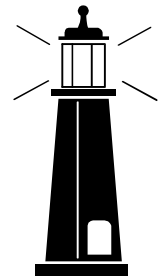




The Berryville Church of Christ

Bible Beacon



"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)

A Potpourri Of Encouragement

Kevin Cauley

I am not sure what word best describes the past two weeks. A few that come to mind are: exciting, tiring, thrilling, hectic, happy, nervous, elated, exhausted, overwhelmed, and ecstatic! I am not sure how many know of our adventures in getting up here. We rented a 24' truck and loaded it from front to back and from top to bottom. We arose early in the morning, but were stopped about twenty miles north of our starting place. We called the truck rental company and they said someone would be out to diagnose the problem. Six hours and one alternator later, we were back on the road. We had to stop and spend the night in Sallisaw, OK due to the delay, but we finally rolled in on Saturday around 11:00 AM.

The only word I could use to describe the response we received from the congregation on Saturday is: **TREMENDOUS!** We are SO VERY appreciative of everyone who came out and helped us move into our new house. Your generosity in the giving of your time was **OVERWHELMING!** I do not believe that I have ever unloaded a 24' truck in such a small amount of time. The lunch that was prepared, "hit the spot!" The doughnuts were delicious! Thank you, THANK YOU, **THANK YOU!!!**

Sunday, it was a wonderful time for us to worship with the Berryville church **as residents of Berryville!** The singing was beautiful. The prayers that were uttered were devout and heart-warming. I certainly appreciate your bringing my name and the name of my family before the Father's throne this past week. No greater power exists on earth than to ask for the blessings of God in prayer. Your warm reception of the lessons that I presented this past Sunday were most appreciated. I am very thankful to each one of you for your kind comments.

On Sunday I was also privileged to attend my

January 27th, 2002

first elders and deacons meeting. It was very gracious for the elders to ask me to attend. I was very impressed by the concern in the meeting for unity and love. I was also impressed by the desire of the members to reach out to the lost and wayward. It was a wonderful time for me to get to know the congregation and her work better and I am thankful for such an early opportunity to be able to do that.

Monday night, several of us got together and went to sister **Pat Foster's** new house for a house warming. My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed being with everyone. We especially were in awe at Bruce's talent at carpentry. Pat's new house is beautiful! We pray God's richest blessings upon her and her doorstep and that everyone who meets at her home will be blessed!

I suppose that by the time you get to this sentence, you will have noticed the title of the bulletin: "The Berryville Bible Beacon." Webster defines the word beacon as follows:

1: a signal fire commonly on a hill, tower, or pole **2 a:** a lighthouse or other signal for guidance **b:** a radio transmitter emitting signals for guidance of aircraft **3:** a source of light or inspiration **2beacon vt (1821):** to furnish with a beacon ~ vi: to shine as a beacon.

The Bible is a beacon to all those who are looking for truth. It shines brightly in the deepest gloom. It guides all of those who are looking for spiritual answers to life's daily challenges. It provides the only way for man to come to a correct knowledge of God and be eternally in fellowship with God. Can one think of any greater beacon that could be shown in any land?

We, as Christians, also have the responsibility to let our light shine in the community around us. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). There are many souls around us who need to see that beacon of light in our lives. It is my hope, prayer, and aim, that this bulletin will serve as a way that you can enrich your life with the words of Christ so that you can reflect the Great Light

that comes from him.

A beacon can also be a warning signal. Lighthouses warn approaching ships at sea of the dangers of the treacherous rocks that lie ahead. The Bible also warns us of many dangers as we walk within the Christian faith. Shining the light of truth upon hypocrisy, wickedness, apostasy, and false teaching is also an important part of a bulletin. Paul spoke to the elders at Ephesus regarding the importance of watching and warning: "Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears" (Acts 20:31).



Finally, a beacon also grants comfort and safety to those looking for the right path. When the beacon is seen and acknowledged, those who heed it benefit from its ever present beam and are guided into the comfort of the safe

harbor. The bulletin is an excellent place to encourage, to name those who need prayer, to highlight the activities of the congregation and to generally exhort one another toward faithfulness in Christ. We read in Hebrews 3:13, "But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."

I pray that God will bless our efforts to teach and preach the gospel here at Berryville and that he will bless the content and effectiveness of this bulletin to shine both within the church and without.



Spare Tire Religion

Brandon Britton

Most of us keep a spare tire in the trunk of our car to use in case of an emergency. We do not normally ride around on a spare tire, but use it temporarily while our regular tire is being fixed and then we put it back in the trunk. Now consider how many people there are who try to keep God in their trunk. To them He is nothing more than a quick fix in an emergency. God is not a part of their regular, everyday lives, but just someone they turn to when times get difficult and they have nowhere else to go. God is their spare tire, kept in the trunk until hard times come and then put back when they are gone. They want all

the blessings and privileges of being a Christian with none of the responsibilities and obligations.

Modern day people are not the first to have this skewed and flawed concept of God. Long ago in the days before a human king sat on the throne in Israel the people



were practicing "spare tire religion." While Eli was the high priest and his sons served as priests, the nation grew corrupt. Their service to God was not heart felt allegiance and devotion, but calloused rituals and vain repetitions. We would describe them as "going through the motions" instead of worshipping in spirit and truth (John 4:23-24). (As a side note, this is a powerful lesson to elders and preachers: when the leadership is corrupted, the people will quickly follow.) In 1 Samuel 4 there is a record of a battle between the Jews and Philistines. **"And the Philistines put themselves in array against Israel: and when they joined the battle, Israel was smitten before the Philistines: and they slew of the army in the field about four thousand men"** (1 Samuel 4:2). How does Israel respond to this crisis? Prayer? Repentance? Faithful obedience? No. They cry to the elders, **"let us fetch the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of Shiloh unto us, that, when it cometh among us, IT MAY SAVE US out of the hand of our enemies"** (1 Samuel 4:3). They believed they had God in a

box! They viewed the ark, which was the place where God met with the people, as a magic box they could pull out in hard times and be safe. They trusted in the ark instead of God. They found out the hard way that God will not be manipulated and abused in this manner. The Philistines not only killed thousands of the Hebrews, but they also took the ark as a spoil of war.

The lesson is simple, if you will not serve God in the best of times, do not expect Him to bless you in the worst of times. God is not a spare tire; He cannot be kept in a magic box and you cannot keep Him in your trunk in case of emergency. Christian, abandon this spare tire religion!

From the East Hill News
Pulaski, TN

"God is not a spare tire. . . . You cannot keep Him in your trunk in case of an emergency!"

The Difference Between Live and Dead Churches

Andrew Connally, deceased

There is no doubt most of us want to be members of a live, growing church. Most of us can easily tell the difference and so can the Lord!

Live churches have all kinds of problems—parking problems, lack of classroom teachers, etc. They always have more work, programs, mission opportunities, and other things that they can take advantage of—dead ones don't!

Live churches make constant demands on time, talent, and money. There are fellowships, services, and classes to attend. There are people to visit, delinquents to reclaim, drifters who need encouragement and admonition—dead ones don't!



Live churches are filled with people who are weak, neglectful, forgetful, and who need attention, but they are growing. They are concerned, prayerful and giving—dead ones aren't! Live churches have preachers who are Book and people oriented. They have preachers who preach hard, exhort often, and know what's going on in the world, the church, and in the lives of many brethren—dead ones don't. Live churches have elders who stretch the budget

yearly to help the congregation grow. They have programs, sermons, classes, papers, missions, plans, and hopes to take every member to greater heights of service, sacrifice, and finally heaven—dead ones don't! Live churches have deacons that are pushers, vitally involved to improve everything the congregation is doing. They are out front, serving and helping the entire program to get more done—dead ones don't!

Live churches have members that respond to challenge—the challenge of new programs, budgets, missions, and always the Word! They have people who evangelize rather than fossilize—dead ones don't! Live churches fight error and know where it is found. They are compassionate and kind. They are not only gentle and loving, but also bold and brave and afraid of nothing! They love God and hate sin—dead ones don't!

Helps for Bible Reading

When in trouble or sorrow, read **John 14** and **Psalm 46**.

When you worry, read **Matthew 6:19-34**.

When you have the blues, read **Psalm 91** and **Psalm 77**.

When God seems far away, read **Psalm 139**.

When you want rest and peace, read **Matthew 11:25-30**.

When in sickness, read **James 5** and **Psalm 41**.

When in danger, read **Luke 8:22-25** and **Psalm 91**.

When men fail you, read **1 Peter 5:7** and **Psalm 23**.

When lonely or fearful, read **Matthew 6:25-34; 11:28-30**.

When discouraged or tempted, read **1 Corinthians 10:13** and **Isaiah 40**.

When you have sinned, read **1 John 1:8-9** and **Hebrews 7:25**

When you forget your blessings, read **Psalm 103**.

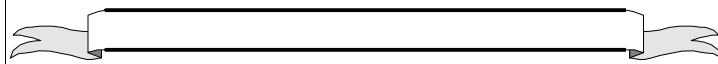
When you faith seems failing, read **Hebrews 11**.

When you want courage, read **2 Corinthians 12:9**.

When looking for happiness, read **Colossians 3:1-17**.

When leaving home for travel, read **Psalm 121**.

When you grow bitter or critical, read **1 Corinthians 13**.

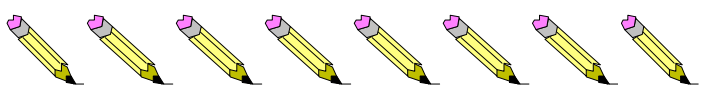
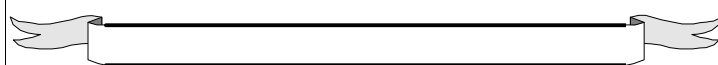


Sunday's Sermons

January 27th

Morning..... A Simple Sermon on Sin

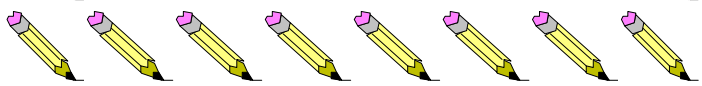
Evening..... Love



Our Record

Week of 1/20

Sunday Class	72
Sunday A.M.....	83
Sunday P.M.	80
Wednesday	60
Contribution.....	\$1258.70



Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:		
Song Leader:	Ken Smith	Bill Fort
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	David Nimmo	Leon Duncan
Scripture:	Bruce Foster	Bob Moore
Lord's Table:	Glen Williams	Clay Bozarth
	Leon Duncan	David Nimmo
(assist)	Raymond Kimes	Brent Moore
	Clyde Atchley	Rusty Windle
Closing Prayer	Ray Duncan	Glenn Williams
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Clay Bozarth
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Ken Smith	Clyde Atchley
Scripture:	Bob Moore	George Eddings
Lord's Table:	Glen Williams	Dale Pinkley
	Leon Duncan	Brandon Foster
Closing Prayer	Bruce Foster	Ken Smith
Wednesday		
Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Glenn Quigley
Opening Prayer:	Bruce Foster	Clay Bozarth
Invitation:	Brent Stevens	Dale Pinkley
Closing Prayer:	Bill Fort	Bruce Foster

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail bvcoc@alltell.net to contribute information.

News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers each and every day: Pat Quigley, Opal Hull, Maxine Whitely, Hunter Stevens and Mary Patterson.

- Lucille Wright was moved to the nursing home this past week. She is in room 443.
- Larry and Susan Elliott placed membership with the congregation this past Sunday. They have three children, Charles, Elizabeth, and Annie. Please make them feel welcome.
- New Commentaries have arrived and are in the foyer. If you would like to have one they are \$28.53 each.
- Brent Stevens is putting together our pictorial directory and needs your help in making sure that all of the pictures are taken. Please get with him if he has not taken your picture.
- We received a new copier on Tuesday of this last week. It is upstairs in the work room next to the preacher's office. A special word of thanks to Brent for arranging the delivery and being there to make sure everything was done right. Thanks Brent!
- The youth devotional will be on February 10th at Bill and Lucille Fort's house in Eureka Springs.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Green Beans.



Elders: Clay Bozarth, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley
Deacons: Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Dale Pinkley, Ken Smith, Rusty Windle
Preacher: Kevin Cauley870-423-6707

Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:30 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship:..... 10:30 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship:6:00 PM
 Wed. Evening Bible Class:7:00 PM

For questions or comments, please call
 (870) 423-3068 or write us at:

Berryville Church of Christ
909 West Trimble Street, Berryville, AR 72616