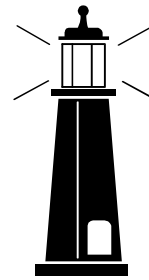




The Berryville Church of Christ

# Bible Beacon



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

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 5th, 2003

## Our Greatest Challenge!

Kevin Cauley

As we take on all of the challenges and opportunities of the new year, I would like for us to focus upon what our greatest challenge is for the new year. There are many today who would set forth several challenges in the world. Some would say that the economy is our greatest challenge. Some would say that our war against terrorism is our greatest challenge. Some might even say that our social problems are our greatest challenge. While there are challenges in each of these, we wholeheartedly reject as man's greatest challenge any item that is based in the material and physical world for there is coming a day when it will all be destroyed (2 Peter 3:10) and what may have seemed like a challenge will not even contain the faintest whiff of a challenge to the souls of men.

There are others who are more spiritually minded who may suggest that our greatest challenge for the New Year is to reach out into the local community and evangelize. This is indeed a great challenge and it is a noble and worthy thing to be done and it needs to be done and it must be done (Acts 8:4). However, this is not our greatest challenge.

Some would suggest that our greatest challenge is to take the gospel into the whole world and to reach out to every single nation and every single dialect and make it so that every single person in the world has at least had the opportunity to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ once. This is indeed a great challenge. And it is a challenge that we must take up if we are going to be faithful to God and to His kingdom (Matthew 28:18-20). However, it is not the greatest challenge that lays before us this very hour.

Some might say that the greatest challenge is to put a Bible into the hand of every single person in the world. Many are involved in this effort. It

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Kevin's Korner

Happy New Year! A whole year has been completed and a new year awakens. We usher out the old and welcome in the new! The New Year brings with it many great things. We have OPPORTUNITY before us to make this a great year. We have the blessing of ASSEMBLING together 52 weeks out of the year. We have the wonderful privilege of LIVING 360 more days in this new year. Indeed everything before us is fresh and new and we are encouraged to go forward at this time. Let us not dwell now on the past except to learn its lessons so that we don't repeat them. Let us look forward and go forward to greater things for the kingdom of God!



I have a few "thank-you"s to mention in the bulletin today. First, I want to thank the Duncan family for having us over for Christmas breakfast a couple of weeks ago. I want to thank the Smith and Quigley family for having us over for Christmas lunch and I want to thank the Foster family for having us over for Christmas dinner. I do believe that this is a first for us to be eating at three different houses for three different meals in the same day. I cannot express my thanks enough. Moreover, as we look back to the past year and plan for the next, I must say that 2002 has been a wonderful and blessed year! I offer my sincere and humble "thank you" to the entire congregation for supporting me in this work here. I offer my "thank you" to the eldership for hiring me and for standing with me and supporting me. I offer my "thank you" to our great God and Father for the wonderful opportunities that He placed before me in working with this congregation. We are truly blessed here and I am thankful for this.

I am also thankful for the opportunity to spend

*(Continued on page 2)*

some time both with my wife's parents and with my parents back in Texas. We did have an excellent trip. Because we traveled on Saturdays, we did not run into any major traffic in the big cities and so we made excellent time. The boys were especially excited to be able to see both sets of grandparents and to be with them. I was particularly glad that Texas won in the Cotton bowl. We were able to enjoy several movies. It was all around a most pleasant and relaxing trip. Now it is time to go back to work.

And work we must! We have our first youth devotional of the new year tonight! Please make your plans to come and be part of that effort. Next Sunday, Mary Lynn and I will be hosting our annual Sunday afternoon "Open House." This basically marks our one year anniversary of working with the congregation here at Berryville. Two weeks from today is our first "potluck" of the New Year! We have much to do and all the reason in the world to do it. Ecclesiastes 8:12 states, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do *it* with thy might...." We have work here that needs to be done and we must put our hands to it to get it done.

"But what can I do?" you ask. First, pick up a calendar of events in the foyer. Second look at all of the activities that we have planned for the congregation and make sure that you can participate in as many as possible. Third, invite your friends and family to these activities. This is not ALL that there is to be done, but it is a START! And we can all resolve in this new year to START doing more for the cause of Christ. If you need more to do, I am sure that we can find something. Let us all accept the great challenge, privilege and opportunity that we have to be a child of God in this New Year!

*(Continued from page 1)*

is a noble effort. It is a laudable effort. Certainly no one is going to learn the gospel of Jesus Christ unless they have a Bible from which to learn it. No doubt we should be involved in this great challenge and be willing to distribute Bibles to those who are around us today. However this is not our greatest challenge.

Some would say that the greatest challenge is feeding all of the hungry in the world. Getting food to every single person who is starving. What a great challenge. There is no doubt in my mind that the church has a responsibility and obligation to be involved in this type of work (Galatians 6:10). There is no doubt in my mind that we can show the love of Christ in our life by giving food to the hungry. However, this is not the greatest challenge that has been laid before us.

What is the greatest challenge that is laid before each and every one of us today? The greatest challenge in our lives over which we must conquer and gain control is our own selves. Without the motivation and action of the individual, nothing would ever get done. While we live in a society and while we are members of a community and even as members of the church, ORGANIZATIONS ONLY GET THINGS DONE THROUGH INDIVIDUALS and that is YOU and ME. Our greatest challenge is to make sure that we are doing what we can do to participate in the work of the church. To do this we must conquer our own personal fears, frustrations, regrets, disappointments, and misgivings and aspire to hope, accomplishment, resourcefulness, optimism, and faithfulness. Paul said, "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified" (1 Corinthians 9:27).

Our greatest challenge is ourselves. Will we put greater faith and trust and hope in the word of God this year and make greater sacrifices for His cause? Or will we languish under the defeatist attitude of many who proclaim, "We already tried that" or "This will never work here" or "That's impossible"? All things are possible through Christ (Philippians 4:13). God's Gospel is God's power (Romans 1:16). We can let that power work through us or we can snuff it out. Which will it be? Will we take up our greatest challenge?



## Our Record

### Week of 12/29/02

Sunday Class.....	64
Sunday A.M.....	73
Sunday P.M.....	54
Wednesday.....	40
Contribution.....	\$1497.60

## Times of Worship and Study

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

# I am NOT a “Church of Christ Preacher”

Foy G. Forehand

In the last few days I have been deluged with sectarian, denominational remarks. Most of these remarks have been out of the mouths of those who should have known better. One of the most bitter, cruel, malicious and ignorant is “Church of Christ Preacher.” Don’t misunderstand me; I believe there are some “Church of Christ Preachers” in the world today. The Divine, God, in His word, makes a radical and eternal distinction between the body of Christ, which is the church of Christ, and all other entities! Some religious groups call themselves “Church of Christ.” Abraham Lincoln once asked his cabinet, “If you call a dog’s tail a leg, how many legs does a dog have?” They responded “Five.” To that Mr. Lincoln replied, “No, a dog has four legs. Calling his tail a leg doesn’t make it a leg.” ON the other hand, the Divine, God, in His word defines “the churches of Christ” (Romans 16:16) and the only two things necessary to learning the characteristics of that one, exclusive, acceptable-to-God, church of Christ are: [1] reading the words of the New Testament (Hebrews 9:15-17; 10:9-10; and Ephesians 3:3-5); and [2] being intellectually honest (Luke 8:15). The New Testament sets forth the conditions for entrance into this one and only, exclusive, acceptable-to-God church. The New Testament sets forth the worship in which this one and only, exclusive, acceptable-to-God church may engage with Divine approval. All denominations are either an apostate from this one and only, exclusive, original, acceptable-to-God church or apostate from some other apostasy. The church of Christ stand today as the one and only product of the one and only seed {the New Testament} that produces only after its own kind according to Divine law given in Genesis one and

it has no hybrids (Galatians 1:6-9). This church ordains no ministers, preachers, elders, pastors, bishops, etc. Every member of the churches of Christ is ordained by the Gospel of Christ to be a priest of God (1 Peter 2:9). Every member of the churches of Christ is called by the Gospel (2 Thesalonians 2:14). Thus, while it is possible to be a “Church of Christ Preacher,” I am not one of those. As a preacher of the Gospel, God has obligated me to reject all such evil (2 John 9-11). Because I am a Gospel preacher God has obligated me to preach the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. The truth is the New Testament and it alone (John 17:17). It is the word of Jesus (John 12:48), which came from God the Father (John 12:49-50) and was left to us by the New Testament apostles and prophets (Ephesians 3:5). This New Testament is the totality of God’s message to mankind on earth today (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The New Testament alone is the “all authority” (Matthew 28:18) of Jesus Christ. From the New Testament, the Gospel, we may not vary the tiniest little bit and still please God (Galatians 1:6-9). I am not even a “Church of Christ” member, much less a “Church of Christ” preacher. [Editor’s note: Nor do we preach “Church of Christ” doctrine—we preach Christ and Him crucified (1 Corinthians 2:2); nor are we “Church of Christ,” we are Christians (1 Peter 4:6); nor is the building the “Church of Christ,” we, the people, are the church of the Christ. Some do use “Church of Christ” as a denominational label; but let it never be said of us that we do such!]

I have some relatives and friends who have left the one and only, acceptable-to-God body of Christ and it is these who delight in using these sectarian phrases in my presence. They are cold, cruel, heartless, and lost. My heart hurts for them. My heart hurts to an even great extent when I contemplate the effect they are having on their children, grand children and other extended family members, directing precious, impressionable souls into eternal damnation and doing it with joy, good feelings and unbounded arrogance against God and truth. In 1 Corinthians 4:6 God inspired Paul to write “...that in us ye might learn not to go beyond the things which are written; that no one of you be puffed up for the one against the other.” According to 1 Timothy 3:6 this, not abiding in the word of God, and becoming puffed up, is the very sin of the devil.

I am not a “Church of Christ Preacher.”

## Sunday’s Sermons

For January 5th

**Morning** ..... Resolutions

Scripture.....Philippians 3:13-16

**Evening** ..... Added to the Church

Scripture.....Acts 2:47

**Elders:** Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley  
**Deacons:** Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.  
**Preacher:** Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Happy New Year!
- We welcome all of our visitors to our worship this morning.
- Please remember the following in your prayers: Geneva Atchley, Virgil Butler.
- Geneva Atchley fell this past week. Please remember her in your prayers.
- Lucille Wright is in room 504 of the Berryville nursing home.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- Please take note that Art Roberts lunch list is posted in the foyer. If you have never provided Art lunch on Sunday you are missing a great opportunity to serve.
- Sunday night we will have our youth devotional. Please bring chips and drinks.
- There will be a brief VBS teachers meeting next Sunday after evening services.
- Next Sunday evening we will have our regular questions and answers session. If you have a Bible question, please submit it into the question box in Kevin's office.
- Saturday will be our monthly men's breakfast.
- Please remember the open house at Kevin and Mary Lynn's next Sunday.
- Please note those serving for the month of January. Bob Moore will have announcements. Leon Duncan will be the worship coordinator. Joann Bragg and Debbie Duncan will prepare communion, and Bruce Foster and Kevin Cauley will carry communion to the nursing home.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Pinto Beans.



## Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>January 5th, 2003</b>	<b>January 12th, 2003</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Larry Elliott	Brent Stevens
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	George Eddings	Bill Fort
<b>Scripture:</b>	Clyde Atchley	Perry Foster
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Leon Duncan
	Glenn Quigley	Glenn Williams
<b>(assist)</b>	Brent Moore	Brandon Foster
	Ray Duncan	Larry Elliott
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ken Smith	Brent Stevens
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Bruce Foster
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Rusty Windle	Glenn Williams
<b>Scripture:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Perry Foster
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Brent Stevens	Dale Pinkley
	Larry Elliott	Perry Foster
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bob Moore	Matt Bassing
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Hugh Atchley	Glenn Quigley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	John Gass	Dale Pinkley
<b>Invitation:</b>	Matt Bassing	Rusty Windle
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Ray Duncan	Brandon Foster
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Bob Moore	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Leon Duncan	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Joann Bragg	Debbie Duncan
<b>Communion Carry</b>	Bruce Foster	Kevin Cauley

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@alltel.net](mailto:bvcoc@alltel.net) to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:  
**Berryville Church of Christ**  
**909 West Trimble Street, Berryville, AR 72616**