



**January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006      3800 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870 (863) 385-7443**

One day, I woke early in the morning to watch the sunrise. Ah! ... the beauty of God's creation is beyond description. As I watched, I praised God for His beautiful work. As I sat there, I felt the Lord's presence with me. He asked me, "Do you love me?" I answered, "Of course, God! You are my Lord and Saviour!"

Then He asked, "If you were physically handicapped, would you still love me?"

I was perplexed. I looked down upon my arms, legs and the rest of my body and wondered how many things I wouldn't be able to do and thought about the things that I take for granted. I answered, "It would be tough Lord, but I would still love You."

Then the Lord said, "If you were blind, would you still love my creation?"

How could I love something without being able to see it? Then I thought of all the blind people in the world and how many of them still loved God and His creation. So I answered, "It's hard to think of it, but I would still love you."

The Lord then asked me, "If you were deaf, would you still listen to my word?"

How could I listen to anything being deaf? Then I understood. Listening to God's Word is not merely using our ears, but our hearts. I answered, "It would be tough, but I would still listen to Your word."

The Lord then asked, "If you were mute, would you still praise My Name?"

How could I praise without a voice? Then it occurred to me, God wants us to sing from our very hearts and souls. It never matters what we sound like. And praising God is not always with a song, but when we are persecuted, we give God praise with our words of thanks. So I answered, "Though I could not physically sing, I would still praise Your Name."

And the Lord asked, "Do you really love Me?"

With courage and a strong conviction, I answered boldly, "Yes Lord! I love You because You are the one and true God!"

I thought I had answered well, but God asked, "Then why do you sin?"

I answered, "Because I am only human. I am not perfect."

"Then why in times of peace do you stray the furthest? Why only in times of trouble do you pray the earnest?"

I had no answers ... only tears.

The Lord continued. "Why only sing at fellowships and retreats? Why seek Me only in times of worship? Why ask things so selfishly? Why ask things so unfaithfully?"

The tears continued to roll down my cheeks. "Why are you ashamed of Me? Why are you not spreading the good news? Why in times of persecution, you cry to others when I offer My shoulder to cry on? Why make excuses when I give you opportunities to serve in My Name?"

"You are blessed with life. I made you not to throw this gift away. I have blessed you with talents to serve Me, but you continue to turn away. I have revealed My Word to you, but you do not gain in knowledge. I have spoken to you but your ears were closed. I have shown My blessings to you, but your eyes were turned away. I have heard your prayers and I have answered them all. Do you truly love me?"

I could not answer. How could I? I was embarrassed beyond belief. I had no excuse. What could I say to this? When my heart had cried out and the tears had flowed, I said, "Please forgive me Lord. I am unworthy to be Your child."

The Lord answered, "That is My Grace, My child."

I asked, "Then why do you continue to forgive me? Why do You love me so?"

The Lord answered, "Because you are My creation. You are my child. I will never abandon you. When you cry, I will have compassion and cry with you. When you shout with joy, I will laugh with you. When you are down, I will encourage you. When you fall, I will raise you up. When you are tired, I will carry you. I will be with you until the end of days, and I will love you forever."

Never had I cried so hard before. How could I have been so cold? How could I have hurt God as I had done? I asked God, "How much do You love me?"

The Lord stretched out His arms, and I saw His nail-pierced hands. I bowed down at the feet of Christ, my Savior. And for the first time, I truly prayed.

**WELCOME VISITORS:**

We are so glad you decided to be here today! It is always such a blessing to be able to meet you and be encouraged by your presence. Thank you for coming our way.

**FOR THE CHILDREN:**

Children's Worship Bulletins are available at the back for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12.

Attended Nursery for infants through age two. Parents may leave their children in the nursery before the worship service begins.

A Training Room for parents to use anytime during the worship service is also provided across the hall from the attended nursery.

**FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:**

Hearing aid devices are available and may be received from the attendant in the sound room at the rear of the auditorium.

**What Must I Do To Be Saved?**

**HEAR**

But He said, "More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

(Luke 11: 28)

**BELIEVE**

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

(Mark 16: 16)

**REPENT**

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit"

(Acts 2: 38).

**CONFESS**

"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven."

(Matthew 10: 32)

**BE BAPTIZED**

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

(Acts 22: 16)

**FREE BIBLE STUDY BY MAIL**

If you would like to receive the first lesson, send to:

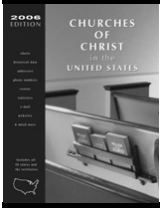
*Sebring Parkway Church of Christ  
3800 Sebring Parkway  
Sebring, FL 33870*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Age Range:

0 - 10 yrs     11 - 17 yrs  
 18 - 50 yrs     51 - ?? yrs

## It's Arrived



Many have asked about the Churches of Christ in the United States Directory. The new 2006 Edition has arrived. We ask that this directory is only viewed in the office and is not taken out of the office.

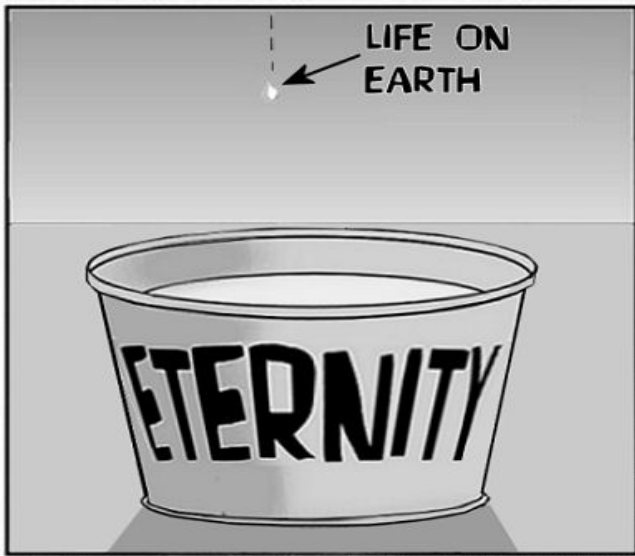
## Pantry Needs

We are still in need of the following items for the pantry:



Tomato Soup	Carrots
Vienna Sausages	Pork n Beans
Chicken Noodle Soup	Canned Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables	Canned Meats
Toilet tissue	Shampoo
Conditioner	Femine Products

## THE BACK PEW - JEFF LARSON



Our time on earth is a DROP IN THE BUCKET OF ETERNITY.. so live with eternity in mind.

## Updates



The updates for the directories are located in Classroom #2. If you need a photo directory, please let Teresa know. If you have not turned in a information sheet please pick up one and turn it in to the office as soon as possible. January 8<sup>th</sup> we will be taking photos. Let Teresa or Tracey know if you need a photo taken.

## With Deepest Sympathy

We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Ken Truex. Ken, a seasonal member, passed away Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. His funeral was held on Wednesday in West Virginia.



## UNFOLDING THE ROSES



It is only a tiny rosebud,  
A flower of God's design;  
But I cannot unfold the petals  
With these clumsy hands of mine.

The secret of unfolding flowers  
Is not known to such as I.  
GOD opens this flower so sweetly,  
When in my hands they fade and die.

If I cannot unfold a rosebud,  
This flower of God's design,  
Then how can I think I have wisdom  
To unfold this life of mine?

So I'll trust in Him for His leading  
Each moment of every day.  
I will look to him for His guidance  
Each step of the pilgrim way.

The pathway that lies before me,  
Only my Heavenly Father knows.  
I'll trust Him to unfold the moments,  
Just as He unfolds the rose.

~Bryan T. Burgess~

## Involvement Questionnaire's



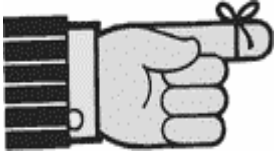
There are involvement Questionnaire's on a table in the foyer. If you have not filled one out please do so. This information allows us to know what areas of service you are willing to work in. You may place these forms in the basket on the table or turn them in to the office. Please turn these forms in as soon as possible.

## Ladies

Please remember that our Ladies Day is fast approaching. If you would like to help please see Patty Massey. Please keep this ministry in your daily prayers that it may be a success. The ladies will be attending areawide Ladies Days to show our support for them. If you would like to know more check with the Ladies Bible Class that meets on Tuesday mornings or watch for more information in the bulletin and on the bulletin boards.



## What's Happening This Week



**Tonight at 6:00 pm**, Singing Night.

**Tuesday**, Ladies Class meets at 10:00 a.m.

**Wednesday at 7:00 pm**, Mid-week services.

**Thursday 9:00 – 11:00 am**, Clothing Give-away.

**Thursday 7:00 p.m.** Devotional at the home of Chuck and Mary Jo Miller.

**Friday at 5:30 p.m.** Springwood Lake Restaurant.

**Sunday Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. 4:30 p.m.** Timothy Class meets.

**Sunday Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.** Timothy Class Speaks

**Sunday Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.** Forms for Elder and Deacon Candidates must be completed and turned in by the end of services.

## Our Record December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Bible Study	103
Sunday AM Worship	152
Sunday PM Worship	91
Contribution	\$2635
Wednesday Bible Study	110
Building Fund	\$275
Ukraine Building Fund	\$40
F.H. Gates	\$0
Special Mission Efforts	\$0

## Visitors Last Week

Jeff & Robin Ledbetter  
Harold & Linda Bridges




Please remember to invite others to our services. There are cards available in the foyer to help you invite others.

## Upcoming Birthdays



Harry Johnson	01/01
Betty Parker	01/03
Teles Oregon	01/05
Marjorie Vandivor	01/05
Robert Hudson	01/07
Leon Tubbs	01/08
Christian Nall	01/09
Lydia Tubbs	01/09
Lula Powell-Pearce	01/11

## Upcoming Anniversaries



Bryan & Teresa Naugle	01/01
Don & Laura Ware	01/09
Bob & Janis Lynch	01/09

## Prayer List

### HEALTH CONCERNS

- ❖ **Wayne Welsh and family.** If you would like to send a card, letter, magazine, puzzle or etc to Wayne please place it in the blue box in the foyer. We will be sending a care package to him. His mailing address is:

Peace River Center

P.O. Box 1559

Bartow, FL 33831

c/o Wayne Welsh, SRT

Phone: 519-3747 ext. 143

Visiting Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 6:30 –8:00

Saturday 2:30 – 4:00

Sunday 2:30 –8:00

- ❖ **Al Overfield** is doing well after his recent surgeries.
- ❖ **Jean Fulbright** to have knee surgery January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ **Olin Shinholser** continued recovery from burns.
- ❖ **Graham Harris**, visitors are welcome, but please call before going. Please keep both Graham and Devra in your prayers. Laura Ware is currently working on a schedule for January of those who can sit with Graham, read to him from the Bible, and talk with him. She needs volunteers for Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am – 12:00 noon. Please see Laura if you can help.
- ❖ **Frank and Shirley Henry**

### EXTENDED FAMILY AND FRIENDS

- ❖ **Ed Weaver**, father of Carolyn Thomas, under hospice care.
- ❖ **Evelyn Einfeldt**, stepmother of Rachel Capps, recently diagnosed with breast cancer and will undergo surgery in the near future.
- ❖ **Henry Rimes**, continues a day to day battle.
- ❖ **Morris Underwood**, younger brother of Robert Underwood, has bone cancer.
- ❖ **Cindy Lafrote**, sister of Mary Welsh, treatment for cancer.

### MISSION EFFORTS

- ❖ **Anil Tejpaal and family and Javeed Ally** in Guyana. (Great amount of concern from criminal activity preceding next year's elections and current flooding in area.)
- ❖ **Vovo Shoot and family and Dema Galook and family** in Chernovtsy.
- ❖ **F.H. & Becky Gates** in Brazil. They will be coming in town January 24<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>.

# SCHEDULED TO SERVE

THIS SUNDAY	NEXT SUNDAY																
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prepare Communion:</b> Patty Massey</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Greeters:</b> Ron Horton                      Carl Martin Bill Sweeton                     Della Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pick Up Cards:</b> Philip Naugle &amp; Troy Talbert</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pick Up Communion Cups:</b> Kaitlyn Nall &amp; Angie Pintor</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sound Room:</b> Bill Benton</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secure Building This Week:</b> Bill Benton</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prepare Communion:</b> Patty Massey</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Greeters:</b> Ron Horton                      Clem Smith Bill Sweeton                     Margaret Smith</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pick Up Cards:</b> Forest &amp; Austin Ritenour</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pick Up Communion Cups:</b> Nathan Ramer &amp; Josh Fowler</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sound Room:</b> George Lazzell</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secure Building Next Week:</b> George Lazzell</p>																
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Announcements:</b> Chris Fowler</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Song Leader:</b> Dan Luidhardt</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opening Prayer:</b> Ernie Zink</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lord's Supper:</b> <b>Preside:</b> Frank Parker</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Serve:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. Clem Smith</td> <td style="width: 50%;">5. John Roberts</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Don Gunter</td> <td>6. Arlon Dale</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Dale Spung</td> <td>7. Delbert Mason</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Carl Martin</td> <td>8. Philip Naugle</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Closing Prayer:</b> Wayne Perry</p>	1. Clem Smith	5. John Roberts	2. Don Gunter	6. Arlon Dale	3. Dale Spung	7. Delbert Mason	4. Carl Martin	8. Philip Naugle	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Announcements:</b> Dave Marcum</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Song Leader:</b> Paul Talbert</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Opening Prayer:</b> Carl Martin</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lord's Supper:</b> <b>Preside:</b> Bill Benton</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Serve:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. Chapman Chamberlin</td> <td style="width: 50%;">5. Allen Barber</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Jim Morris</td> <td>6. Frank Parker</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Troy Talbert</td> <td>7. Chuck Miller</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Roger Gurganus</td> <td>8. Nicholas Stalter</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Closing Prayer:</b> Clem Smith</p>	1. Chapman Chamberlin	5. Allen Barber	2. Jim Morris	6. Frank Parker	3. Troy Talbert	7. Chuck Miller	4. Roger Gurganus	8. Nicholas Stalter
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*Sebring Parkway Church of Christ*  
3800 Sebring Parkway  
Sebring, FL 33870

**PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE**

Return Postage Guaranteed

## REMINDER:

If for some reason you find that you cannot serve as scheduled in the monthly assignment schedule, please **call Chris Fowler** as soon as possible so that a substitute can be selected.

Those serving are asked to be here **at least 10 minutes** before the service starts.

Those who participate Sunday morning are asked to **wear appropriate dress attire**, preferably, though not required, a dress shirt and tie.

At other services casual sport shirt and slacks are acceptable; **no T-shirts or shorts** should be worn while serving the congregation.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### SHEPHERDS

**Dave Marcum..... 385-8899**  
(Treasurer/ Administration/  
Membership Directory)

**Olin Shinholser ..... 382-1060**  
(Worship Services/ Education)

**Paul Talbert ..... 385-3756**  
(Building & Grounds/ Benevolence/  
Membership Services/ Directory)

### EVANGELIST

**Bryan Naugle ..... 314-9828**

### DEACONS

**Chris Fowler..... 386-4661**  
(Youth Director/ Services Director/  
Substitute Teacher Assignments)

**Roger Gurganus.... 453-3939**  
(Building & Grounds Maintenance  
(Outside)/ Transportation/  
Communion)

**Tracey Stalter..... 471-9736**  
(Building Maintenance (Inside)/  
Membership Directory/ Pews)

**BJ Thomas..... 385-7270**  
(Building Maintenance (Outside)/  
Benevolence)

**Don Ware ..... 382-0194**  
(Special Mission Efforts/  
Timothy Class)

### MEET WITH US

Sunday Bible Study ..... 9:00 AM  
Sunday AM Worship .... 10:00 AM  
Sunday PM Service..... 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Bible Study.. 7:00 PM

**Website:**

<http://www.sebringcoc.com>

**Email:**

[sebringparkway@sebringcoc.com](mailto:sebringparkway@sebringcoc.com)