

"The members should have the same care one for another...." | Corinthians 12:25

"See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently...." | Peter 1:22

# HEART TO HEART

A publication of the  
Forrest Park Church of Christ  
Between Forrest Street and Park Avenue  
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## *The 99 Club*

David Deffenbaugh

I have been a member of a number of clubs during my lifetime. All had the same fundamental, self-perpetuating purpose. Some tried to teach and some tried to serve, but the bottom line was about sustaining the organization itself. The attention was focused on "us."

One club of which I want no part is what we will call "The 99 Club." The name comes from Jesus' words in Matthew 18:12-14 of the lost sheep. The shepherd, when he realized one of his 100 sheep was gone, left the 99, and searched until he found it and brought it back to the fold. This resulted in great rejoicing.

A fair and necessary question for individual Christians and the church to ask is, **Do my concerns and attitudes match those of Jesus the shepherd? Is my concern for the 99 or for the one?** With Jesus as the head of His body we should reflect His attitudes, concerns and actions. If we do not, He is not really OUR HEAD; consequently, it is not really His church. It has become something else; a "99 club."

What does a 99 Club look like?

**A focus on "us."** Most of the 99 Club's efforts and energy and work are directed toward "us" and not the lost and straying. Now, look at where our interests, concerns and energies are directed as a congregation and individual. Is it toward the one or the 99?

**Unconcern for stray members.** People can leave this "club" without any real effort made to recover them. Asking "I wonder what ever happened to so-and-so? I haven't seen them in a while" does not count. Is it shepherd-like, or Christ-like, for members to miss 2, 3, 6, or 10 weeks without any effort to retrieve this straying sheep?

**Resentment toward the lost.** The club demonstrates an attitude of anger or indignation toward the straying and lost. "They know better than that" and "They know what they should be doing" are a far cry from the compassion and love that motivates the shepherd to "seek" and to "save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

## **Preference for similar, "low-maintenance" members.**

The 99 Club possesses an attitude of "We want to reach out and bring them in ... (the unspoken part is) as long as they are just like us." Who are the lost and straying, and why are they that way? There may be many reasons: ignorance, inattentiveness, bad influence, even selfishness and rebellion. Quite often their lives are a mess (see the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-24. However, **we tend to be most attentive to people who are most like us and who demand the least from us.**

**Cynicism when the "lost" return.** Instead of great joy and encouragement, the 99 Club's response is: "It's about time" or "They should have done this long ago" or a cynical "We will see how long this lasts." Read the proper response in Luke 15:6-7; 9-10; 22-24 when love is present.

**A belief that God's greatest joy is found in their faithfulness.** God is pleased with faithfulness, and expects such. But that is just the beginning. He also gets great joy over ONE SINNER WHO REPENTS. (Luke 15:7) Although difficult for us, the Lord has no trouble seeing clearly the attitudes and thoughts of men. (I Samuel 16:7)

**Funny thing about 99 Clubs;** they do not tend to stay 99 Clubs. Before long they are 89 Clubs, then 79, then 69, then...

*Reprinted by permission Gospel Advocate June 2010*



## MEN TO SERVE

July 11, 2010

*Elders Request You Wear A Coat and Tie When Serving.*

**Deacon In Charge:** Roger Leonard  
July 18 Charles Renfro

**Presiding:** Danny Brock

**Table:** Jorge Brathwaite Alan Baker  
Taylor Bosch Daniel Batten  
Bart Bosch Jake Baker  
LaGary Carter Ethan Baker  
Quinton Carter Franklin Bailey  
Jimmy Carter Chip Belote  
Casey Cope Devlin Belote  
Earl Copeland Robert Blair

**Announcements:** Donnie Swilley

**Responses:** Donnie Swilley

**Opening Prayer AM:** Barry Robinson

**Closing Prayer AM:** Donnie Allbritton

**Opening Prayer PM:** Winston Carter

**Closing Prayer PM:** Tony Cruz

**Lead Singing:**  
Sunday AM: Spen Broome  
Sunday PM: Thomas Robinson

**Scripture:** Tony Creekmore

**Cards/Cups:** Eli Joyner Grayson Lewis  
Britton Davis Coleman Lewis

### Wednesday Evening Bible Study

**Invitation:** Summer Lectureship

**Opening Prayer:** Raymond Copeland

**Closing Prayer:** Josh Copeland

**Song Leader** Dylan Greer

**PA System:** Ken Collins

### Prepare Communion:

July 11 Carlethia Mikel

July 18 Linda Harrell

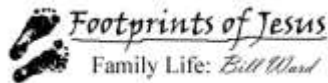
**Visitor Center** Thomas & Carlethia Mikel

### The Record

**Bible Study:** 313

**Worship:** A.M. 412 P.M. 311

**Wednesday:** 6/30/10 331



## Sunday's Summary

Our attendance was hit but considering we KNOW of at least 75 who were out of town, PLUS the ten or so campaigners in Latin America, we did good.

**Holly Hill devotional** was very well supported by the 50s group. We had 14 present from Forrest Park. The number from Holly Hill was off but that is usual for a holiday as many will go to a family's home if they are able on the holiday weekends.

**Sunday night fellowship** had a very good turnout. The ladies had decorated tables for 200 people and we needed to set up a few more tables. You could gain weight by breathing there was so much aroma in the air. We appreciate so much the time spent in fixing the ice cream and coming together.

### Forrest Park VBS July 19-23

We will have balloon lift-off and finger foods Sunday night July 18<sup>th</sup>. The school begins Monday morning at 9 AM. There will be an adult class. We will meet for ONE HOUR at 9:30-10:30 for the adult class and then you may have your refreshments.

1. Classes will meet for age 2 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
2. Let us use our cars to bring friends and visitors to this year's school!
3. DOOR-KNOCKING to set up a van route will be Friday, July 16, at 9:30 at the office building. Come and help us reach out. Last year we got around 15 to come through this effort and follow-up afterwards resulted in 3-4 Bible studies and several visitors to our services by the parents, and some neighbors, who had noticed the van in the neighborhood.
4. Why Friday and not Saturday?? Our VBS is a daytime week-day school and those people home on Friday AM will likely be home during the time of our VBS whereas those we might find home on Saturday AM may not be home during the week and have, in the past, said YES we will come and we go by to pick them up and they are off to day care.

### Hazlehurst VBS is July 11-14

#### Door-knocking is July 10 at 10 AM

We will be leaving the building here around 8:15 AM Saturday morning to go to Hazlehurst. Teachers will be decorating their classrooms. We will also be decorating the auditorium. All others who can will go out and work an hour or so canvassing inviting folk to VBS. Classes there will run ages 3 through Adult Sunday at 6 and Monday – Wednesday at 7 PM.

The new van is in use to pick up campaigners in Atlanta so we will probably car pool Saturday and then take the new van beginning Sunday to go to the school together.

### Monday Night For The Master

We will meet this Monday for visitation. We already have a good number of visitors cards from July 4<sup>th</sup> to put in. Make your plans to come out at 6 PM.



# NEWS 'N NOTES

## FROM AROUND FORREST PARK

### Summer Lectureship Update

July 14 ~ *Worship*

(1 Corinthians 14:23-40) LaGary Carter

### Family Activities

Monday for the Master meets each week at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday for the Master Radio Program can be heard 6:00 PM, on 92.1

Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, Young Professionals Family Care Group will have a get together after evening service in the Fellowship Hall. Bring finger foods and desserts.

Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM, Silver Threads Family Care Group will have a get together in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a covered dish and a drink.

Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, Shower Group 2 invites all ladies to a Wedding Shower for Della Gill, 3:30 – 5:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. Her selections are at Wal-Mart, Target and Penny's.

Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, Young Adults Family Care Group will have a get together after evening services. Bring finger foods, desserts and drinks.

### Ladies Day

Forrest Parks' Ladies Day is September 18<sup>th</sup>. Cindy Colley is the speaker. This year's theme is, "Give Me A Break" Mark your calendar and look for opportunities to help.



Balloon Launch, Sunday July 18<sup>th</sup>!

### VBS Treats

A sign up sheet is at the Visitor Center for those willing to donate cookies and/or punch for VBS.

### Mi, Mi, Mi

Congregational singing for the evening service this Sunday.

### Audio Files

Our Summer Lectureship Lessons are available for listening on our Web site. Go to ForrestPark.org and select the Audio Files Button.

### Responses

Stephanie Miley and Betty Shaw responded to the invitation Sunday requesting prayers and forgiveness.

### Baptized

16. Manual "Manny" Rodriquez 6/30/10

Manny is spending the summer with Ralph and Jamie Romero. He will go back to Middleburg, Florida at the end of the month.

### Placed Membership

27. Shirley Arnold 7/4/10  
Cell Phone: 630-1722

### Our Sympathy To...

Ruth Wesley in the passing of her mother-in-law, Margaret Wesley. The funeral is Thursday in Farmville, VA.

### Nicaragua Campaign

Roger Leonard returned this past weekend from two simultaneous campaigns in Leon and Chinandega, Nicaragua. All together, the teams sowed God's Word and reaped twenty-two baptisms, two restorations and three marriages. To God be the glory!

### Directory Update

Tom & Thelma Shockley  
Langdale Place, Room 113  
293-7162

### More Prayers

BJ Croft, sister-in-law of Debbie Walker.

Sally Dorminey, coworker of Christina McLeod.

Nick Masters, friend of Amber Okolichany.

Salena Miller, daughter of Billy & Sharon Lewis.

Deloris Peterson, mother-in-law of Ted Okolichany's brother.

Oliver Osborne, visitor.

Kevin Satterwhite, patient of Joelle Harvey.

Tiffany Brinkley, friend of Al Howard family.

Ken Goodwin, father of our speaker our Wednesday night speaker.

### Prayer List

#### Our Shut-Ins

Jeanette Allen, Abbie Anderson, Margaret Berrien, Martha Boyd, Valdeese Brown, Robbie Bryson, Lee Clark, Peter Flintroyal, Mary Harrelson, Carolyn B. Johnson, Bess Jones, Lila Jones, Malloy & Liz Jones, Gerald & Nellie Leveille, Inez Lott, Mazella Nathan and Ruth Nicholson.

#### Out Sick Sunday

Christina Coy, Faye Dykes, Eunice Glisson, Carolyn Griffin, Henry Howard, Charles Lavender, Jerry McKinnon, Daphne McLeod, Rosa Parker, Ruth Richardson, Sandy Sapp, Thomas Shockley, Laverne Thomas, Merrill Tindall and Jo Walker.

#### Back With Us!

It was good to have Jeff Gill back with us Sunday.

#### Health Problems

Eddie Mae Shumphard, blood pressure.

#### Tests, Procedures, Surgery

John Renfro, surgery, Thursday.

Amber Broome, tests.

Maudell Rouse, eyes, Monday.

#### Hospice Care

Inez Lott and Lee Clark.

#### Recovering

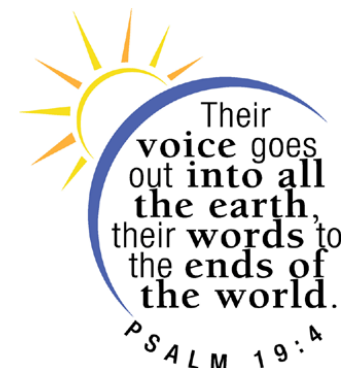
Malloy Jones, infection.

Henry Howard, surgery.

Vernell Howard, surgery.

#### Continue In Prayer

Thomas Shockley, Bob Poor, James Grace, Lila Jones, Inez Williams and Norman & Louise Sainz.



## **Forrest Park Church of Christ**

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### **Elders**

Don Garner      Doug Jones      Ray Joyner  
Robert McLeod      Donnie Swilley

### **Ministers**

**Evangelist**      **Family Life**      **Youth**  
Bill Ward      Spen Broome

### **Deacons**

Donnie Allbritton      Spen Broome      LaGary Carter  
Raymond Copeland      Bill Daugherty  
Doug Daugherty      Colin DeLoach      Rudy Dowling  
Billy Dykes      Clint Dykes      Al Earp  
Jack Farber      Kevin Garner      Ronald Harrell  
Dave Huffman      Charles Lavender  
Roger Leonard      Charles Renfro  
James Renfro      John Renfro      Albert Smith

**Media Ministry:** Roger Steis

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Rodolfo Espinoza      Armando Galeano  
Francisco Gonzáles      Guillermo Hernández  
Fernando Ospina      Atilio Pérez  
Mainor Pérez      Gustavo Quiceno  
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