

Madison Avenue Church of Christ

Volume 3 Number 16
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OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thur 9:00 - 3:00

Weekly Services

Sunday

Bible Study: 10:00 a.m.

Worship: 11:00 a.m.

6:00 p.m.*

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

*No evening worship on the Fourth
Sunday of each month.*

Weekday Radio Program

"Thinkaboutit" with Charlie

Wharton AM 1240 at 6:55 a.m.

thinkaboutit.pierrechurchofchrist.org

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Welcome Visitors!

“DO NOT BE ANXIOUS

ABOUT ANYTHING,

BUT IN EVERYTHING,

BY PRAYER AND

PETITION, WITH

THANKSGIVING,

PRESENT

YOUR

REQUESTS

TO GOD.”

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, NIV



We are so glad that you decided to come and worship with our family today. We hope that you will join in with us as we praise God together in our worship. Whatever your situation in life, we pray that you will find what you need to bring you closer to God. Please take a minute and fill out one of the red visitor cards in the back of the pews and drop it in the collection plate when it comes around — we would greatly appreciate it. Please come back and worship with us again!

A Moment With Mark

Sometimes when we think we are reaching forward toward God, the direction in which we are actually reaching is away from Him. Although we may not have the honesty to admit it to ourselves, we are fighting against God. Our plans are opposed to His purposes. And when that happens, we are fortunate when God steps in and blocks our progress. In fact, God is never more *gracious* than when He defeats our worldly ambitions and shuts us up to the consequences of our actions. When He puts us in checkmate, hemming us in, He is showing a great love for us indeed.

We need to understand that as long as God is still blocking our path and defeating us, that is a good sign. It is a sign that He is still trying to win us back to His way. Much worse would be the next stage in the process: the stage in which God gives us up and abandons us to the futility and frustration of our own way.

Nothing worse could be imagined than to be abandoned by God, and yet the Scriptures teach that that is exactly what He will do if we insist on not getting the point when He blocks our path. Concerning those who adamantly refused to “retain God in their knowledge,” Paul wrote that “God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting” (Romans 1:28). J. B. Phillips’s paraphrase of this statement is vivid: God “allowed them to become the slaves of their degenerate minds.”

So when we find ourselves checkmated by God, we ought to be thankful. By all rights, He should have given up on us long ago, but in His grace He has not yet done so. We ought to respond rightly, in both word and deed, to the fact that God has blocked our path. When He has shut us up and left us nowhere to go, we should react with *repentance* and *obedience*. Rather than resentment, a greater *reverence* should be our chosen response. It is, after all, not a disgrace to be put in checkmate by God. What would be a disgrace would be to suffer and suffer -- and be too big a fool to learn the lesson that He is trying to teach us.

Every story of conversion is the story of a blessed defeat.

—C. S. Lewis

Grace and Peace ~ Mark

PRAYER LIST

Jeane's mother has been having some falling spells. She will be going to the doctor to see what they can do for her.

A.J. has been interviewing for youth minister internships around the country. Pray that the Lord will lead him to a good work.

David Blanch, Jennifer Newton's brother, has been having some back problems and is nearly incapacitated because of it.

Hunter's brother is being deployed to Iraq this week.

Jennifer Newton is slowly recovering from cancer treatments.

Mike Richter, Jane Davis's nephew, has begun his radiation treatments.

Expecting mothers: Holly Thompson

HELP NEEDED!

We still need some people to sign up to help with the Meals-On-Wheels project we have undertaken. This is really a great thing to do, and it only takes an hour out of your day. If you can help, please sign up on the board in the foyer. If you have any questions, please see Mark.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Today Relay for Life Meeting

Apr 22 Administrative Professional's Day

Apr 26 Fourth Sunday Fellowship

RELAY FOR LIFE MEETING

This afternoon at 5:30 we will be having our first Relay For Life team meeting. If you have signed up to be a part of the team, or are interested in getting more information about the Relay For Life, please come to the meeting in the fellowship hall at 5:30.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday this week to Judy Reiger (today) and Dan Forest (Wednesday).

PRAISE THE LORD

Last Sunday morning we had the wonderful privilege of witnessing the baptism of Kristina Fredericksen (Granddaughter of Elmer and Judy Reiger). Be sure and welcome our new sister in Christ.

FOURTH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Next Sunday is our Fourth Sunday Fellowship. We'll have a "pot-luck" meal following our morning service, so be sure to bring enough to feed your family, plus one. After dinner we will have a congregational meeting, and then dismiss for the day. There will be no 6:00 p.m. service. Those on the set-up and clean-up committee this month are: Justin Newton, Brandon Osbourn, Cynda Curtis, Donna Crow, Karen Wyly, Terry Duncan, and Mark Newton (how did I get on there! — Charlie!).

Worship Assistants

SUNDAY MORNING

Welcome.....
Song Leader.....
First Prayer.....
Communion Leader.....
Communion Servers.....

TODAY

Buford Storrs.....
Brad Curtis.....
Charlie Wharton.....
Jeff French.....
Max Cruse.....
Brad Cruse.....
Raury Cruse.....
Cole Cruse.....
Taylor Newton.....
Bob Duncan.....
Margaret Nickels.....
Peggy Cruse.....

APRIL 26

Charlie Wharton.....
Justin Newton.....
Craig Hyde.....
Brad Curtis.....
Kris Monroe.....
John Rheinbolt.....
Herb Davis.....
Taylor Newton.....
Alan Hyde.....
Buford Storrs.....
Herb Davis.....
Jane Davis.....

Scripture Reading.....
Announcements & Closing.....
Greeters.....

TODAY

Brad Curtis.....
Bob Duncan.....

APRIL 26

No Evening Service.....
No Evening Service.....

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader.....
Communion/Closing.....

APRIL 22

Brad Curtis.....
Alan Hyde.....
Taylor Newton.....

APRIL 29

Taylor Hyde.....
Taylor Newton.....
Alan Hyde.....

WEDNESDAY

Songs.....
Scriptures.....
Closing.....



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