

The Brighton Light

BRIGHTON ARP CHURCH

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OCTOBER 2011: God's Building Process. "You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Christ Jesus...But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that we may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:5&9)

As I contemplate these words from the Apostle Peter, I think to myself; "But I am so sinful. There too many times I feel that I am a million miles from where I should be. My faith is so weak and I am so completely unworthy. I don't feel so holy, like a royal priest or very special." Do you ever struggle with these thoughts? I believe we all struggle with these thoughts from one degree to another. We may even feel lower than a snake's belly.

However, does our God stop loving us, stop working in us or caring for us as we experience all or some of the above? If we have one thing which gives us hope, it is at these very moments when our Lord is holding and keeping us. He will never lose His grip on us, His children.

The other matter to consider is, if I felt worthy of being called a royal priest, a part of His holy nation or as one of His special people, something would be unbelievably wrong with this equation. It is precisely when we feel unworthy that our Lord says; "I have made you worthy. I have declared this by My holy name!" Question 33 of the Shorter Catechism reminds us; "What is justification? Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein He pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone." This is precisely the point. We don't, nor can anyone get to the place by his or her own power or righteousness whereby God will declare that person righteous. There is only One worthy, One capable of taking sin out of the way. The One is Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God.

Also remember that we are not justified simply for the sake of being justified. Our Lord has a purpose for each of us, both toward those in the church and those outside. It is vitally important to realize God has justified us by the blood of the Lamb, that we are brought together and bound together by the power of the Holy Spirit as the body of Christ for service.

All of the things which the Apostle Peter mentions, God declares that this is exactly who and what His people are in Christ Jesus. We are His glorious body here on earth. As sons and daughters we now have direct access to Him. There is no need for us to go through an earthly priest for prayer or confession. The Bible declares that Jesus is our Great High Priest and we are His royal priesthood. Jesus calls us a holy nation, a royal priesthood so we can minister to others and declare by the authority of God's Word, there is One Who gave everything and intercedes for His own even now.

Isn't it wonderful that we are allowed to be a part of our Lord's working as His glorious body. As I hope we all understand that with this comes the great responsibility of interceding and ministering to others, and for all sorts of situations which may arise. But, as General Stonewall Jackson always reminded his wife as he asked her to pray for an end of the War Between the States; "My dear wife, always remember to end your petition with; 'Not my will but Yours be done'. So we too, do not come demanding of God, but humbly pleading for His will to be accomplished.

Remember how God views us. As a believer each of us are a part of His "special people". Praise God for this glorious truth! Yours in Christ, Meredith.

SERMON SCRIPTURE SELECTIONS FOR THE MONTH:

October 2	Psalm 51:1-13; 16 & 17
October 9	I Samuel 26:7-25 "Your Qualities Shall Be Known By Your Enemies"
October 16	I Samuel 27
October 23	I Samuel 30:6-31 "When Things Continue To Be Bad"
October 30	I Peter 2:4-10



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

October 6 Mr. and Mrs. Verlie Wells, III

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

October 2	Molly Huffman
October 9	Joanna Simonton
October 16	Ashley Goulder
October 23	Linda Boswell
October 30	Stephanie Moore

FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH

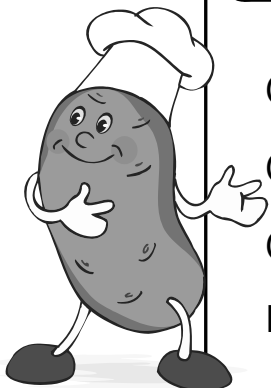
Mary Steele Circle

Oct 16 Jean Chisolm In Memory of
John and John Hill Chisolm

SICK AND SHUT INS:

Bennett, Mary Frances	Krull, Lucy
Billings, Mel Sr	Legler, Don
Boswell, Mike	Lewis, Adam
Boswell, Rick	Lineberger, Rachael
Brown, Don	Locke, Ann
Bundy, Pam	Locke, Mike
Cavin, Henry	Lupinsky, Logan
Cov. ARP Church	McCormick, Julia
Culver, Michael	Moncla, Luke
Curtis, Cooper	Moore, Martha Lou
Dungy, Louise	Motes, Cindy
Fletcher, John	Otis, Mike
Frazier, Betty	Patrick, Carolyn
Goulder, Helen	Rhodes, Geraldine
Griffin, Melanie	Sanders, Laura
Harpe, Karen Cavin	Smith, Sarah
Hill, Dana	Starnes, Cecil
Hill, Joy	Trotter, Jimmy
Hodges, Doris	Walter, Joshlin
Huffman, Linda	Wells, Michael
Huffman, Swayne	Montgomery, Madelyn
	Welch, Jack

Menu for October



Oct 5	Chili Dog's
Oct 12	Hamburgers
Oct 19	Chicken
	Nuggets
	Mac N' Cheese
Oct 26	Family Night

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	John Scott	24	Kris Pugh
2	Emily Kirk	25	Modesty Trotter
3	Bobby Guthrie	26	Michael Trotter
	Josh Bradley	27	Anita Bridges
	Zac Bradley	28	Anna Catherine Carter
4	Ryan Griffin		Ricki Smith
6	Daniel Brubaker		Vicki Smith
7	Scottie Gladney	30	Molly Anne Heath
	Zona Gray	31	Blake Bridges
10	Rhonda Goulder		
12	Blain Curtis		
21	Pam Cannon		
23	John R. Moore		
	Jimmy Richardson		

PLEASE NOTE: If you have any ideas or suggestions for the church website, please contact Chris Gravley, webmaster, at 901-674-3851 or e-mail at chris_gravley@bellsouth.net.

THE DEACON OF THE MONTH is Keith Trotter. If you have any requests for the deacons, please contact Keith at 901-275-2132.

INFORMATION NEEDED! 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: On Saturday October 8th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. there will be a Fish Fry for Dunlap Retirement Center at the First Baptist Church in Covington. Please come out and support this ministry.

PLEASE NOTE: Sunday October 30th is "Laity Sunday". This year we will have the opportunity to hear our friends as they share their own personal testimonies of how the Lord Jesus has touched their lives.

PLEASE NOTE: The Budget meeting for 2012 will start October 23rd at 12:00 P.M. We need members from the Session, Diaconate, and Women's Ministry. If you have any questions please contact Chris Gravley at 901-674-3851. Thanks The Diaconate.

A Clean Heart



V	O	Q	V	V	D	H	O	Q	T	V	Y	W	Q	L
M	J	C	L	S	D	E	A	Q	M	H	C	U	H	W
V	Z	V	B	A	L	H	A	N	J	D	E	X	L	P
S	C	I	M	R	T	Y	N	T	D	H	M	F	F	N
L	L	R	S	U	U	T	I	S	I	S	E	D	T	W
A	Y	P	O	M	N	C	R	N	Z	N	R	A	S	K
N	M	M	L	M	W	S	A	B	G	A	G	L	R	E
D	G	R	F	U	A	T	H	O	U	G	H	T	S	T
E	U	B	N	R	S	O	O	Y	G	Z	B	T	R	D
R	N	Q	H	D	H	M	A	E	Y	E	B	R	C	I
U	C	A	S	E	E	A	R	V	I	R	B	F	J	B
R	L	C	V	R	D	C	O	I	R	T	C	K	K	N
A	E	C	E	E	V	H	S	L	L	I	V	P	A	P
S	A	B	O	D	Y	J	A	C	C	A	E	M	T	B
S	N	O	K	B	I	M	M	O	R	A	L	I	T	Y



mouth	unclean	immorality	man
stomach	evil	theft	eating
body	thoughts	lying	unwashed
heart	murder	slander	hands

But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart,
and these make a man 'unclean.'

Matthew 15:18 (NIV)