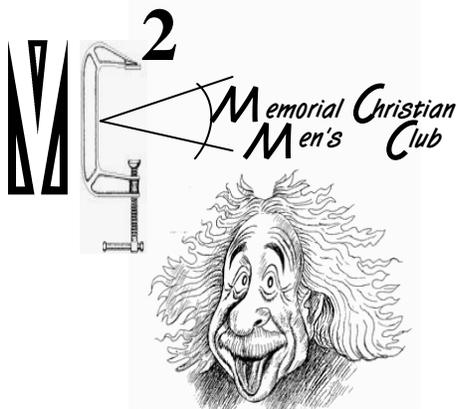
Everyone is welcome
to attend.

New Piano Purchased

Included in the 2006 budget in the closing days of 2005 was the authorization to purchase the Roland baby grand digital piano that now graces our auditorium and accompanies our music. But that was contingent upon the availability of money after all obligations were satisfied. With the approach of year's end, giving had surpassed expectations to a degree that made the actual purchase possible. As it turned out, postponing the purchase resulted in our great advantage financially. There was only one piano at the bargain price. By the time we determined we could purchase the instrument, the retailer had reduced the price by another \$2,000. That reduced price was less than half the

suggested retail price! We made an offer, which was \$1,500 below the greatly reduced price. To our great delight, the retailer agreed to sell us the instrument for less than he paid for it.

The budget request and initial negotiations to purchase the piano preceded the decision to relocate our physical plant (church building), and the money was from the 2006 budget, thereby not affecting the Building Fund. The new building would have included a new and more adequate instrument for a larger facility -- which would have cost significantly more. Presented with this unusual and incredible opportunity now, however, the decision to purchase the piano was unanimously authorized by the Finance Ministry Team.



Saturday, February 10

9:00 — 10:30

Breakfast

**Memorial Christian
Banquet Center**

**Program: Dr. Lonnie Robinson
"Help! I'm Pregnant!"**

MC² is a quarterly men's fellowship sponsored by the Family Life Ministry Team at Memorial Christian Church. The program is designed with men in mind, featuring hobbies, talents and experiences of men in our community.

A full breakfast is prepared by our men and served free of charge to all who attend. All men are welcome!

The program this quarter will be presented by Dr. Lonnie Robinson, who will present the work of the Pregnancy Resource Center

that is soon to open in Mtn. Home.

You don't think you'll ever be in a situation to need a pregnancy resource center. That is exactly what those thought who seek the PRC's help! If you think it's just for women, you need to come and be informed.

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- 4 Education Ministry Team
- 4 Family Life Ministry Team
- 5 Willing Workers
- 5 Building Committee
- 10 Men's Club
- 11 His Image
- 12 Elders
- 15 Outreach Ministry Team
- 18 Welcome to Memorial
- 20 Benevolence Ministry Team
- 25 His Image



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

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www.memorialchristian.com

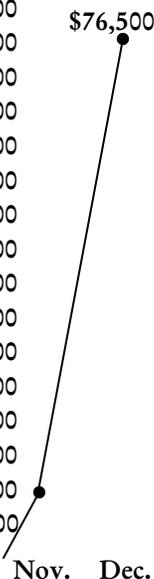
Meeting Schedule

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 Fund

- \$100,000
- \$ 95,000
- \$ 90,000
- \$ 80,000
- \$ 75,000
- \$ 70,000
- \$ 65,000
- \$ 60,000
- \$ 55,000
- \$ 50,000
- \$ 45,000
- \$ 40,000
- \$ 35,000
- \$ 30,000
- \$ 25,000
- \$ 20,000
- \$ 15,000
- \$ 10,000
- \$ 5,000



Non-Profit Org.
POSTAGE
PAID
Permit # 35
Mtn. Home, AR
72653

Sent With a Prayer to

There is no moral justification for embryonic stem cell research. This would be true even if we had no other demonstrably viable options. But the fact is we have more favorable prospects from methods that are neither unethical nor immoral. Recent findings from researchers at Wake Forest University indicate that stem cells from amniotic fluid share many of the same characteristics as those obtained from human embryos.

Anthony Atala, director of the Institute for Regenerative Medicine at Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC, is the leader of this study. As reported in the Washington Post (January 8, 2007), Atala touts the advantages of stem cells derived from

amniotic fluid. "They grow fast, as fast as embryonic stem cells, and they show great pluripotentiality." That means they can become many kinds of tissues. Like stem cells from embryos, those obtained from amniotic fluid are very flexible. On the other hand, they are dissimilar in an equally important aspect. They remain stable for years without forming tumors.

So why would anyone, in the face of the facts, favor embryonic stem cell research? Many proponents are motivated by their agenda. It is an agenda driven by a world view that is willing to sacrifice innocent human life to advance political ambition, ideology, and ill-informed environmental concerns. Another obvious motivation is money. The

bottom line for those who know the facts is not compassion after all. It is profit. This is the only apparent reason Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, refuses to allow women to have access to all available information. When a woman learns about the emotional trauma and increased risk of breast cancer after abortion, or sees her baby by means of ultrasound, or discovers that a baby suffers pain during an abortion, she will choose life in most instances. That is when science, compassion, truth and morality converge harmoniously to form the only proper answer to whether or not embryonic stem cell research should be pursued, regardless its source of funding. The answer is "Never!"