

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Phone: 501-758-5256
Fax: 501-758-1047

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 auditorium
East side [for 1-3 Yr. olds]

Wireless Hearing receivers
are available in sound booth at
back of the auditorium.

Coming Soon

- Congregational Singing
Friday, August 13
7:00-8:30 P.M.
Mabelvale Church of Christ
- "Build Your Home
On the Rock"
Sunday, August 22
Somers Avenue
B. J. & Tish Clarke
- 37th Annual Labor Day
Gospel Meeting
Lectureship
McAlmont Church of Christ
September 5-6
- Annual Homecoming
Minister's Appreciation
Airport Church of Christ
September 25-26, 2010
- Change for Children Cans
due back by September 19

The *OBSERVER*

Volume 42, Issue 32

August 8, 2010

BUILD YOUR HOME ON THE SOLID ROCK

MARRIAGE SEMINAR

AUGUST 22, 2010

SOMERS AVE. CHURCH OF CHRIST

Schedule

9:00 A.M. Bible Classes

Women's Class: Speaker —Tish Clarke

"What God Wants Women To Know About Men"

Men's Class: Speaker—B.J. Clarke

"What God Wants Men To Know About Women."

10:00 A.M. Worship

Speaker: B.J. Clarke

"What If God Wrote A Book About Marriage?"

11:00 Potluck Lunch Together

1:00 P.M. Worship

Speaker: B.J. Clarke

"What If God Wrote A Book About Parenting?"



B.J. & Tish Clarke

The Clarkes have conducted a number of weekend marriage seminars. Tish is a regular speaker on Ladies Day Programs. B.J. serves as an instructor and Dean of Admissions at the Memphis School of Preaching.

Family News

IN TODAY'S SERVICES

A.M.**Song Leader**

Larry Curtis

First Prayer

Allen Parker

Scripture Reading

Aaron Reedy

Eph. 6:10-20

Communion Leader

Gil Myatt

Closing Prayer

Butch Gardner

Nursery

Melissa Quesinberry

Sally Sides

Greeters

Clif & Lynette

Gilliam

P.M.**Song Leader**

Chester Ingram

First Prayer

Terry Herald

Closing Prayer

Tommy Kidd

Nursery

Jan Penrod

AUGUST FOOD PANTRY

Canned Mixed Vegetables
Tea Bags
Sugar

Our Record

August 1, 2010

Sunday Bible Classes

180

A.M. Worship

255

P.M. Worship

194

Tuesday Night Ladies

Bible Class

8/3-6

Midweek Classes

8/4- No Count

Budget	\$9,080.25
Contribution	\$9,695.60
Average	\$9,708.81



Mr. and Mrs. David Alexander McDougald
Request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter
Allyson Alyse
To
Jonathan Allen Penrod
son of Mr. and Mrs. James Michael Penrod
Saturday, the fourteenth of August
Two thousand and ten
at half past six in the evening
Somers Avenue Church of Christ
4801 Somers Avenue
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Reception to follow
Woman's City Club

ATTENTION LADIES:

Tuesday Night Bible Class—7:00 P.M., in OFR—*The ABC's of a Godly Heart*.

Wednesday Morning Bible Class—August 11th at 10:00 A.M. in OFR. Barbara Cloninger will be the guest speaker. There will **not** be a potluck, the ladies will go out to eat instead. Regular weekly classes will resume on September 8th, with a potluck lunch to follow.



Games for our fall co-ed team will begin on Tuesday, September 7th at Burns Park. All our games will be played on Tuesday or Thursday nights. If you plan to play, please email as soon as possible with your contact info to chad.rye@gmail.com

SYMPATHY:

To **Verna Hale** in the recent death of her brother-in-law, Billy Hale. Mr. Hale passed away on Tuesday, August 3. Visitation will be from 5:00-7:00 P.M. at the NLR Funeral Home and the funeral will be at the 1st Christian Church on Kiehl Avenue at 10:00 on Saturday, August 14. Burial will be at the Harmony Cemetery on Highway 89.

To the family of **Billy Norton** (brother-in-law of Lesa Holloway). Mr. Norton passed away on Monday, August 2. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 14.

HELP NEEDED:

Volunteers are needed for the Wednesday night meal for the 1st week of the month beginning in September!

In Our Thoughts

- **Jonathan Barfield** continues his battle with leukemia and the side effects from his chemo.
- **David Robinson** had hand surgery on Wednesday.
- **Janice Hutto** has recently been diagnosed with Lupus. She will see a rheumatologist on August 30th to begin treatment.
- **Joe Gibbins** began a 3-week radiation treatment last Wednesday and oral chemo on Thursday. He will continue this new chemo as long as it proves to be effective.
- **Charles & Carolyn Moore** (parents of Contessa Moore) are recovering at home following recent surgeries.
- **Walter Parker** (son of Allen and Tommie Parker) is receiving chemo treatments for lung cancer. If you would like to send Walter a note of encouragement, check the encouragement table in the hallway for his mailing address.

“There is Still Progress in Progresso”

This week I wanted to share a report concerning the Lord’s church in Progresso, Mexico and the ongoing effort to support this troubled area.

As you may know we were not able to send a group to Progresso, Mexico again this year because of the potential danger and ongoing violence in the area. Al and Margaret Morgan traveled to the border with the intent of delivering funds to them and helping with a VBS and medical mission effort.

However, on July 11th, following a visit in the middle of the International Bridge with Juan Carlos Calderon who is the preacher at Progresso, and under advisement of a friend of theirs who is on the Border Patrol, the Morgan’s decided it

was not safe for them to continue to Progresso. They transferred the funds to bro. Calderon who took them back to Progresso on our behalf.

The following information is based on the recent travel to Mexico by the Morgans. I appreciate them sharing this experience with us.

Juan Carlos and all of the members were very worried that they would be robbed during the medical mission. Thankfully, this did not happen.

VBS was Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with an average attendance of 90 children. The medical mission was held on Thursday and Friday with approximately 50 people attending the first day and 70 attending the last day.

We are proud of them, con-

sidering it was their first time to plan even a VBS on their own. Although they had no baptisms during the mission they were able to line up several Bible studies. They are very good at following up with contacts. This year they have had 9 baptisms, mostly from home Bible studies.

We need to keep them in our prayers. The poverty level continues to rise. Several of the Christians make their living as street vendors, and with no American tourists, their income has dwindled. They are also living under constant fear of the gangs.

Hopefully, conditions will improve soon and we will be able to visit with them again.

The disappointment in not being able to see the brethren in Progresso along with the concern for the safety of these

challenged Christians is evident when talking with Al and Margaret. Reading this report I can’t help but be reminded of Paul’s encouraging words to the Philippians:

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his own good pleasure.

Philippians 2:12-13

I appreciate the dedication of Al and Margaret along with the Cloningers who have served the Lord in Mexico for many years. May God continue to watch over our brethren in Progresso and work for good through the turmoil in which they live.

Sean Ashberry, Involvement & Outreach

“In Search of The Lord’s Way” TV Program Broadcasts 30 Years

Oran Burt, Pulpit Minister



We continue to support the Search TV program in the amount of \$250.00 each month. The program airs locally on Channel 4, KARK TV, at 7:30 on Sunday mornings. Over the years I have heard from many of our members who love watching the program, and who recommend it to friends and neighbors.

[The following article by Mack Lyon appeared in this issue of “The Search Light”]

“Here we are—so soon—in the middle of the year! What a great year it is, too! Due to the eco-

nomie crunch we experienced nationally in the latter part of 2009, some churches were unable to continue their support. Thus, we were forced to cancel contracts with five television stations.

Here we are only a year later—mid-year and we’re receiving letters from congregations (averaging one per day) wanting to be a part of our work of preaching the gospel to every creature in America and beyond. They want our gospel messages to continue to be available to every family in their community. God has blessed our feeble human efforts, and we are thankful.

Due to the quality of our production, the work of our technical producer, Sam Clark, and our reputation for financial responsibility, we’re having stations call us to offer us air-time.

On August 29th, we will have completed 30 continuous years of television programming. Can you remember many programs from the 1980’s? Perhaps you remember the Jack Benny Program? Bob Hope? Com-



edy has changed. Preaching has changed. American religion has changed. But in Search of the Lord’s Way has not changed. Does that mean it is outdated? No! God’s Word does not change. God has blessed our feeble efforts to take His Word to the whole world! We praise Him and thank Him.

Our audiences have been

marvelously receptive of Phil Sanders. Thank you! He has been chosen to carry SEARCH far into the future, because he is committed to preaching God’s Word. We love you!”

Sunday, August 15, the scheduled program is

“Constrained by God’s Love”

Have you sometimes felt “constrained” or “compelled” to do—or to not do something? Oh, I am sure you have. All of us have. What constrained or compelled you? Think about it, and I am sure you will want to hear this message.



OUR ELDERS

Jim Akins
Tim Ashberry
Mike Hughes
Mike Penrod
Danny Rye

ELDERS OF THE MONTH

Jim Akins
Danny Rye

Available

Sunday, August 8
6:00-6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, August 25
7:15-8:00 P.M.

We're On the Web:
www.somersavenue.org

Upcoming Teen Events

Regular Weekly Activities

- Teen Room Open
Monday and Fridays
10:00am—4:00pm
- Wednesday After Bible
Study Outings
- Thursday 3:30 Disc Golf
- Friday Family Game Night
in the MPB 7:00

This Month

- August 2-8—Florida Trip
- August 15—Devo hosted
by the Hunter family
- August 22—Devo hosted
by the Ellis family
- August 29—Devo hosted
by Necessary family

Looking Forward

- September 4-6—Area
Wide Retreat

*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.*

Somers Avenue—A place to call HOME



Dan Lightfoot

Summer Series 2010

Imitating Christ: Until Christ is Formed in You

Dan Lightfoot has served the Westside congregation in Russellville, Arkansas since 1980.

Prior to that, he served as Youth Minister at the Beltline road congregation in Irving, Texas. He was pulpit minister for the church in Bloomfield, N.M., from 1967-70; Preached for the Broadway & Madison congregation in Springfield, Missouri, 1970-75; Southside in Rogers, AR, 1975-80; and since 1980 has been with the Westside congregation.

Dan has held meetings in Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina and Iowa. Also has preached in meetings in India, Guyana, Ghana, Honduras and Ukraine.

In January, 2010, Dan transitioned into working full-time in missions.

Dan's topic Wednesday will be:

'Imitating Christ in His Empathy for Others'



More Things You Can Do On Our WEBSITE:

- See pictures of recent events

- Check service assignments
- Print picture directory
- Read minister's blogs
- & much more:

www.somersavenue.org

CERTAINTY by Cecil May Jr.

Alex Wells, Youth and Children's Ministries

Charlie Brown and Linus are talking. Linus poses a theological question to the older, wiser, Charlie Brown. "When you die and go to heaven, are you graded on a percentage or on a curve?"

Charlie Brown, with all confidence responds, "On a curve, naturally."

Linus then asks, "How can you be so sure?"

"I am always sure about things that are a matter of opinion," responds Charlie Brown

Quoted by Michael D. Green, in Lehman Ave (Bowling Green KY) Weekly communicator 1/6/10

Confidence and certainty can be good traits. An honored teacher said,

"A preacher should preach what he knows and keep his doubts and dubious opinions to himself."

On the other hand, too great a "certainty," even about things which are certain, can become—or at least be perceived as —arrogance. In correcting others we are to be meek, keeping watch on ourselves lest we also be tempted or, perhaps, mistaken (Gal. 6:1). Some "epistemological humility" is always in order.

The biggest problem, however, is when, like Charlie Brown, we become certain about our opinions. Many a church split and much more

church heartache has been caused when people become certain and adamant about things they have decided are true but are not as thoroughly supported by Scripture as they suppose.

As Artemas Ward's famous quote reminds us, "It's not the things we know that get us in trouble; it's all the things we know that ain't so."

[Editor's note: I have enjoyed reading "Preacher Talk" from Faulkner University, Montgomery, Alabama for years. Bro. Cecil May is the editor. This article appeared in the July, 2010 issue. Alex is with our youth group out of state at a Youth Rally. —Oran]

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¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

¹³Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

¹⁴Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS,

¹⁵and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;

¹⁶in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

¹⁷And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Ephesians 6:10-20

The *OBSERVER* Supplement

Volume 42, Issue 32

August 8, 2010

Living In God's Family—the church—Part 6 Ephesians 6— I must Fight the Good Fight of Faith

Introduction

1. The church is designed by God to be a spiritual household; a kingdom; a place for God's wisdom to be seen; a family living in harmony and causing God to receive glory and praise.
2. Chapter 6: I Must Fight the Good Fight of Faith (6:10-20) See I Timothy 6:12.
3. Paul had seen the great games of the Olympiad, the Pan-Ionian & Pan-Hellenic games. He said "They which run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize (I Cor. 9:24)
4. Metaphors representing wrestling, boxing, running a race are used by Paul to illustrate Truth. Race=(I Cor. 9:24-27); Fight=(I Tim. 4:1; 6:12); War=(Ephesians 6:10-18)
5. Four things we must do in fighting this fight:

I. We are to be _____ in the _____ (Eph. 6:10)

- A. The power is of HIS might.
- B. We do not wrestle (war, fight, struggle) against flesh & blood.
- C. Spiritual battles involve rulers, world forces of this darkness, spiritual forces of Wickedness in heavenly places...
- D. Able to resist in the evil day (vs. 13)

II. Put On the Whole _____ of _____ (Eph. 6:11)

- A. Loins girt about with truth
- B. Breastplate of righteousness
- C. Feet shod with the gospel
- D. Shield of faith (fiery darts? Flaming Missiles?) = Satan's master plan
- E. Helmet of Salvation
- F. Sword of the spirit

III. Stand _____ (Eph. 6:13,14)

- A. Having done everything, to stand...
- B. Stand therefore...

IV. _____ At All Times (Eph. 6:18)

- A. With this in view: be on the alert with all perseverance & petition for all the saints.
- B. The battle is not yours, but the Lord's (2 Chron. 20:15) (I Sam. 17:43)

Conclusion:

1. We cannot win the victory over temptation and sin without preparing ourselves for the battle.
2. We cannot resist in the evil day without spiritual armor for spiritual attacks.
3. Having done everything, we can then stand firm (6:13)

Puzzle Clues

¹Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

²HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise),

³SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.

⁴Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

⁵Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; ⁶not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart.

⁷With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men,

⁸knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

⁹And masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

Ephesians 6:1-9**Across**

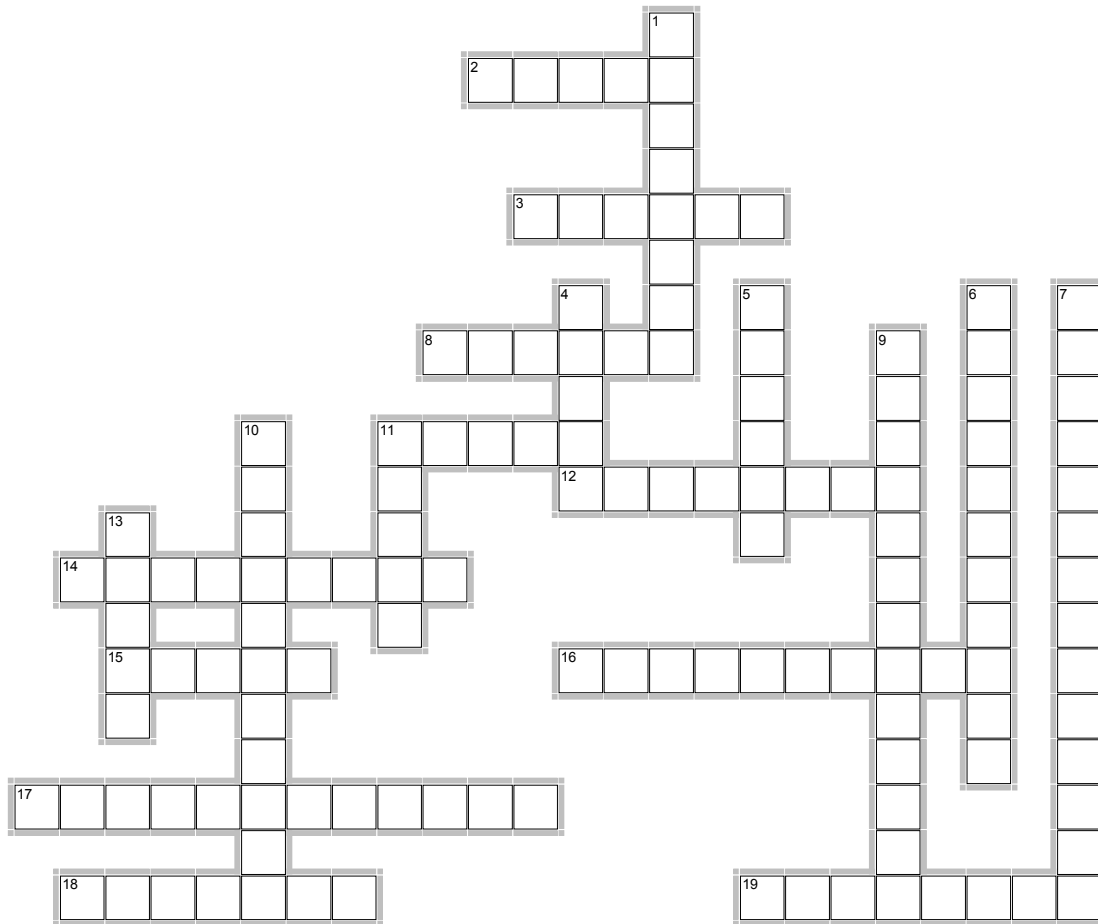
2. The one who schemes against us (Eph. 6:11)
3. Feet are shod with this (Eph. 6:15)
8. Faith as a piece of armor is this (Eph. 6:16)
11. Fathers do not provoke children to this (Eph. 6:4)
12. A faithful minister who would tell the church at Ephesus about Paul's circumstances (Eph. 6:21)
14. Helmet of this (Eph. 6:17)
15. This girds the loins (Eph. 6:14)
16. Even in chains, Paul was one of these (Eph. 6:20)
17. Could happen to Paul even after he had preached to others (I Cor. 9:27)
18. The gospel contains this (Eph. 6:19)
19. Paul wanted the Ephesians to pray for him to have _____ (Eph. 6:19,20)

Down

1. Ancient sporting event still held today
4. We should do the will of God from the _____ (Eph. 6:6)
5. Sword of this (Eph. 6:17)
6. Everyone who competes in the games exercises this (I Cor. 9:25)
7. Where are the spiritual forces of wickedness? (Eph. 6:12)
9. We do not wrestle against this (Eph. 6:12)
10. Righteousness is this (Eph. 6:14)
11. What we are to put on in order to do battle (Eph. 6:11)
13. This fight is a good one (I Timothy 6:12)

¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. ¹⁷For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. ¹⁹Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,²¹ envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another. **Galatians 5:16-26 NASV**

I Must Fight the Good Fight of Faith —Ephesians 6



²¹But that you also may know about my circumstances, how I am doing, Tychicus, the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make everything known to you.

²²I have sent him to you for this very purpose, so that you may know about us, and that he may comfort your hearts.

²³Peace be to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love.

Ephesians 6:21-24

²⁴(Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win.

²⁵Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

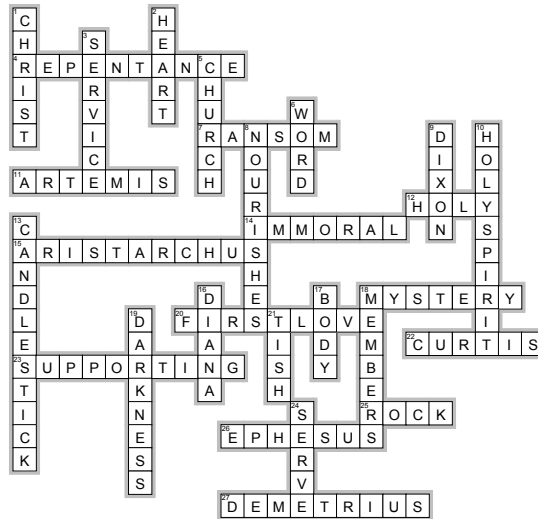
²⁶Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air;

²⁷but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

I Corinthians 9:24-27



Answers To Last Week's Puzzle (Eph. 5)



EclipseCrossword.com

Across

4. **REPENTANCE**—John baptized with the baptism of _____ (Acts 19:4)
7. **RANSOM**—Jesus gave His life as one of these (Matthew 20:28)
11. **ARTEMIS**—A temple at Ephesus was dedicated to this goddess (Acts 19:27)
12. **HOLY**—The church, as the bride of Christ, should be this (Eph. 5:27)
14. **IMMORAL**—This person has no inheritance in the kingdom (Eph. 5:5)
15. **ARISTARCHUS**—One of Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia (Acts 19:29)
18. **MYSTERY**—Paul referred to speaking about Christ & the church this way was one of these (Eph. 5:32)
20. **FIRST LOVE**—church at Ephesus had left this (Revelation 2:4)
22. **CURTIS**—Songleader who is a career soldier and whose wife is a math teacher
23. **SUPPORTING**—Function of a servant is this kind of role
25. **ROCK**—Seminar theme is Build Your Home on the Solid _____
26. **EPHEsus**—Elders from this city wept over Paul's leaving (Acts 20:36-38)
27. **DEMETRIUS**—Silversmith at Ephesus (Acts 19:24)

Down

1. **CHRIST**—Subject to one another in the fear of _____ (Eph. 5:21)
2. **HEART**—Make melody to the Lord with this (Eph. 5:19)
3. **SERVICE**—Jesus taught that greatness was through this
5. **CHURCH**—Christ is the head of this (Eph. 5:23)
6. **WORD**—This grew mightily at Ephesus and prevailed (Acts 19:20)
8. **NOURISHES**—A man does this for his own body (Eph. 5:29)
9. **DIXON**—Songleader who is an Energy Efficiency Training Specialist for Pulaski Tech
10. **HOLY SPIRIT**—Disciples at Ephesus had never heard about this (Acts 19:2)
13. **CANDLESTICK**—If no repentance at Ephesus, Christ would remove this (Revelation 2:5)
16. **DIANA**—Another name for Artemis (Acts 19:27) Margin
17. **BODY**—Jesus is the savior of this (Eph. 5:23)
18. **MEMBERS**—Our relationship to Christ's body (Eph. 5:30)
19. **DARKNESS**—Before the Ephesians were Christians they were this (Eph. 5:8)
21. **TISH**—Wife of B.J. Clarke who will teach the ladies' class August 22
24. **SERVE**—Christ came to do this (Matthew 20:28)