

June 2010

Cyberspace News

Michigan News



Our Mission: To Love God with Your Praise

Elder Charles Moore

Last month we discussed that we as a church are to show our love by worshipping Him in Spirit and in truth. With this article, we'll continue discussing what we are to do as a church and as individuals.

Our mission statement says we are "to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind (Mat. 22:37)." The book of Mark's parallel account tells us that God wants us to love Him practically as well - with all our strength. **Mark 12: 30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'** God wants us to see Him with our minds and sense Him with our heart and soul, but He also wants us to serve Him with our strength. God created the entire universe and He created you but there are three things God does not have unless you give them to Him. He doesn't have your attention (mind) or your affection (heart) or your ability (strength) until you give them to Him. To love God is not to "have good feelings about Him," for true love involves the will as well as the

heart. Where there is love, there will be service and obedience.

One of the best ways we can engage our hearts, souls, mind and strength in serving and loving the Lord is by lifting up our voices to Him in praise. We can learn many things about such praise from David's song found in 1 Chronicles 16.

1 Chronicles 16: 23 Sing to the Lord, all the earth; (All nations are invited to unite in this most joyful praise.) **Proclaim good tidings** (literally, "declare joyful tidings.") **of His salvation** (Salvation illustrates God's glory in its wonders of love and mercy.) **from day to day.** *This passage should put us in mind of the angel's pronouncement to the shepherds found in Luke 2: ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; ¹¹ for today in the city of David there has been born for you a*

Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

As we continue reading David's song, we are instructed in verse 24 to, "Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples. We have a duty to spread the word about what God has done.

The reasons why we must "tell of His glory" are found in the next verse. **25 For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He also is to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the peoples are idols.** Our God is not a local God, but a universal and great one. Idols are nothing and can do nothing. **But the Lord made the heavens. 27 Splendor and majesty are before Him.** Splendor and majesty are His attendants, declared in His mighty works, while strength and joy are especially seen in His spiritual relations to His people: **Strength and joy are in His place.**

David continues with a joyful command: **28 Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. 29 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name, He is encouraging us here to give**

(Continued on page 2)

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the Lord all that is due Him in honor and glory. Know this, one day every knee must bow (Phil. 2:10) before this sovereign Lord. **Bring an offering, and come before Him.** For the New Covenant believer, the only thing we can offer God is ourselves in humble adoration and gratitude in all that God has done for us in Jesus. We see this clearly in **Hebrews 13:15 Through Him {Jesus} then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.**

Listen further to David's instructions. **Worship the Lord in holy array. 30 Tremble before Him, all the earth; Indeed, the world is firmly established, it will not be moved. 31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; And let them say among the nations, "The Lord reigns."** People everywhere should praise the Lord because He reigns. **32 Let the sea roar, and all it contains; Let the field exult, and all that is in it. 33 Then the trees of the forest will sing for joy before the Lord; For He is coming to judge the earth.** You see here clearly that the universe is invoked to unite in joy and join in the anthem of praise because they will enjoy lasting peace with all the redeemed. Creation will flourish when righteousness reigns on earth, when the curse is replaced by blessing. Then earth will no longer groan, waiting for the day of redemption as it is doing now (Rom. 8:20-22). Then nature will sing for joy.

34 O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His loving-kindness is everlasting. 35 Then say, "Save us, O God of our salvation, And gather us and deliver us from the nations, To give thanks to Your holy name, And glory in Your praise." These words spoken by David had immediate relevance for the nation of Israel but an eternal relevance for Christians who are scattered in every tribe, tongue, nation on earth. Do we not long to be gathered to our heavenly Father?

David's final words of song sum it up best. **36 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, From everlasting even to everlasting. Then all the people said, "Amen," and praised the Lord.**

May we always be found loving God through our praise and adoration of Him.

I think June had wings. With youth camp in the middle of the month, preparation a week before, and resting afterward July 1 comes fast! We are very grateful to God for a wonderful camp and safety once again. We completed our 60th camp successfully and of course God gets all the praise and glory.

We were so happy to see our outlying members participating in all the activities at camp. Laurie Eckles was present all week, working in crafts and serving food to the campers. (She volunteered and Mary Begeman put her to work on her serving line!) Of course Sonya Pease crafted with the best and had her usual beautiful quilt show. Rob and Lynn Vaughn were wonderful help wherever needed. Rob retired from teaching school after 38 years of service at the end of the school year this year. Congratulations, Rob and we know you will find many things to keep you busy.

The Jon Lane family traveled here from Phoenix to celebrate Shealyn's high school graduation with family and friends. Dave and Terrie Fedor have the perfect outdoor home to celebrate and everyone who attended enjoyed a beautiful day together. Shealyn plans to attend Grand Canyon University in Phoenix.

Leslie Miller (Kansas) and I were able to visit on the phone the day her son Alexander turned one this month. Friends and family were going to be served cake and ice cream for the happy occasion. You are still in our prayers, Leslie, along with the whole Arquette family.

David and Ruth Charles traveled north in their new motor home and were able to stop on the way for lunch with the Ripley's in Roanoke, VA. They were happy to visit Leeland and Lettie Bonds on the way also. They arrived in Monroe for our wrap-up service for camp and David was able to share the fruits of Richard and Laura Cook and David and Ruth's ideas for camp in the late forties. Few people get to enjoy seeing the results of a dream that grew and grew and has been a blessing to many young folks! He is the last one of the original committee members that put the project into reality.

Bennie and Roy Gee wrote that Bennie's only granddaughter Ashley graduated magna cum laude from college this month with a BA in philosophy and legal studies. Bennie and Roy were so happy to be present at graduation and present for some of the other festivities. Ashley plans on continuing her studies for a law degree. Congratulations to all of you, Bennie. I know how proud you must be!

Hope you enjoy life and God's richest blessings this month.

Michigan Report

Aurine Moore

June is the strawberry moon, no doubt so named for the plentiful crops of strawberries. I remember times years ago when I would 'borrow' my nephews from my sister and take them strawberry picking with me. Despite the fact that they will be 40 soon, in my mind, June brings visions to me of wearing grubby shorts so I can sit on the ground to pick strawberries at my leisure and wonderful talks with three wonderful pre-teen boys, Chad, Chris and Tim. This June will be memorable to many from the Michigan church in years to come because of bountiful rainfall, followed by a series of tornadoes in the area, one of which really impacted our friends from Dundee and caused families to stay up listening for tornado sirens or spending time in their basements.

Our youth camp was the other truly memorable experience for many of us. Much of the month was spent preparing for, conducting, cleaning up from and resting from this annual outreach and discipleship opportunity. We had about 55 campers, depending on the day and time, and they were a great group. The Bible study theme was "Rocks, Stones and Gems" in the Bible and until we heard the classes at camp and camp wrap up, I don't think we really understood how God used this 'common' substance of the earth to perfectly illustrate some of the deepest and most encouraging truths about salvation and His work of redemption through Jesus. The classes were led by Rob Vaughn, Doug Vaughn, Kay Nevil and Kathy Smeltzer, and Joe Smeltzer. The music team was aided and abetted by Kathy and Kay, Jim Nevil, Sally and Lloyd Smith, and Mark Nevil. What a great group! We were thrilled to have John Schott and his pet rock, Clarence, on hand through the week to do morning devotions, and Elder Tim Begeman and Pastor Charlie Moore, handled evening devotions. Geneva Begeman was ably assisted in the kitchen by many helpers, including Dave Fedor, Jeff Begeman who did some heavy lifting on the cooking front along with Lynn Vaughn and the Mary Begeman and Sally Smeltzer team (who also were present nightly for the treasured candy

sale). See the pictures of macaroni preparation day! KP was ably led by Trent Begeman who organized a cadre of in-kitchen and in-dining room helpers. The crafts this year were silverware wind chimes and bud vases made of baskets, run with the help of Sally Smith, Diane Begeman, Sonja Pease, and Laurie Begeman. Nature classes included bottle rockets (designed by Jeff Begeman and taught by Mike Morris and Rick Flores), Blow Darts with Chandus Bemus (who was an all-around working dude everywhere he was seen), Water Games with Sara Madden, an unnamed but interesting group led by Amy Schlorf (we called it Blind Man's Bluff or Hug a Tree based on what we witnessed), and Scavenger Hunt with Jenna Boyd. Cabin Devotions were led by another great group: Sara Madden, Angela Aksamit and Allyssa Riddle, Brian Begeman and Tim Begeman. Campfire and the annual variety show were wonderful and wonderfully led by Mike Begeman. Some of the campers singing and musical performances truly made people think, 'Some day, I'm going to tell people I knew these musical (or comedic) prodigies when they were campers at the COLOR youth camp!' Finally the Dirtballs group was led again by Teresa Jackson with help from Virginia Begeman. That amazing group had 11, count 'em - 11, children, most under the age of 4. Our prayer is that God bless each person who supported the camp, in its inception or before, during and after camp and that the spiritual seeds that were planted this week grow from mustard size to humongous. The camper of the year was Travis Wegener and the counselor of the year was Megan Stahl.

I recently had the privilege of talking to Leslie (Arquette) Miller following her return home to Kansas from her mother Wanda's funeral. I was reminded again that the work of carrying on after the funeral goes on, in a quieter, deeper way. Please join with me in praying for all those you know who have recently lost loved ones. And, until next month, may you be aware of God's abounding presence, wherever you walk this month!

"It's All In How You Say It"
from John Schott's camp morning devotion.

M r Ducks

M r not Ducks.

O S M R! C M Wangs?

L I L B - M r Ducks!

Answer on back page

**CHURCH OF THE
LORD OUR
RIGHTEOUSNESS**

**1922 LaSalle Road
Monroe, MI 48162
Church 734-242-9511**

Editor - Jamie Carothers
Jamie.Carothers@utoledo.edu

Publisher - Diane Begeman
734-269-6098
veggie@charter.net

website
colornet.org

Seven Words to Live by—Comments Gathered from a few of our Folks.

Terrie Fedor — Jesus, our peace, strength, and only hope.

Tim Begeman — Actualization, epiphany, interruption, obsequious, studious, harmonize, confirm.

Dale Begeman — I'm thankful for salvation, family, Mom, Dad.

Stephanie Fasbender — I am happy, thankful for my life.

Jamie Carothers — God's love and forgiveness can change lives.

Marshalla Goins — The Lord is so good to me.

Joe Smeltzer — Faith plus service unaware equals His presence.

Pat Conley — Caring, outgoing, funny, jokestar, quirkier, and hardworking.

Erin Gill — Be generous, God will provide for you.

TRANSLATION:

Them are ducks. Them are not ducks,
Oh yes them are! See them wings?
Well, I'll be! Them ARE ducks!

June 2010 Graduate



COLOR CAMP 2010



Sally Smeltzer and Kristen Vaughn
Doing cheese!



THE BAND
Daniel Sottile, Sonya Pease, Kay Nevil, Carter Jackson, Mark Nevil



Terrie Fedor & Jean Lane



DIRT BALLS!



Charlie Moore & Tim Begeman
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WINNERS !