

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

Somers Ave Church of Christ  
4801 Somers Avenue  
North Little Rock AR 72118

Phone: 501-758-5256  
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Office@somersavenue.org

### Schedule of Services:

Bible Classes: 9:00 A.M.  
Worship: 9:45 A.M.  
Evening Service: 5:00 P.M.  
Midweek: 7:00 P.M.

### For Our Guests:

**Attended Nursery** at  
back of the Auditorium—  
infants

**Attended Training  
Room** at back of the auditor-  
ium (East side)  
[for 1-3 Yr. olds]

**Wireless Hearing** receiv-  
ers available in sound booth at

### Coming Soon

- VBS-Mars Hill  
Vilonia, AR  
June 13-17  
7:00-8:30 P.M.
- Vacation Bible School  
June 27-30  
Levy Hosting

# The *OBSERVER*

Volume 42, Issue 23

June 6, 2010

## “A good marriage is the union of two good forgivers”

- Ruth Bell Graham

### Perceptions of Love: Conquering the Fairy Tale Princesses

Cinderella put on a glass slipper. Sleeping Beauty woke up. After that, it seemed as though married life was nothing but magic for the heroes in our favorite fables.

Unfortunately, some of us grew up thinking that this dream can become a reality and that marriage problems don't exist in the real world. Well, the truth is that marriage is hard Work. Love can be a very broad term for the unity and commitment that keeps you and your spouse together. Think about the real-life things you can do to show your spouse you love them, and think about the things that your spouse might already do to show you love. Realizing that is your first step toward a new beginning -outside the enchanted forest.

How do you like your coffee? Or do you prefer tea? Knowing small things that bring comfort to each other goes a long way toward maintaining intimacy and avoiding a marriage crisis later down the road.

When you are out, do you bring something back for your spouse? Do you ask each other if you need anything before you run an errand? Do you keep each other posted on your whereabouts and plans? Little demonstrations of thoughtfulness show your spouse that you're paying attention and that they are on your mind. Being sincerely and openly considerate not only demonstrates your love, care and respect for your spouse, but also helps in resolving marriage conflict and avoiding a marriage crisis.

Surprise! Are you taken aback every so often by a small act of tenderness? Taking a break from the norm to show your spouse you love them with a little gesture is a great way to say you care. It doesn't need to cost anything -perhaps you can cook dinner one night, or do a chore you don't normally do. Sure, it's not as grand as arriving on a white horse, but what is? Of course, love means many different things to married couples. Find out what works best for you and your spouse. Be ready and willing to acknowledge when you need help. Asking for marriage help is a good place to start, and is yet another way to say I love you.

From the Family Dynamics March/April 2010 newsletter

Tim and Faye Ashberry will be holding another Dynamic Marriage class beginning September 2<sup>nd</sup> through October 28<sup>th</sup>. The classes will be each Thursday from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Please contact one of them if you are interested in the class.

### Our Record May 30, 2010

Sunday Bible Classes  
152  
A.M. Worship  
233  
P.M. Worship  
95  
Ladies Bible Class  
NA  
Midweek Classes  
6/2-184

Budget	\$9,080.25
Contribution	\$6,373.29
Average	\$9,757.00

**Volunteers are needed for the Wednesday Night Meal for the 3rd week of the month beginning in September. If we do not have volunteers we will skip that week.**



#### MONTH OF JUNE:

Peanut butter  
Jelly  
Toilet paper  
Crackers

### Family News



**Summer Tailgate Parties!** Friday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m. We will have our first of three tailgate parties. Bring your food, drinks, chairs and outside games and join in the fellowship on our parking lot.

**Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Class:** Wednesday, June 9th. The meal will be provided. Caroline Prestridge will be the speaker.

**Autographed Copies** of Randel Matheny's new book are still available. Please contact Sean Ashberry.

**Tuesday Night Ladies Bible Class** will begin on Tuesday, June 22nd at 7:00 p.m. in the old fellowship room. The topic will be "The ABC'S of a Godly Heart". Please sign the list on the table in the back of the auditorium or let Tress Ashberry know if you plan to attend.

**Brown Bag Wednesday:** On Wednesday nights this summer you are invited to bring your own supper and join everyone for fellowship from 6:00-6:45. No food or drinks will be provided.

**First Sunday Evening of Month-**The young men of the congregation will be leading songs, prayers and scripture reading at 4:30 p.m. Come show your support and encouragement.



#### YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND:

The wedding of Holly Nicole Huckleba and Michael James Moody on Friday, June 11th at 7:00 p.m. Reception to follow in the MPB.



**BRIDAL SHOWER** for Allyson McDougald bride-elect of Jonathan Penrod on June 13th, following evening services. They are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Target and Dillard's.

**Sympathy** is extended to the family of Sally and Aaron Sides in the passing of Sally's grandfather, Maurice Hurd on Tuesday. Maurice was also the uncle of Joe Hurd (Joe and Janice are former members at Somers).

### In Our Thoughts

#### Health Concerns ~

- **Gerald Hale** is now home from the hospital. He is under hospice care at this time.
- **Joe Gibbins** is home from the hospital following a procedure to remove fluid from the abscess on his liver.
- **Neva Raper** at home in Alabama recovering from recent surgery.
- **Jonathan Barfield** will begin a new Leukemia trial study next month. His doctors are very hopeful that the new medications will be successful in controlling his Leukemia.
- **Judy Rye** is experiencing severe respiratory problems.
- **Pat Smyres** a friend of the Huckleba's has a degenerative spinal condition.

### FRIENDS & FAMILY Prayer Requests

~ **James Akins** (Akins' grandson); **Janet Akins**; **Rick Beason** (friend of Micah Sexson); **Ruby Chandler** (Shirley Whitfield's mother); **Susan Cloninger** (Tom & Barbara's daughter-in-law); **Annie Culpepper**; **Betty Eddlemon**; **Jonathan Esquivel** (Wilma Ingram's nephew); **Bill Frazier** (friend of the Haggards); **Ruth Fuller**; **Wanda Gadberry**; **Ann Ghee**; **Joe Gibbins**; **Page Gibson** (Trevia Voyles' family); **Billy Hale** (brother of Gerald); **Gerald Hale**; **Myrtle Henry**; **Gail Jenkins**; **Vivian Johnson** (Carl Reynolds' sister); **Henry Huckleba** (Don Huckleba's father); **Bob Mauldin** (NLR Fire Chief/boss of Steve Smith); **Alice Miller** (Haggard's friend); **Carolyn & Charles Moore** (Contessa Moore's parents); **Juanita Nance**; **Marie Necessary** (Chad's mother); **John Noles**; **Neva Raper** (Neita Phillips' mother); **Judy Rye**; **Kyle Rye** (Danny & Judy's son); **Marshall Sexson** (brother of Matt and Micah); **Mary & Radine Shock**; **Jenny Smith** (Steve Foster's aunt); **Wanda House**; **Jane Weare**; **Shirley Whitfield**; **Jourdan Wood** (friend of Kathy Trickey) and **Harry Word**.

Contact Elder for June — Tim Ashberry

## Be part of the B.E.S.T.

This week I want to share with you some information on the continuing work in Cambodia at the new Bible English Study & Training (BEST) School, formally called the English Bible School. Charles Voyles participated in this mission work last year along with Bob Diles.

Charles has already made his plans and booked his reservation to return to Cambodia in October for another tour at the BEST school. The following is a personal request from Charles inviting you to attend with him:

*I have already made a commitment to teach at the new Bible English Study & Training (BEST) School. The school has a large waiting list of students that*

*would love to be taught but they just do not have enough teachers to accommodate the students.*

*The only qualification for teaching this course is to have the ability to listen, follow lesson plans, and read English. The lessons are strictly Bible-based, written by Richard N. Ady, and published by World English Institute.*

*The weather in Cambodia is usually hot but the classrooms are air-conditioned for the comfort of students and teachers. Lodging and meals for teachers will be provided at the school building.*

*Most teachers will be assigned 6-8 students. The number of assigned students will depend on the physical ability of the teacher. Teachers will be teaching each student one-on-*

*one for a period of one hour each day, Monday - Friday.*

*This mission was really a spiritual experience for me and I recommend this mission trip for anyone interested in spreading the gospel to an eager group of young college-age students in a foreign land.*

*The Cambodian people refer to themselves as Khmer rather than Cambodian. They are very friendly and kind people that appear to love Americans. The Khmer students are especially respectful to senior adults.*

*The dates of my travel this year are October 12th - November 13th. I would love to talk with anyone about this mission if they are interested in this mission work.*

Charles Voyles

## Sean Ashberry, Involvement & Outreach

If you would like more information on the cost or expectations of participating in this great work you can contact Charles Voyles by phone or through email at [voylesc@msn.com](mailto:voylesc@msn.com).

To read updates from the director of the BEST School check out the Missions link on our website or directly at [juliebroyles1.blogspot.com](http://juliebroyles1.blogspot.com).

Check out my blog:  
[seanashberry.wordpress.com](http://seanashberry.wordpress.com)

Follow me on Twitter:  
[@seanashberry](https://twitter.com/seanashberry)

Connect on Facebook:  
[sean.ashberry](https://www.facebook.com/sean.ashberry)

## On The Beach

## Oran Burt—Pulpit Minister

The beach at Normandy was in the news June 6, 1944 as the climactic battle of World War II was fought there that day.

That was the winner-take-all combat which to this day conjures up images of American fighting forces facing impossible odds yet pushing ahead in the face of death.

Stephen E. Ambrose retells many of the stories in his book *"D-Day June 6, 1944."* He is also the author of *"Band of Brothers."*

Recounting his own landing on the beach, Seaman Robert Giguere tells how he heard Colonel Taylor say, *"We might as well get killed inland as here on the beach."* (p.381) This was a response to being pinned down by German machine gun fire, cannon rounds and "potato mashers."

Finally reaching the cliffs and looking back at comrades that had fallen, Sergeant Scribner remembers seeing *"Walter Geldon lying out on the beach with his hand raised up*

*asking for help. Walter never made it. He died on his third wedding anniversary."*

In wartime, under fire, and facing death, decisions are made which under different circumstances might be long and drawn out through the courts of collective opinions and micro-management of worst-case scenarios and "what ifs." But under the gun, literally, it's do or die—and decide right now! Furthermore, there was a mission, a purpose—a goal.

Esther was able to come to a quick decision when she considered her adviser's words *"For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place and you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not attained royalty for such a time as this?"* (Esther 4:14). So she decided *"I will go in to the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish."*

Israel was given the mission of being the repository of

truth, the light to the nations. They were to go inhabit the land God would give them.

But that would require facing giants, driving out the idolatrous Canaanites, taking risks, and getting way outside their comfort zones. And they would need to decide right now.

So the ten unbelieving spies caused the hearts of the people to melt by dwelling on the possible dangers, thereby fashioning their evil report. And God was displeased with them. Many in that generation would have to die in the wilderness before the people could cross into the promised land.

It did not have to be that way. The people could have listened to Joshua and Caleb as they reminded them how God would be with them. How He would have fought for them & provided for them.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, giving the Order of the Day, June 4, 1944 sounded a bit like Joshua & Caleb when

he said: *"Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking."*

There is a strong connection between the call of duty for an ancient soldier, the modern soldier and the Christian who is arrayed in the spiritual armor (Ephesians 6) as they each accept their mission, make their decisions and move ahead to the goal.

Pinned down by the fiery darts of the devil, we are forced to make decisions that will try the fabric or our beliefs and values.

In the Memorial to the Deportation in Paris, France, there is this inscription: *"And the choices that each one made of their life and themselves was authentic since it was done in the presence of death."*

I find great inspiration in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews when reading about the men & women of faith. We are not of those who shrink back to destruction!

OUR ELDERS

- Jim Akins
- Tim Ashberry
- Mike Hughes
- Mike Penrod
- Danny Rye



Leon Barnes

**Summer Series 2010**  
**Imitating Christ: Until Christ is Formed in You**

Leon grew up on a farm in Alabama. He attended Freed-Hardeman University. He's been preaching since 1964 and has written 15 books on such topics as Spiritual Development, Knowing Christ, and Challenges Facing the Church.

He moved to North Little Rock in 1973 to work with the Levy congregation. He has been married to Linda since 1964 and has three children and nine grandchildren. Leon has been with the Central congregation since 1993.

Leon will speak Wednesday June 9, on the subject: "Imitating Christ's Focus on His Mission and Purpose in Life."

**We're On the Web:**  
[www.somersavenue.org](http://www.somersavenue.org)



**More Things You Can Do On Our WEBSITE:**

- Link to other sites
- Check Calendar of events
- Read Blogs from Somers
- Print picture directory or pdf list of members & much more: [www.somersavenue.org](http://www.somersavenue.org)

**Good Things**

"Raindrops on roses and whiskers on kittens, bright copper kettles and warm woolen mittens..." they began the list of Maria's favorite things in *The Sound Of Music*. When the dog bites, when the bee stings, when she's feeling sad Maria thinks about these things, and then she doesn't feel so bad.

The list was a little different for our friend, Paul. Of course his purpose was a bit different as well. "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise..." Paul tells us to think about these things.

The irony in Paul's instruction to us here in his letter to the church at Philippi is that he was in the midst of great hardship when he penned this list as well as other statements like: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice." "Do not be anxious

**Alex Wells, Youth and Children's Ministries**

about anything." "I can do all things though Christ who strengthens me." "let the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." "I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel."

I look at those statements of faith and perspective and sometimes I have a hard time seeing them come from the lips of a man who is wrongfully imprisoned, facing probable execution. I have a hard time imagining myself keeping that kind of attitude and clarity in a similar situation.

When I have a bad morning because the phone call from the doctor's office is that our insurance carrier has denied coverage for the surgery due to a technicality, or because a girl on a cell phone cut me off in traffic, or because I have a low tire, or for any reason at all—then I am grumpy, I snap at anyone who is unfortunate enough to speak to

me, I wallow in what I see as some great injustice. I think about it all day long and it eats at me.

The message from Paul, and from Maria as well I would assume, would be to think about good things. Stop dwelling on the negative moments of life. Let them go. When they come barging in the front door, open the back door and ask them to keep on moving.

Replace them with thoughts of that which is honest and pure. Dwell on thoughts of that which is right and righteous. Fill your day with thoughts of love and forgiveness. Think on the good things.

Check out my blog:  
[alexwells.wordpress.com](http://alexwells.wordpress.com)

Follow me on Twitter:  
 @alexwells

Connect on Facebook:  
 alexwells

**Teen Somer Nights**

Don't forget that starting this week, we will begin our weekly teen outings after Bible class on Wednesdays. This week, we will meet at the Necessary's home.

Another reminder: beginning this quarter our Wednesday evening classes will be extended. We will go right on through the bell, dismissing at 8:30. Topic this summer:

*The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift his countenance upon you and give you peace.*