

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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OCTOBER 2010: THE GLORIOUS BODY OF CHRIST "For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body as He pleased." (1 Corinthians 12:12&18)

In the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the month of October is designated as 'Laity Month'. It is not that we only consider the importance of each person in the body of Christ at this time, but special attention is given to the role which each believer has been called to accomplish in the work of the church. Each believer is important for the body of Christ to work properly. Each believer must understand that we all have been gifted by God from one degree to another. However, this does not mean that one is less or more important than others in the body.

The Apostle Paul makes it clear that every Christian is vital for the church to function as God intends. There are many parts of the body but each person has been uniquely gifted and placed in the body. Just as our physical bodies have eyes, ears, toes, fingers and many internal organs and muscles each part is needed for it to function properly on a daily basis. When we were younger, we took for granted many things regarding our bodies. But, I can tell you as the years have gone by these old hurts and injuries are letting me know just how important these neglected parts are.

As one studies the biblical makeup of the church, one discovers it is not an elitist group where one person or group lords it over the rest. There is one Head over the church and He is Jesus. Jesus has called and gifted His people so wonderfully and powerfully for the work of the ministry. We need to always remember that there are those who are called to be pastors, teachers, evangelist, elders, deacons as well as many others in the foreground of ministry. However, these all need to keep in their minds and hearts that we are called to serve, not to be served. It is true that these are more visible, but I am reminded of the pillars of the Temple which King Solomon built. As one would gaze upon the pillars, the person would think how beautiful these are to behold. However, stepping back and looking at the massive stones which were being supported, one would begin to realize that there were more to these pillars than they had at first imagined. At first glance one could only see the gold, but to support the weight of those stones there had to be something more. The something more was the cedars of Lebanon. It takes the behind the scene Christian who is always willing to step up and do what needs to be done, which will make the church strong.

But, perhaps the most important element of the equation which is sometimes not even considered is this: "But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.: (1 Corinthians 12:18) You see, God out of His good pleasure, brought His church into existence, and it is He Who will and does issue the call to service to each in the body of Christ. Praise God, when we come to this realization it is truly liberating. As we make ourselves available for the Holy Spirit's working, great and awesome things will be accomplished for the advancement of His Kingdom through us as His people. Go forward in the power of Christ Jesus our Lord!

Your pastor, Meredith

SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

October 3	Matthew 6:8-13 "It All Belongs To Him"
October 10	Psalm 27 "Fearless Truth in Our Lord"
October 17	Gideon Sunday
October 24	Proverbs 3:13-26 "The Depth of Godly Wisdom"
October 31	Luke 24:36-39 "The Man Who Missed Sunday Evening Worship"

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES FOR THE MONTH

October 6 Mr. and Mrs. Verlie Wells, III

FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

Margaret Sherrill

NURSERY ATTENDANTS FOR THE MONTH

October 3	Molly Huffman
October 10	Joanna Simonton
October 17	Ashley Goulder
October 24	Linda Boswell
October 31	Stephanie Moore

PLEASE NOTE: We need information for the Brighton Light. We would like to make the church newsletter more interesting and informative. If you have any news about you or your family or any suggestions or ideas, please contact the church secretary.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-372-3995 or e-mail at chris_gravley@bellsouth.net.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Harry Hugues. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Harry at 901-837-4965.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Ben Cavin who won 2nd place in his division for the State Special Olympics Monday September 20.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a Fish Fry to benefit Dunlap Retirement Center on Saturday October 9th, 2010 from 5:00 until 7:00 PM at the First Baptist Church in Covington. Come and enjoy good food, fellowship and entertainment while you donate to a worthwhile not profit ministry

PLEASE NOTE: If you love music and can make a joyful noise the choir is recruiting for the upcoming Cantata come join us and serve the Lord with gladness.

PLAY PRACTICE: Christmas play practice starts Sunday on October 3rd at 4:00 P.M. If you would like to be a part of the play please see Mrs. Leslie Alsbrook.

THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY still has cookbooks for sale. These would make wonderful gifts for any occasion. Please see Linda Clarke if you would like to purchase one (or several!).

REVIVAL: Revival is October 31 – November 3. Let each of us continue to pray for Rev. David Stormont who will be preaching our Revival services.

Revival Services Topics *"Reviving Our Commitment to Gospel Ministry"*

Sunday Morning	"The Man Who Missed Sunday Evening Worship" – Luke 24:36-39
Sunday Evening	"God's Victorious Word" – Isaiah 27:1-2
Monday Devotional (Lunch)	"Two Are Better Than One" – Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
Monday Evening	"New Creatures in Christ" – II Corinthians 5:17
Tuesday Devotional (Lunch)	"Jars of Clay" – II Corinthians 4:7
Tuesday Evening	"The Work of Reconciliation" – II Corinthians 5:21
Wednesday Devotional (Lunch)	"Mentoring Our Youth" – I Timothy 1:1-2 and II Timothy 2:1-7
Wednesday Evening (Youth Meeting)	"Teenage Mutant Christian Culture" – II Corinthians 6:1-2