

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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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

- "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 34

August 22, 2010

His or Hers?

(The following is an excerpt by Katherine Benenati which was printed in Section 1E of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 featuring the Dynamic Marriage Course offered at Somers Avenue.)

Once mostly woman's work, chores are more of a household venture these days. While women still do a larger share, they no longer do the lion's share - at least statistically. (On an average day, women spend about 2.6 hours on housework - laundry, cooking, retrieving socks, finding a pacifier, rescuing the occasional dinner plate from under the couch - while men spend about two hours, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's American Time Use Survey released in June.)

Researchers say that while men are more involved, they're also still more likely to mow the lawn or change the oil than clean a toilet or change a diaper. "Things have changed, but things still fall along gender lines to a great extent," said Paula England, a sociology professor at Stanford University. Successful couples learn to strike a balance, but domestic parity doesn't always mean splitting chores 50-50, therapists say. Those who don't see household work as a sticking point are less likely to come unglued. What's more, those who respect their spouses, appreciate their contributions, and put their dirty dishes in the sink, are more likely to be happy and have happy spouses.

"You have to talk about it as a couple," said Howard Turney, director of the School of Social Work at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. "If you let it go and let resentment build, you'll argue." In others words, if it's on a tab, it may seem like one's keeping tabs.

Tim Ashberry, who along with his wife Faye are facilitators for the Dynamic Marriage course, said that men in the course ranking their top five emotional needs tend to put "domestic support" high on the list. However, Tim says this "doesn't necessarily mean the need isn't being met." The eight-week Dynamic Marriage course was created by Family Dynamics Institute, a non-profit marriage and family ministry founded in 1994 by members of the churches of Christ with headquarters in Franklin, Tennessee.

Terry Northcutt, director of marriage enrichment programs at Family Dynamics, said that whatever the behavior is you'd like to change, "You can't cajole them. You can't ridicule them. You can't shame them into making themselves better. You can only make yourself better." He said to-do lists are useful not only to keep track of one's chores, but as a way to see what one's spouse is doing. "It cuts out a lot of guesswork. If you have kids, they should have a part in that list too."

"We give them the tools to make their marriage better," Tim said. "If a couple can't communicate, they can't make their marriage better." In other words, the course won't tell your husband to stop ignoring the pink ring in the toilet or your wife to learn to iron without leaving black marks on your dress shirts. Tim, who's been married to Faye since 1967, said if there's something he wants done, he knows harping to his wife about it won't work. "Through the years I've grown to appreciate her more. When we first got married, she did more than I did."

His best advice to other couples is to compromise and not have a mind-set of "That's yours. This is mine." You've gotta share responsibility." With two busy schedules, they tend to balance chores or outsource them. When they can't get around to yard work, they hire someone. If she doesn't have time to cook dinner, they go out.

Are you ready to enrich your marriage?

The next Dynamic Marriage Course is scheduled for September and as of this printing there are 2 openings. Contact Tim or Faye Ashberry to register or www.somersavenue.org. Brochures are available on the back tables.

IN TODAY'S SERVICES

A.M.**Song Leader**

Sean Ashberry

First Prayer

Alex Wells

Scripture Reading

Steve Smith

Psalm 40:1-5

Communion Leader

Jim Akins

Closing Prayer

Chad Necessary

Nursery

Teresa Story

Cecily Story

Greeters

Chester & Wilma

Ingram

P.M.**Song Leader**

TBA

First Prayer

Jon Nevins

Closing Prayer

Larry Curtis

Nursery

Jennifer Daniel

AUGUST FOOD PANTRY

Canned Mixed Vegetables

Tea Bags

Sugar

Our Record

August 15, 2010

Sunday Bible Classes

197

A.M. Worship

261

P.M. Worship

183

Tuesday Night Ladies

Bible Class

8/17-10

Midweek Classes

8/18- 208

Budget \$9,080.25

Contribution \$9,806.36

Average \$9,689.15

Family News**ATTENTION LADIES:****Tuesday Night Bible Class** —7:00 P.M., in OFR—*The ABC's of a Godly Heart*.**Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Class—**

On Wednesday, August 25th, we will meet at 10:00 A.M. for a planning session for the coming year and then resume working on our current sewing project. Bring a sack lunch.

Beginning September 8th, the regular weekly classes will resume. Potluck lunch after class!

IN SYMPATHY: Sympathy is extended to Martha Word and family in the recent death of Harry Word. Harry passed away on Thursday, August 19th. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.**RESPONSES:** Chris Swasta-August 7th for baptism
Caden Miller-August 12th for baptism**CARE GROUPS:**Our care groups will resume on the 3rd Sunday in September! If you plan to participate in care groups this year, please contact Mike Hughes no later than Friday, August 27th. **Remember**, if you don't let Mike know, you won't be assigned to a group!**FIFTH SUNDAY PICNIC-** will be held at Burns Park on Sunday evening, August 29th. The worship service will begin at 4:30, meal and play time to follow. Please bring your favorite sandwiches, finger foods and drinks. Invite your family and friends to come and join in the fun and fellowship.**CHANGE FOR CHILDREN:**

On September 19th, Micah Brinkley from Children's Homes in Paragould will pick up the "change for Children" cans after our morning worship service. Please turn in your cans on or before September 19th to the church office, one of the elders, Joe Gibbins or Joe Ellis.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT CLASS RESUMES:On September 1, the adult class taught by Chester Ingram in MPB2 will resume for the fall quarter. We will continue our study from the Gospel Advocate Foundation series—*The Kingdom of Israel*. If you plan to attend this class, please sign-up on the sheet available on the table at the back of the auditorium or online.**LAST TAILGATE PARTY-August 27th at 6:30!!****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** is not doing well at this time, please remember him in your prayers.
- **Bea Edwards**-is recovering at home from a recent fall.
- **Cecily Story** was in the hospital several days the week of August 9th with diabetic complications from a recent illness. She had to be readmitted on Monday, the 16th and is currently in room 116 at Springhill Hospital.
- **Judy Rye** is experiencing problems with elevated blood pressure. She hopes the new medication will bring her readings down to a normal level.
- **Alexandria Beebe**-(Infant great-niece of Terri Nevins) is doing well following spinal cancer surgery. She has begun a 4-month chemo treatment plan. Doctors have stated that her prognosis is very good!
- **Gwen Rapiet** (Aunt of Neita Phillips) fell at her home in MI— bruising several ribs.
- **Dorothy Powers** (Aunt of Neita Phillips) is recovering at home—she has a hairline fracture of her ankle.
- **Bonna Faye Massey** of Corinth, MS (niece of Pansy Johnson & cousin of Debbie Mosley) has been diagnosed with terminal liver cancer.

“I Am Stuck On Band-Aid Brand...”

Sean Ashberry, *Involvement & Outreach*

“...cause Band-Aid’s stuck on me.” Many of you remember that old commercial jingle. A few months ago Jackson, our 3 year old son, hurt his knee. He scraped it on something or maybe fell down. I don’t really remember. But what I do remember and what some of you already know is that he wore the same band-aid for weeks after that injury. What I’m saying is he never took it off.

During bath time he would keep his knee out of the water. When you put his clothes on him he would maneuver his leg to minimize or eliminate the chance that any clothing would come in contact with that “boo boo.” He protected it.

Tressa and I tried to change the band-aid after several days but he wouldn’t let us touch it.

After a week or so we tried to convince him that the “boo boo” had certainly healed by now and there was no reason to keep the band-aid on his leg. But he would have no part of it. He was convinced that it still hurt and that if anyone came near it that would make it worse.

He couldn’t let go of the memory of the pain he felt when the injury happened. And with most wounds it was tender for several days following. But at some point it began to heal and it was time for him to move on. Although the physical effects of the injury had passed his mind wouldn’t let him move on.

Isn’t bitterness that way? When someone does something to us that we deem

“wrong” there is a natural feeling of hurt, disappointment, or maybe even anger. Their apology is like putting a band-aid on the wound. If they don’t apologize we still tend to apply our own band-aid; in some ways helpful and in some ways more harmful. But we want the hurting to stop.

What happens sometimes is that we leave that band-aid on too long. We are either afraid to remove it for fear of greater pain or we want it to serve as a vivid reminder of the hurt that someone caused us. Either way it’s not good for us. And more than likely the longer we hold on to that negative experience the greater the tendency to develop bitterness towards the person who caused it (or who we think caused it).

We have been studying in Ephesians for the last several weeks and in Ephesians 4:31 we read Paul’s charge to “let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.” These are not the Christ-like qualities we should possess. They belong to the world.

But rather “be kind to one another, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.**” The battle for our soul is truly in the heart and mind. We just have to be willing to remove the band-aid.

Check out my blog:
seanashberry.wordpress.org

Follow on Twitter:
@seanashberry

How Can a Young Man Keep His Way Pure? Psalm 119:9

Oran Burt, *Pulpit Minister*

Can Spike Lee help us with this? Well, maybe. At least something he said may help us find a focus point. Here he refers to the powerful influence of the media

“The most powerful nations are not those who have bombs, but those who control the media. That’s where the battle is being fought; that is how you control people’s minds.” —Spike Lee, the filmmaker behind *Do the Right Thing* and *Malcom X*.

Sounding like the familiar maxim: “The pen is mightier than the sword” this idea is right on the mark. [We are in a battle for the mind.](#)

VIOLENT VIDEO GAMES

“Violence gets marketed like apple pie. It is sold to boys as cool, and if you come out and speak against it, then you are uncool. I’m not outraged at the game, I’m upset at the way that these games are marketed to children.” —Daphne White,

founder of the Lion & Lamb Project, on *Grand Theft Auto 3* and other violent video games.

BROADCAST STANDARDS

“America has a real Puritan ethic. I don’t like it. Pushing the edge of broadcast standards is something I’ve always done. Broadcast standards simply are whatever they’ll finally let you do. That becomes the new standard.” —Steven Bocho, director/writer/producer (NYPD Blues, *Hill Street Blues*, *L.A. Law*).

ONLINE PREDATORS

“All I do is say I’m 13 and I get 20 to 40 contacts. They go right for the kill and start asking me what I’m wearing. I think to myself, I have to get these creeps to the police before they meet a real kid.” —Julie Posey, private investigator and creator of Pedowatch.org.

WEAK FAMILIES

“You know that everything we’re exposed to influences us... Those [violent] films influence us, and the TV programs we see influence us. The weaker your family is, the more they influence you... The problems with families in our cities are catastrophic—but when you put violent programs (before) people who haven’t had a lot of love in their lives, who are angry anyway, it’s like pouring gasoline on the fire.” —billionaire media mogul Ted Turner.

And speaking of love, how about this tap root for hedonism?

“I knew my mother loved me, but she never expressed it, so I learned about love from the movies.” —Playboy founder Hugh Hefner, whose adult-entertainment empire includes erotic films.

“What planet are you from that you think that a horror movie

is alright for a little child? I think it’s child abuse”—Halloween queen Jamie Lee Curtis [Extra Daily News, 7/12/02]

THE SEXUALIZATION OF YOUR DAUGHTER

In her book, *5 Conversations You Must Have With Your Daughter*, Vicki Courtney writes a chapter on preventing the sexualization of your daughter. She references the “round-the-clock bombardment of sexual images found on television and the internet.”—noting how they form the idea that a person’s value comes only from her/his sexual appeal or behavior.

These are only a few of the battlefronts. But there is one great source for the foundational help we need. Found answered his own question: “How can a young man keep his way pure? **By keeping it in accordance to Thy word.**”

(Psalm 119:9)

OUR ELDERS

Jim Akins
Tim Ashberry
Mike Hughes
Mike Penrod
Danny Rye

ELDERS OF THE MONTH

Jim Akins
Danny Rye

Available

Sunday, September 12
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 will not be open this week
- Monday 6:00 Disc Golf at Burns Park
- Friday Family Game Night in the MPB 7:00

This Month

- 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



David Sweet

Summer Series 2010

Imitating Christ: Until Christ is Formed in You

"Imitating the Boldness of Jesus in Conversation"

David Sweet was born in Burlington, Vermont and attended the University of Vermont and Harding University before transferring to UALR, finishing a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 1993. In 2001, he graduated from UALR with a Masters degree in Health Services Administration.

David served in the US Army as an infantryman & Medical Service Corps officer from 1989-2003.

He served at UAMS from 2003-2005 as a Clinical Services Manager for the Otolaryngology clinic. During that time he also served as part-time preacher for the Rose City congregation and served as a deacon for us here at Somers Ave.

In 2005, he became the preacher for the church of Christ in Osceola, Arkansas. While there he was active in community relations as a hospital volunteer chaplain; served as a board member for the Osceola Christian Youth Center, conducting studies at Piney Ridge Youth Center for Troubled Teens.

David currently serves as the preacher for the Lorance Drive congregation and is active with River City Ministry. He is currently pursuing a Masters of Ministry from Harding. He is married to Nancy Bowden Sweet and they have one adopted daughter, Rachel. He speaks to us Wednesday, August 25.



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

A Masterpiece

Alex Wells, Youth and Children's Ministries

Lately I have taken to painting. Now and then I take off on a whim and do something that is out of my norm. Though, I guess that taking the whim has become my norm. I get an inclination to do something a little outside of my ordinary routines and rituals, and I do it.

This is how my coin collecting started. It is also how I have ended up on the tops of mountains or out in the middle of a lake from time to time. It has been the inception of my 'Jenny Garden,' my rearranged office, and the catalyst for beginning my blog (go and read the first entry again).

I have discovered that my whims usually carry me in one of two directions... though I am not sure that they are two, but really one. They carry me off into creativity and into exploration. I say that they may be more one than two in that there is so much exploration in creativity. When you are creating

something there is a journey—a process that you go through. And so often, for me at least, there is an element of unknown when looking toward the finished project. How will it turn out? What will it be like? Will it turn out as I had planned? Only by exploring the journey of creation will you find those answers.

So, back to the beginning... recently, I had a whim that landed me in Michael's with a cart filled with painting supplies: canvases, paints, brushes, a knife... you name it, I might have had it in there. I am not a painter. I wouldn't have to take my shoes off to count the number of paintings I have created. But, I had a whim. And so I began to paint.

I really enjoyed the journey, and I enjoyed the painting that came out of that process. But let's be real, it is not a masterpiece. It is good, and I am proud of it, but it is not a masterpiece. Why would anyone expect it to

be a masterpiece? I am not a painter. I am not educated in art. I have not practiced or honed a skill in painting.

Yet, so many of us begin our walk with the Spirit and expect an instant masterpiece. We think that putting ourselves in the hands of the Master will somehow create an instantaneous perfection in our lives. We expect the reward without the journey.

The truth is that our lives are very much our own to guide, and our choices ours to make. We begin to surrender those to the will of the Father and the work of the Spirit, but that is a process. We have to learn how to submit. We have to practice being spent for good.

Our first products may not be that impressive at all, but we can not lose heart. "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion," and that will be a masterpiece beyond all comparison.