A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

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SCIPC Newsletter

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 2

MAY 21, 2015



David and Marcia Jones Visited on May 10

On Sunday May10 David and Marcia Jones visited and spoke at Sunday School and during the worship hour as well. David is a best friend of Phil and were best buddies during their seminary years.

During Sunday School both the men's and ladies' classes met in the main fellowship hall and had a good time of interaction and informal question and answer about David and Marcia's work with Muslims in London, England. It was interesting and enlightening to discover the way the Lord is working in the Muslim population as well as the approaches and methods used to minister to them.

They live in the eastern portion of London where there are many different nationalities and religions present. David described how they operate there in the market area of their community. In typical London fashion there is a market at the center of the community, and this is where David sets up his table and literature and interacts with the residents.



Dave & Ninette Cox Fred & Grace Ely Bob & Carol Evaul Alec & Tammy Harrison Dick & Sara Hart Hazel Neddo

Our Prayer Supported Missionaries

Mark & Candy Garrett David & Marcia Jones Reginald Lisemby

April and May Anniversaries

May 29-Curtis and Alice Coulter

May 30—Alec and Tammy Harrison

May Nursery Schedule

May 3 Charlotte Blake and Roger Coulter

May 10-Raymond Weaver and Melinda Evaul

May 17-Jim and Shari Dvorak

May 24—Curtis Coulter and Betty Ray

May 31-Linda Lane and Mark or Mo Davis

April and May Birthdays

April 10—George Blake and Andrea Coulter April 18—Ethan Hubbard April 28—Ben and Andy Coulter May 1—Marlene Patterson May 4—Patti Iles May 4—Jennifer Welch May 11—Blake Welch May 13—Alice Coulter May 15—Andrew Harrison May 18—Dick Hart and Hazel Neddo May 19—Charlotte Blake May 21—Isaiah Coulter



In the last few months there have been more and more instruments dragged out of closets and the dust blown off. The Big Band played a few weeks ago with Jeff and Ian on trombone, Phil on trumpet, Jim on tuba, Curtis on violin and Glen on the piano. We could still use some more instrumentation including a guitar if anyone out there is a Chet Atkins sound-alike. We usually meet on Sunday afternoon at 4:00 P.M. to practice. Come on out and bring whatever you have and join the fun. If you don't play an instrument, come on out and sing with Bea and Shari who regularly participate.



Phil's Corner—Phil Evaul

LESSONS FROM THE PARKING LOT

There is a water main that runs between Griffith Street and our church parking lot. Over the last few years that pipe has ruptured three times. Finally, after the third break, the water company decided to replace the whole pipe with a new, metal pipe. Maybe it won't rupture any more. However, the vast amounts of water from the previous breaks have ruined our parking lot, as you well know. It was determined that the damage is not only to the surface of the parking lot – buckled and cracked asphalt, but also to the sub-soil supporting the asphalt.

So we had an important decision to make. We could simply re-surface the parking lot. It would be relatively easy just to put another layer of asphalt on top of what's there. That would cover and smooth over the visible damage.

This is a parable. There is a deeper, spiritual lesson to be learned from our experience. The parking lot is a picture of our own condition. We have been damaged, ruined, by sin. And the destruction is not just on the surface; it goes way down to the core of our being. The very foundations of our lives have been undermined. We are "without hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12). We are "dead in trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1).

The multitude of bloody sacrifices in the Old Testament system covered over that sin but didn't really remove it. Hebrews 10 makes that point. The very word 'atonement' means 'to cover.' Killing animals year after year was like putting more asphalt on top of broken pavement. It covered, but didn't fix.

Just as we have to remove the old pavement to repair the subsoil, so we have to go deep to fix our sin problem. Jesus didn't tell Nicodemus to sacrifice more animals. He told him he had to be 'born again.' The Bible speaks of God replacing our heart of stone with a heart of flesh. It speaks of regeneration, not just atonement. God has to make us new and change our very essence. "Renew a right spirit within me," was the cry of David (Ps 51:10).

It certainly would have been easier and a whole lot cheaper for us just to put down another layer of asphalt on the parking lot. Removing the old pavement, bringing in loads of gravel to shore up the subsoil, and laying down new asphalt, has been a lot of trouble and has cost us a significant sum. Renewal is expensive.

Regenerating us is also expensive. It cost Jesus His life. It has been said that salvation costs us nothing but cost Him everything. That's only half true. It costs us greatly, too. We have to be willing to be re-made. We have to be willing to undergo major spiritual surgery to have the old nature torn out to be replaced with His Spirit. The resurrection from being dead in our sins to being made alive in Christ is difficult and painful.

It sure is costly. But it sure is worth it, too.

Tragedy In Front Of The Church

In October of 1963 a tragic accident happened outside the church during morning worship hour. Dr. Irving L. Jensen was pastor at the time and had just started his sermon that morning. As we all sat listening to him, we suddenly heard the sounds of car brakes squealing and then a thump and then the sound of cars stopping. One or two of the men in the church got up from their seats and went outside to investigate.

In a few minutes one of them came back into the church and announced that Mr. Orman Ragan had been struck by a car as he crossed the highway to come into the church. At that time people parked on both sides of the highway and came into the church. Mr. Ragan evidently walked out between two parked cars right into the path of a northbound car.

Mr. Ragan and his brother Ernest had been members for many years. Ernest died in 1960 and left Orman at the family home at the south end of Sale Creek on Ragan Hill which was named for the family. They had been hard working painters all their lives until old age forced them to retire from the paint business.

As we waited in the church after the announcement, Dr. Jensen stopped preaching and immediately had prayer for Mr. Ragan. In a short time an ambulance arrived and transported him to a hospital.

Over the next month to six weeks Dr. Jensen went to visit Orman in the hospital and had prayer with him. In spite of all that the doctors tried to do, he did not improve and finally died in the hospital. He was 74 years old.

Shortly afterwards the practice of parking along Highway 27

Support For the People of Nepal

Melinda belongs to a Kappa group that supports a very remote village in Nepal. This group provides school supplies and had recently raised the funds to build toilets for the village. Almost every home was destroyed in the recent earthquakes. At our last contact, the school was damaged but still standing. It is providing some shelter and food for the people. All materials for this village must be carried in on someone's back! The earthquakes continue on a daily basis. It is our hope to help them rebuild their village.

<u>Nickels for Nepal</u>, along with the Kappa group, (there are pictures about the village on that website and also on the <u>Facebook</u> <u>Page</u>) will hold a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's in Hixson on Saturday May 30 between 7:30-9:30. Tickets are \$10 donation. I should have some paper tickets by next Sunday. You can also buy tickets at the door or order them via<u>https://</u> www.eventbrite.com/e/nepal-benefit-pancake-breakfast-tickets-

17016674331 You may also contribute money without attending the fundraiser.

At last...asphalt!!



The long awaited paving job is finally finished. Things look much better now, and loose dust does not get carried into the church.



Above: Jeff Davis graduated from Red Bank High School on Saturday, May 16. Congratulations to Jeff as he finishes his high school career and looks forward to college. Above right: The Davis family enjoy a family picture with the new graduate. Right: David and Marcia Jones are pictured with their son Gareth, wife Cassandra and Melinda at their son's home in Chattanooga. We were delighted to have the whole family in attendance on Sunday, May 17.





Easter Sunday Brunch Was a Delicious Success





Ian Shelley passes a table full of kin as C.J., Jack, and Ed visit on the end of the table. Shari and Melinda enjoy conversation at right.

Church News and Prayer Requests

The parking lot was finally finished in April. The contractor had to wait until good weather before laying the mix. It was found that there was a little more needed than originally planned. The total cost came to over \$7,000 as the church's part of the bill. Special offerings for the asphalt have totaled over \$2,500.00; however, to prevent the church from having to dip into reserves, continued donations for that fund would be appreciated. Please pray about how the Lord would direct you in your giving.

George Blake had a heart attack on the weekend of May 10 and was hospitalized for a few days. Doctors performed an arteriogram and put in a stent. George was at church on Sunday, and it was good to see him there. Please continue to pray for George as he recovers from the attack and pray that he does not have another one.

June Smith had eye surgery last week and reports that she is doing very well with her recovery. Ninette Cox came down from Oriskany, Virginia to stay with her and help her with her recovery. Ninette will be with us for a few more days before she has to go home.

Roger Coulter finished his work with H & R Block on April 15. Roger said that it was like letting the air out of a balloon when April 15 comes. Everything comes to a screeching halt for tax preparers. Roger has done this work for several years now and is very knowledgeable about tax preparation. Each year he takes additional courses to improve his skills.

Phil's mother in North Carolina is in deteriorating health and is wanting to go to be with the Lord. Phil has gone to North Carolina to help take care of her. His other siblings have been taking care of her, and Phil wanted to go to help them and take his turn. Please remember all of the Evauls in your prayers.

Barry Wright's (Cathy Wright's husband) father passed away early in the week of April 10. Visitation was held on Friday from 4:00—8:00 P.M. at Williamson and Son's Funeral Home in Soddy Daisy. Mr. Wright died from a stroke.

Mary Gray broke her hip recently on a Friday. Betty Ray found her the next day, and an ambulance was called to take her to Northpark Hospital. She had surgery to replace the ball of her left hip. She has since come home, and Betty tells us that she is doing well. Please keep her in your prayers as she recovers.

Chris Coulter has been out a little bit lately and even was able to come to prayer meeting a few weeks ago. We are glad to see Chris out and about.

Myriam Heron has gone home to Europe and is visiting family there for several weeks. Conrad tells us that there is a lot of good food being served and sampled during her visit. She will be coming home in another week or two.

An anonymous donor has given the church a good lawn tractor for use in keeping the yard in good shape. We always welcome and are thankful for gifts to the church.

Jack and Karin Traylor recently took a train trip through North Carolina and other destinations. They said they had a very refreshing time together.

Cary Jackson had knee replacement surgery on Thursday, May 21. He did very well in surgery and will be home in a couple of days.

A Little Humor

Two policemen call the station on the radio. "Hello. Is that you Sarge ?" Sergeant says, "Yes, what do you have?" Policeman: "We are at the scene of a shooting...wife shot her husband for stepping on the floor she had just mopped clean." Sarge: "Did you arrest her?" Policeman: "No, the floor is still wet!"

NTSB Uncovers Cause of Crow Kill in Louisiana

NTSB and the Federal Transportation Department were called into an investigation of 468 dead crows along a stretch of interstate in Louisiana. Fearing bird flu or some other type of disease, biologists were brought in as well. Initial investigation ruled out any disease as a cause. After further investigation it was discovered that all of the birds had traces of paint on them. More experts were brought in to examine the paint samples. It was discovered that all of the paint was truck paint and not car paint. Finally, the cause of the bird kill was discovered.

Crows are very smart birds and communicate very well, plus, they always keep a lookout perched in a tree nearby. Experts reasoned that although all crows (and especially lookouts) can say Caw, Caw; however, no crow can say Truck Truck!

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