

NEW BETHEL NEWS

February 2012

Volume 22 No. 2



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dr. Angus R. Shaw, III

..... HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?

As I was retiring from the First Presbyterian Church of Johnson City, one of the members approached me and asked, "Angus, how do you want to be remembered? To be frank, I had not thought much about how I wanted to be remembered, but, it is an important question. HOW DO YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED?"

There is an individual mentioned several times by the Apostle Paul in his epistles by the name of DEMAS. If we consider the times he is mentioned in chronological order, we come up with a disturbing biographical sketch, a sketch, a way we would not want to be remembered. In Paul's letter to Philemon, written around 60 AD, we find Demas described by Paul as "my fellow worker." In Paul's second letter to Timothy, written around 67 AD, we find Paul writing of Demas these regrettable words, "for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me..." My, what a tragic way to be remembered, one who deserted because of love for the present world.

The first chapter in the biography of Demas begins with such promise, a fellow worker with the Apostle Paul, but the concluding chapter is dripping with shame, desertion, in love with the present world.

I was reading a sermon recently by the late Dr. William Elliott, former pastor of the Highland Park Presbyterian Church of Dallas, Texas. He wrote a sermon on Demas and mentions he thought of Demas in his pastoral duties.

Our Mission

New Bethel Presbyterian Church is a community of believers who have served God and His people for over 225 years and who continue to seek to know Christ and to make Him known in a fellowship of love, worship and service.

Church Directory

Angus R. Shaw, III.
Minister

Jaime Johnson
Youth Director

Theresa Wright
Choir Director

The Session

Dr. Angus R. Shaw, III
Moderator

Denise Torbett
Clerk of Session

Larry Smith
Treasurer

Elders

Class of 2012

Anne Frazier	391-7352
Shelby Painter	538-4036
Larry Smith	854-0005
Denise Torbett	202-7404

Class of 2013

Richie Torbett	538-8781
Jeff Kinsler	477-7486
Reed Thomas	538-0586
Andy Hare	538-8853

Class of 2014

Mary Lynn Barnes	282-3278
Clifford Hall	538-8652
Eddie Ramsey	538-5724
Dickie Torbett	538-8138

Web Address:

www.newbethelpres.org

He thought of Demas in that sacred moment when hands were laid on an elder in that holy ordination service when they affirmed those awesome vows:

- Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ...?
- Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors...?
- Will you be a faithful ruling elder...?

Dr. Elliott went on to say he thought of Demas when new members were received into the church with the vows they assumed:

- Do you resolve and promise ... that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ.
- Do you promise to serve Christ in the Church supporting and participating in its service to God, and its ministry to others, to the best of your ability.

Would these, beginning with such promise end up on the “inactive roll, or members in absentia?

Demas, started with such promise as a fellow-worker with Paul, but the last chapter of his life was marked by desertion and love of this present world. **WHAT A TRAGIC WAY TO BE REMEMBERED!** It seems that Demas began with a superficial start, not counting the cost; and that there was a lack of tenacity; there was a lack of the right kind of love.

WHY THIS MESSAGE? Simply because you and I are potentially like Demas, we can fall with love with the wrong things; we can desert. It would be well for each of us to heed the words of the Apostle Paul, **“AND LET US NOT LOSE HEART IN DOING GOOD, FOR IN DUE TIME WE SHALL REAP IF WE DO NOT GROW WEARY.”**

GRANDFATHER HOME FOR CHILDREN

Keeping Our Children Safe



The prominent sexual abuse allegations against once trusted staff at Penn State and other universities have put the issue of child sexual abuse and suspected abuse in the headlines for the past several months. These tragic events are a reminder that sexual abuse doesn't just happen "somewhere else" and with "bad" people. It can happen anywhere and often involves people we, and the children involved, believed they could trust.

We, at Grandfather Home, see every day the terrible toll this abuse takes on children who are the victims. We applaud the systematic efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and its requirement that church professionals and volunteers receive training on setting proper professional and personal boundaries to reduce the likelihood of abuse happening in its congregations. Here are a few things your congregation can do to offer a safe environment for children and families:

- Develop a training program for your congregation. Take advantage of resources and training events from your denomination and insurance company.
- Be sure that all staff members are aware of the legal requirements for reporting suspected child/sexual abuse.
- Have written policies and procedures in place for all congregational leaders.

- Require teachers/leaders to work in pairs.
- Use both background and reference checks for all staff and volunteers.
- Train your staff to respond appropriately if abuse does occur:
 - Show the child that you are listening carefully and want to hear what they have to say.
 - Write down what is told to you so you can pass accurate information on to those investigating the abuse.
 - Have contact information readily available to report suspected abuse.

Together, we can help prevent child abuse!

The Child Now Before Us



These sweet little girls, Moriah and Jackie, have been under the care of Grandfather Home since May 2011. They came into our program when the Department of Social Services (DSS) called to have them removed from a horrific situation. The

social worker described the scene. There were feces in the toilet, tub, and sinks. The bathtub was overflowing with water, and the floor in the hallway had fallen through. The oldest child, Moriah age 5, was left home alone to take care of her younger sister, Jackie (age 4). Jackie was found heating oil on the stove with plans to make cookies.

Thankfully, the police arrived before she could badly injure herself. Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) had to clean the girls before they could be taken anywhere.

The girls are now doing very well. One of our foster families has provided excellent care to little Jackie and Moriah. DSS cannot believe the difference in the girls after seeing them the night they were taken versus seeing them now. These girls are a joy to talk to and it's amazing they were able to survive. God definitely had his hand of protection on them! Grandfather Home Case Manager, Rezuba said, "This is what keeps me doing what I do and I'm sure what keeps other staff doing their work as well. There are so many Jackie's and Moriah's that need our help. I am so thankful for foster parents like Mike and Lori and many others who step in and lovingly change these children's lives for the better!"

Please keep all our children in your prayers!

~copied from "The Church Connection, Grandfather Home for Children",
January 2012 newsletter

Ladies Circle will meet at 10 AM at the church on Tuesday, February 7, 2012. We will be continuing our study of the book of James. We will discuss material impoverishment and wealth along with becoming rich in the faith.

SUPER/SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Will you be the winning team? Cast your vote with each can of Meaty Soup, Chili or Stew! Put your donations in the appropriate box by February 5, 2012- prior to the game.

Food Pantry Items for Haven of Rest

Feb 5 - Meaty Stews, Soups, or chili

Feb 12 - Pudding cups

Feb 19 - #10 Can chili w/beans or 8 oz cups

Feb 26 - Peanut Butter

BUDGET

As of December 31, 2011

Average Weekly Budget Needs: \$2,445

Average Weekly Budget Gifts: \$1,957

Average Standing Per Week: -498

Total Standing for Year: -25,896

Building Loan Balance: \$42,824

Memorials Received November 21, 2011 - January 18, 2012

Given to the Building Fund

*In Memory of Howard King
Mickey and Claudia Church*

*In Memory of U. L. and Jayne Carrier
Bill and Margaret Snapp*

God Fully Loves You!

As we enter into the season in which we celebrate love, I want you to take a minute and step into a powerful and beautiful passage of scripture. Do you ever think about how much God knows you? How he is constantly aware of your every move, yet His love for you is never-failing! Read Psalm 139: 1-14 below which is written by King David. David absolutely knew what it was like to feel God's love.

- ¹You have searched me, LORD,
and you know me.
- ²You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- ³You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
- ⁴Before a word is on my tongue
you, LORD, know it completely.
- ⁵You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
- ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.
- ⁷Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
- ⁸If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
- ⁹If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
- ¹⁰even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.
- ¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
- ¹²even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
- ¹³For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.

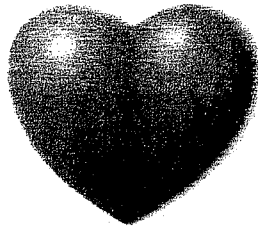
David is describing his own relationship with God, but the lesson applies to all of us. This passage is not God describing David as "fearfully and wonderfully made," but it is David himself discovering how God sees him and how God made him. He's overwhelmed by God's love for him. God sees the best in you. God truly loves you!

Recent Events:

- January 8th Kick-off for Journey With Jesus Bible Study – the KFC and TLC celebrated the beginning of a new Bible study entitled “Journey with Jesus.” We shared some fun in crafts and games and spent time singing God’s praises in worship of His Son!
- January 15th Regular KFC and TLC meetings resumed – 4:30 – 6:00pm.
- January 14th Kitchen of Hope – Thank you to the volunteers who served alongside of the youth at the Kitchen of Hope. Thank you also for the delicious desserts! The need has been increasing in our area thank you so much for your continued support of this ministry!

Upcoming Events:

- February 3-5th Gatlinburg Missions Conference – A group of 18 youth and adults will travel to Gatlinburg, TN to spend a weekend. Please pray for the conference and all of the speakers, attendees, worship leaders, and missionaries as well as for safe travel to and from the conference. If you are attending, please remember the cost is \$50 and we will meet at the church at 3:30pm to leave on Friday, February 3rd.
- February 18th Pledge 2 Purity – Youth! Please plan on attending this great event. It will take place at Viking Hall. Justin Lookadoo will be returning as the guest speaker. More details to come.
- February 24th Youth Lock-In – Arrive at the church at 10:00pm ready to have an evening of fun games, Bible study, and fellowship! Bring your sleeping bag, a snack, and a friend!



*For God so loved the world that
he gave his one and only Son,
that whoever believes in him
shall not perish but have
eternal life.*

John 3:16

February 2012

February 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
		February 1	2	3	4
				Gatlinburg Missions Conference 2	5
					Souper Bowl Sunday!
6	7	8	9	10	11
	Ladies Circle 10:00 am				12
13	14	15	16	17	18
	Valentine's Day				Pledge to Purity
					19
20	21	22	23	24	25
				Youth Lock in	9:00am New Flea medicine
					26
27	28	29			

9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service
KFC/TLC 4:45
Choir Practice 6:30

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that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal
life. “*

John 3:16



New Bethel Presbyterian Church

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