

Azalea City Church of Christ

Family News



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WHAT IS FELLOWSHIP?

The word fellowship in the New Testament is translated from the Greek word "koinonia". This word means an association, community, communion, joint participation or intercourse. It means sharing with other people. To be involved in Christian fellowship with others means to share your life with others. We share our lives with others and also with Christ who promises to be with us when even two or three are gathered together in His name (Matthew 18:20). Fellowship with Christ and other believers involves feeding on the Word together. Sometimes it means eating meals together. (Acts 2:46). In fellowship we share our time, our gifts and talents, both spiritual and natural. We also share of our money as God leads, and according to the needs (2 Corinthians 9). This does not mean that Christians should expect other Christians to support their families. Read 1 Timothy 5:8. Christians are commanded to work diligently and honestly so that they have something to share with those in need (Ephesians 4:28). Christian fellowship exists not only to meet the needs of Christians - emotionally, socially, mentally, spiritually and where necessary, financially. It also exists to demonstrate to the world the meaning of Christian love and to call people out of the world into that fellowship with Christ and His body. In fellowship with Christ and with one another, we are coming not only to receive but also to give. This is where our dedication to Christ's Lordship will be made practical, and hence, proved real.

THE NEED FOR FELLOWSHIP

People are created by God for relationship. When God said, "It is not good that man should be alone" (Genesis 2:18), Adam already had a wonderful fellowship with the Heavenly Father. But God does not want us to live like monks, doing nothing but talking with Him.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

2008 Theme: KNOWING HIM

Please keep the following people in your prayers this month.

Members

Ed Geci	Charlotte Stephenson	Tommy Blizzard	Rainie McInvale
Jacob Durham	Dora Wright	Deborah Moody	Rufus Rush
Ruth Rush	Nita Mae Eubanks	Dorothy Taylor	Billy Allsup
Gail Carr	James & Esther Bell	Clara Frost	Linda Lockler
Beverly Hall			

Friends and Family

Roger Rush	Kim Holland Claunch	Jon Hackett, Jr.	Irene Whitehead
Teresa Parker	Bill Edwards	Michelle Jones	Brad Forehand
Paul Merrell	Barbara Gollott	H.L. Moss	Caitlin Goode
Sherry Guy	Sandra Parker	Hazel Brown	Harry Lloyd
Lena Edwards	Wendell Sawyer	Don Thomaston	Ann Merritt
Loretta Vaught	Holly Lee Crowell	Ronin White	Jeannine Webb
Pam Prine	Marvin Fountain	Dan Maples	Hixon Nobles
Bob Brantley	Marshall Eubanks	Granville Faries	Deloris Lamaire
Eric Braddock	Martha Robinson	Pauline Russell	Troy Vonada
Greg Lewis	Patricia Jones	Dylan Gibbon	

Military

Kenneth Andrews (in Germany)	Keith Moss (Marines)
Aaron Allsup (at Eglin AFB)	Jacob Pierce (in Iraq)
Matt Geroux (in Arkansas)	Matthew Reitz (in Iraq)
Randy Pierce (Paris Island)	Joshua Reynolds (Afghanistan)

Expectant Mothers

Kimberly Hall Smith (Oct)
Jamie Goleman (Feb)
Kimberly Holland Claunch (Mar)

Upcoming Events

Pioneer game night is scheduled for Friday, October 3rd and Friday, October 24th. Please bring your favorite game and finger foods.

The October **men's prayer breakfast** will take place on Sunday, the 5th at 8:00. If you would be willing to cook for a future breakfast, please sign the sheet located at the information desk in the front foyer.

Steve May is planning **congregational singing** at 5:30 on Sunday, October 12th and Sunday, October 26th. We will practice new songs and prepare for the evening service. Please make plans to attend.

Everyone is invited to a **wedding shower** for Danny and Holly Crowell on Saturday, October 12th in the fellowship hall immediately following our morning service. Sign up sheets for sandwiches and other lunch type foods are in both foyers.

Brother David will be going on a **mission trip to Guyana** from October 13th through 27th. He will be participating in a campaign for Christ with Jerry Davidson and a team of 25 Christians from the U.S. and local Guyanese brethren. If you would like to help David with his travel expenses (\$2,500), it would be much appreciated. You can make your check out to Azalea City Church of Christ for Amerindian Mission Trip.

Ministry Information

Monday Night for the Master will take place all 4 Mondays in October. Dinner is at 6:00 and the activities begin at 6:25. Please make plans to attend!

If you have not filled out an **involvement form** for the involvement ministry, please see Terry Cagle to get a form. We need to have every member fill out one of these!

The Benevolence Ministry is planning their next **grocery distribution** on October 2nd from 9:00 until 11:00 in the multipurpose building. They gave out food to over 125 people last month! Your help with this endeavor is greatly needed! If you can come help, please plan to be at the church around 8:30. **We were not able to buy as much food as we needed at the Food Bank. If each family can help us with a box of cereal, it will be greatly appreciated! Please bring it to the building by October 1st.**

THE NEED FOR FELLOWSHIP (continued)

God wants us to have wonderful relationships with people, especially His people. His plans for us can only be fulfilled as we learn to relate correctly both with our brothers and sisters in Christ and also with those who, because of ignorance or rebellion, are still outside the family of God.

To be lonely and isolated is not God's will. "God sets the solitary in families." (Psalm 68:6). The natural family is God's idea. (Colossians 3:18- 21). However, many families don't express the love God intended. God's plan is to put us immediately into a wonderful family - His family - the moment we turn from our sin to Christ. Here are some major motives for entering seriously into committed relationships with real Christians (those who are trusting Christ and turning from sin).

1. The people you choose to associate with affect your destiny. "He that walketh with wise [men] shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed [broken]." (Proverbs 13:20)

"Do not be deceived: evil company corrupts good habits (morals)." (1 Corinthians 15:33). Your destiny is determined by your character, and your character is affected by those with whom you choose to keep company. By spending quality time with people who love and obey God and follow His Word, you will become wise yourself and make right decisions. By refusing this, you choose to be with rebels and rebellion will enter you. This rebellion separates from God and destroys spiritual life.

2. God has planned for you to receive love and encouragement from His family on earth. Real Christians walk in love. "By this all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35). "He who does not love does not know God, for God is love." (1 John 4:8).

God's family is a family of love. But you must be open to receive that love. "You also be open" (2 Corinthians 6:13). We all need encouragement and care at times. God will often provide this through His people. He told us to do it for others too.

3. God wants you to learn to give love and encouragement to your brothers and sisters in Christ. "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7). "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

Other Christians will need your help. Even by being faithful to the church you will encourage the rest of the church and also the leadership. God wants you to help and encourage those around you in the church according to your ability and call.

FROM DAVID'S DESK

LESSONS FROM IKE

Watching Hurricane Ike hit Texas last week reminded me of when Ivan hit the Gulf Coast of Florida in 2004, and all the work that thousands of people had to do after the storm. We lived in Milton at the time and I remember so many members of the church reaching out to help those in need. For months we worked together cutting trees, cleaning houses, handing out food and water through disaster relief, and just helping our neighbors get their lives back to what they were before the storm hit. There were several lessons that I learned from that experience which, in comparison, we can also learn from our Gospel Meeting.

- 1. Few tasks are as easy as they appear to be.** Cutting trees and cleaning yards is hard work! When it comes to having a successful Gospel Meeting, it takes a lot of hard work that, most of the time, goes unappreciated. Thanks to all who worked to make our meeting a success!
- 2. Self-starters contribute the most.** Those who see a need and start working will accomplish much more than those who see a need and do nothing. Many of you stepped up and helped without having to be asked. Thanks!
- 3. Teamwork is a must.** Every elder, deacon, teacher, preacher, and all the members of God's family are on the same team. It took teamwork to provide enough food for our fellowship meals each night of our meeting. Teamwork is the key to getting things done. It was a joy seeing so many members working together for the greater good of the Kingdom of God during our meeting.
- 4. No job is the most important one.** After hurricane Ivan, I saw yards being cleaned in just a few hours because everyone did their individual part to accomplish the work. We need to realize that every task is important. This is how the body of Christ is to function (I Corinthians 12:21-24; Romans 12:4-8). Preparing a dish of food, handing out sermon lesson sheets, leading songs, greeting visitors, introducing yourself to visitors before and after services, taking down tables and chairs, working in the nursery, and the many other jobs performed during the meeting are equally important in the eyes of God.

These are just a few of the things we can learn from working together in making our Gospel Meeting a success. The word was wonderfully presented by Brother O'Conner each service, and our prayer should be that the word (seed) will bring fruit and positive results to those who heart it. After a hurricane you work hard to help people save their houses and belongings, but before, during, and after a Gospel Meeting, you work to help people save something far more valuable - their souls!

Youth Calendar

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Teen Events Tween Events	Football Games: Blue-Home Red-Away 	1	2 Teen After School Bible Study 330-530	3 MCS vs Flomaton MGM vs Bryant Tween Devo 6-9 in MP bldg	4
5	6 Monday Night for the Master 6-8	7 Tween After School Unwind 330-530	8	9 Teen After School Bible Study 330-530 Joshua Deck	10 MCS vs Red Level MGM vs Blount	11
12 LLL Bible Bowl Practice 3-530 (all ages) Teen Devo after PM Service	13 Monday Night for the Master 6-8	14 Tween After School Unwind 330-530	15 Sing His Praises 	16 Teen After School Bible Study 330-530	17 MCS vs South Choctaw MGM vs Murphy	18 Ashley Cagle
19 Teen Area Wide @ Mobile Christian	20 Monday Night for the Master 6-8	21 Tween After School Unwind 330-530	22	23 Teen After School Bible Study 330-530	24 MCS vs Leroy MGM vs Baker	25 FALL FESTIVAL 
26	27 Monday Night for the Master 6-8	28 Tween After School Unwind 330-530	29 Shelby Champion Brittany Moss	30 Teen After School Bible Study 330-530	31 MCS vs Cottage Hill MGM vs Fairhope Nathan Myers	

THE NEED FOR FELLOWSHIP (continued)

4. You can learn wisdom from more mature Christians by being with them. "He who walks with wise men will be wise" (Proverbs 13:20). By having fellowship with more mature Christians you will grow in love, faith, wisdom and holiness.
5. You can be built up in faith by hearing the preaching of ministers of Christ. Faith comes by hearing. (Romans 10:17). The preaching of the Word should build up your faith and confidence in the promises of God.
7. God wants you to serve Him effectively. You can't do it without co-operating with other Christians. God has made us the body of Christ, and members individually. (1 Corinthians 12:27). And just as a hand disconnected from the body cannot fulfil the purpose of the head, neither can you if you are not in right relationship with Christ's body - the people of God. Common sense tells us that without co-operation great things touching many people cannot be achieved.
8. When you repent and receive Christ by faith as Lord you are summoned into the body of Christ. You have a part to play in Christ's body. Your gifts and talents complement those of others. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-28.
9. You cannot fulfill the commands of Christ and of the apostles without entering into fellowship. How can you love one another, encourage one another, admonish or counsel one another, serve one another if you are never with "one another". These commandments were given to churches. Read Romans 12:10; Romans 15:14; Ephesians 4:32; 1 Thessalonians 5:11 as examples of some of these important commands and ask the Holy Spirit to show you what it means for you.
10. God commands you to come to attend church gatherings regularly. "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much more as you see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24,25). See also Hebrews 3:13. We must exhort one another daily.

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, as I have loved you. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34,35)

DEACONS AND MINISTRY LEADERS

ADMINISTRATION:

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BENEVOLENCE:

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EDUCATION

(CHILDREN):

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EVANGELISM/ VISITATION:

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FELLOWSHIP/ INVOLVEMENT:

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FINANCE:

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GREETERS:

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LADS TO LEADERS:

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YOUTH:

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***Deacons**

Monthly Records

Weekly Budget 2008: \$8,928.28

	August 3rd	August 10th	August 17th	August 24th	August 31st	Average
Weekly Contributions	\$7,397.59	\$7,018.76	\$7,689.50	\$7,500.25	\$5,771.17	\$7,075.45
Sunday Bible Class	156	157	126	123	139	140
Sunday AM Worship	223	238	212	196	220	218
Sunday PM Worship	140	148	140	125	No Service	138
					(Hurricane)	
	August 6th	August 13th	August 20th	August 27th		
Wed. Bible Study	148	158	146	147		150

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....9:30
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30
Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00
Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....7:00

ELDERS

Kevin Crowell 660-1888
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Mike Eubanks 649-3216
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James Graham 645-2945
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CHURCH OFFICE

MINISTER

David Myers
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YOUTH MINISTER

Jason Killough
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SECRETARY

Glenda Carpenter
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SECRETARY

Carra Deck
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Bulletin Submissions: Bulletin@azaleacity.org

MISSIONS

Ukraine

Vlad & Oksana Paziy
Vitaly Rodichev
Valentina Petrussenko

Jos, Nigeria

Steve Worley
Bala Turgong

Television To Watch

“Preaching The Gospel” with James Watkins
Sundays 7:30am, channel 44, Comcast channel 4

“In Search of The Lord’s Way” with Mack Lyon
Sundays 7:30am, channel 33, Comcast channel 7
Direct TV channel 321

“Know Your Bible” with Billy Lambert
Sundays 6:30pm Direct TV channel 321
Sundays 8:00pm channel 33
Wednesdays 8:00pm Direct TV channel 377

The Gospel Broadcasting Network
www.gbntv.org on the internet 24/7

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