



PREACHER-SHEPHERD
JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS, JR.



COMMENTARY CORNER: “THE FAMILY THAT BELIEVES TOGETHER” “And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.” (Acts 16:32—34).

Jesus recruited family members to work with him while he fulfilled his earthly ministry. This should be good news in a world where people are made to feel that they have little identity less they separate themselves from family members. It is good news, too, because in the area of life that is more important than any other, God has made it possible for family members to share in and support one another in the faith.

There have been times, and in some places, there are still times, when association with the family across the different spheres of life was a matter of pride. Sons took pride in going into the family business. Daughters looked eagerly to having the skills mother acquired. Husbands and wives, even, took great satisfaction in knowing that their particular skills contributed to the welfare of the whole family, rather than to just an individual. Family members felt no uneasiness in demonstrating that they were tight knit, supportive of, and encouraging of one another.

Generations of family members celebrated their heritage of solidarity in what was good. Family clans and family names were associated with what was good, upright, and just. Members of the family would be careful to bring no shame upon the family name. The traditions of the family helped to secure their past, present, and future. What a great gift people assumed they had in family identity and unity.

Jesus took advantage of family identification, unity, and solidarity when he called the apostles. Many are aware of the sets of brothers who were called by

the Lord: Peter and Andrew were brothers. James and John were brothers (Matt 10:2—4). Brothers also were James the son of Alphaeus and Lebbeaus, surnamed Thaddeus, also known as Judas, not Iscariot (Acts 1:13). These brothers would serve the Lord as apostles in the church. And even though some brothers would have more prominent roles than others, these worked in harmony with one another in the ministry.

There were not only family members who would serve Jesus as apostles, there were also family members, brothers and sisters, who were of great help to Jesus as hosts. None are perhaps better known than Mary, Martha, and Lazarus with whom Jesus stayed and was cared for from time to time. In addition to receiving care in their home, they allowed him to use their residence as a place of teaching (Luke 10:38-41; John 12:2).

Jesus spoke to the possibility of faith in him resulting in family members being at odds with one another (Matt 10:34-36), but this was not the objective of the faith, nor what the gospel sought to create. The situation of disunity, separation, and division resulted from family members who would reject the word of God rather than obey it. There is no teaching, we must add, that allows for family members to be in the faith and at the same time, in a state of disunity and separation from one another. Those who are in the faith are brought together in unity and purpose.

When the church began, as well as when it spread abroad, it brought into its fold, family members. The same families that followed Jesus waited for the prom-

ise of the Spirit from the Father, poured out on the day of Pentecost (Acts 1:13—14; 2:1—10). The apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit, and thousands obeyed the gospel on that festive day (Acts 2:41).

The apostle Paul became the first century’s greatest apostle to the gentiles. In a series of stories documenting his second missionary journey, one is blessed to witness how positively the gospel affected families. Paul heeded the Macedonian call for help (Acts 16:9). The first persons we read of him teaching in that province are in the city of Philippi. Paul begins sharing the gospel with a group of women (Acts 16:13).

One of the women there, Lydia, was a business woman who was from Thyatira; and not to be missed, she was a worshipper of God (Acts 16:14). Everything that follows in the narrative appears to be what one would expect from people sincere about their faith. The text says that she heard, God opened her heart, she gave heed to what Paul spoke, and she was baptized (Acts 16:14—15). There is much more, however. Not only was she baptized, the text reads that her household also obeyed (Acts 16:15). Lydia was not just a woman of business acumen, she was also a woman of faith and family influence. Intelligence, accomplishment, and influence are not enemies of the gospel, these attributes characterize the people who come to Jesus Christ. Family members containing these qualities lead other family members to the Lord.

Continued

CHURCH



2015 THEME: "In All things, Examples of Good Deeds" (Titus 2:7)

Calendar of Events

PREACHER-SHEPHERD

JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS, JR.

MINISTER EMERITUS

CLOYS R. CECIL, SR.

SHEPHERDS

JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS, JR.

JOHN FOXWORTH

LEROY NELSON

WALTER WEATHERS, JR.

ELDER EMERITUS

FRANK W. DULIN

DEACONS

ROSCOE BURGESS

MICHEAL CURRY

JAMES E. GADSON

GEORGE MCNAIR

ROY OLIPHANT

BERNARD TERRY

JOE WILSON



SUNDAY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE DAY DRIVE

We need your help to reach or succeed our goal of **275** or more on Sunday, March 15, 2015. We look forward to seeing you.

MEN'S AND LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

Our Men's and Ladies' Bible class will meet March 8th at 5 p.m. We are encouraging all of our members to attend.

SOUTHERN HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

10TH ANNIVERSY CELEBRATION
2525 Archdale Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210
Sunday, March 1, 2015, Southern Hills will be closing out the celebration of their Ten Year Anniversary. Worship service begins at 12 noon.
Guest Speaker: Bro. Jefferson R. Caruthers.

CENTERGROVE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST
2304 Centergrove Rd., Kannapolis, NC 28083
The Centergrove Rd church cordially invites you to attend their Fellowship Meeting on March 1, 2015 at 3:00 pm, with guest speaker Bro. Cloys R. Cecil, Sr.. Lunch will be served from 1- 2 pm. As many members who are able please go and show support in spreading the gospel.

White Street Church of Christ

1301 White St, Lexington, NC
The White Street Church of Christ cordially invites you to come join them for their Fellowship Meeting on March 8, 2015 at 3:00 pm.. Guest speaker will be Alan Brown Sr. of the Capernaum Church of Christ. Congregational singing begins at 2:30.

10TH ANNUAL FAITH, FRIENDS & FAMILY WEEKEND

Please save the date for our 10th Annual "Faith, Friends & Family" Weekend taking place on the 13th and 14th of March 2015. The guest facilitator for this event will be brother Jeffrey Pointer of Charlotte, NC. We look forward to seeing you!



KURIAKOS HOUSE

Don't forget to visit the Kuriakos House table located in the foyer for events and happenings. You may contact sister Felecia Caruthers at (336) 767-4201 if you have any questions or need additional information.

Teachers' Banquet

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Teachers' Banquet taking place on March 21st. A token of appreciation for all the hard work our teacher's do in the development of our spiritual knowledge through study of God's Word.

YOUTH NEWS

Reading Safari

STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT READING SAFARI ACTIVITY

EASTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST YOUTH RALLY

Saturday, March 28th, 2015.
Theme: **Facing Our Giants**
Speaker: Leslie B. James
Registration begins at 8am ; a light breakfast will be served. Program ends at 12 noon followed by lunch. RSVP by March 8th, 2015 with number of youth attendees and chaperones. (336) 631-8232 or (336) 287-1207.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

(6 Years) Kevin & Shundra McLaurin—14th
(40 years) Worth & Jacalyn McCloud - 20th
(48 years) Joe & Mattie Wilson 26th
(18 years) Adolphus & Valarie Coplin 29TH

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1st, Jarred Monroe; 4th, Worth McCloud; 5th, Martica Dixon; 9th, Kecia McCloud; 10th, Delores Reaves; 13th, Theressa Witherspoon; 15th, Eshe Johnson; 16th, Tonya Taylor; 17th, Antwan Davis; Eshe Johnson; 18th, Richard Williams; 19th, Novell Hall; 19th, Simon Johnson; 20th, Katherine Eichleberger; 20th, Athenia Pouncey; 21st, Jerri Evans; 22nd, Jefferson Caruthers Jr.; 24th, Keith Matier; 28th, Angela Weathers; 29th, Jefferson Caruthers, III; 29th Shakeia Taylor.

WELCOME

ALL VISITORS!

YOU ARE OUR HONORED GUESTS!

PRAY THAT GOD LEADS US TO SOULS TO SAVE TODAY & THROUGH

SICK AND SHUT-IN LISTING

Bro. Dwight Correll.....
 Sis. Immogene Bray.....
 Bro. Leroy Nelson.....
 Bro. Barry Harper.....
 Sis. Georgla Glenn.....
 Bro. Charles Leak.....
 Bro. Joseph Transou.....

RESPONSIVE READING

II Cor. 10: 11-16

READER: Let such a one think this, that, such as we are in words by letters when we are absent, such will we be also in deed when we are present.

CHURCH: For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves amongst themselves, are not wise.

READER: But we will not boast of things without our measure, but according to the measure of the rule which God hath distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you.

CHURCH: For we stretch not ourselves beyond our measure, as though we reached not unto you: for we are come as far as to you also in preaching the gospel of Christ:

READER: Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labours; but having hope,, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly

UNISON: To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.

PRAYER

Father in heaven, we pray that we not boast in other men's labors. And that whenever we glory, we glory in the Lord. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

PRAYER REQUEST

Sis. Bonnie Nash, Bro. Jarvis Warren, Bro. Juan Williams, Sis. Hazel Gordon, Sis. Teresa Rucker, Bro. Cleveland Reed, Sis. Dolly Warren, Sis. Marleshia Young, Sis. Latasha Gandy, Bro. Arnold Thomas, Bro. Thomas Loyd, Bro. Joshua Caruthers

SHEPHERD ON CALL FOR FEBRUARY

BRO. WALTER WEATHERS, JR.
 (336) 785-2520

ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 A.M

SONG LEADER Roy Oliphant
 SERMON *Jefferson R. Caruthers, Jr.*

10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS John Foxworth
 INVOCATION Jerry Evans
 SONG DIRECTOR Roy Oliphant
 SCRIPTURE Cecil Oliver
 RESPONSIVE READING Ron Jessup
 PRAYER Walter Weathers
SERMON *Jefferson R. Caruthers, Jr.*
 OFFERING Reginald Nichols
 LORD'S SUPPER T.homas Loyd, Sr.
 READER Randy Dulin
 CLOSING PRAYER George McNair
 VISITATION PRESENTATION

6:30 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS John Foxworth
 INVOCATION Artis Rucker
 SONG DIRECTOR Andrew Jackson
 SCRIPTURE Bernard Wallace
 RESPONSIVE READING Joshua Caruthers
 PRAYER Joe Wilson
SERMON *Jefferson R. Caruthers, Jr.*
 OFFERING Harold Brown
 LORD'S SUPPER Anthony Clinton
 READER
 CLOSING PRAYER A.J. Crim
 VISITATION PRESENTATION

COMMUNION REFLECTION

(JOHN 5:17)

But Jesus answered them, *My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.*



USHERS

Andrew Jackson	James Cherry	DeMarcus Miles
Todd Woods	Anthony Clinton	Novell Hall
Adriel Hall	Harold Brown	Arnold Thomas
Isiah Black	Jarred Monroe	Bernard Wallace

EVENING USHERS

Jonas Caruthers D.J. Crim
 Michael Terry Kolbe Adkins

COMMENTARY CORNER

In the same city, another man interested in the faith would obey the gospel. He was not being directly taught by Paul, but because of a series of events, he thought it wise to ask Paul and Silas what he should do to be saved (Acts 16:30). In truth, at one moment this man, the apostles' jailer, was about to take his own life (Acts 16:27); within minutes, however, he had accepted new life in Jesus (Acts 16:33). The jailer was also evidently a man of family influence.

When Paul taught the jailer, he taught everyone in the house. And when the jailer was baptized, the whole house was baptized (Acts 16:33). The concluding information about this house conversion is that the

whole house rejoiced, and praised, believing in God (Acts 16:34). Far from the idea that the faith ought to separate and that each family member should have identification with different expressions of faith, these texts demonstrate what pleases God.

In a different province and city, still another man and his family, his household, would become obedient to the gospel. Luke records: "And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized" (Acts 18:8). It is most interesting to observe that neither Crispus, the jailer, nor Lydia were content to come to Jesus alone, each used whatever in-

fluence God had given to bring their families to the faith.

We live during an age when people are searching for meaning and significance in a host of ways. Some have concluded that the best way to do so is to disassociate oneself from however she or he was identified within the context of family. They don't want the family name. They loathe the family business. They distance themselves from their family tradition. And they disavow the family faith. These miss that the very existence they crave and desire, that is an existence of significance and worth, are found, not by their disassociation from what is good and meaningful, but by their ability to recognize the good and to hold to it. Most especially, in the area of faith, faith for the whole family.

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

Early Morning Worship ..8 A.M.

Sunday Bible School9 A.M

Sunday Morning Worship..10 A. M

Sunday Evening Worship

6:30 P.M.

Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday

11 A.M. & 7 P.M

Men's & Ladies'

Bible Class

5 P.M.

2ND & 4TH SUNDAY

MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

Teachers' Meeting 1st Sat. 9 a.m./

Husbands & Fathers Support Group 3rd Sat.

4 p.m. / Youth Fellowship Meeting 2nd Sat.

10 a.m.—12 noon

Young Adult Ministry 4th Fri.

Clothing Bank 1st Sat. 10 a.m.—12noon

WORSHIP TO THE SICK & SHUT-IN FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH



BAPTISMAL TEAM

Bro. Anthony Clinton

Bro. Thomas Loyd, Sr.

Bro. George McNair

Bro. Walter Weathers. Jr.

Radio Broadcast Stations

Sundays @7:30 A.M.

Thursdays @ 2 P.M.



1340 AM

1400 AM

103.5 FM

YOU CAN BE SAVED TODAY!

To be saved today, you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17; Acts 15:7). You must believe the gospel that assures us salvation through Jesus who is the risen Lord (Romans 10:9, 10). You must be willing to turn your life over to God through repentance (Acts 17:30; Romans 2:4). Those willing to live for God through repentance are ready for confession (Romans 10:9,10).

The person who confesses is baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3, 4; Galatians 3:27). In baptism, the believer is washed, sanctified, and justified (1 Corinthians 6:11). Christ saves the baptized person in baptism (1 Peter 3:21).

If you believe that Jesus died for you and was resurrected, if you will repent and confess, then you can be baptized into Christ and be saved. Come to Jesus today!

ZONES

ZONE #1 Capt. Bro. J. Wilson (661-1312)

ZONE #4 Co-Capt. Bro. B. Terry (720-9694)

ZONE #5 Capt. Bro. J. Gadson (650-9693)

Co-Capt. Bro. A. Rucker (924-5696)

ZONE #7 Capt. Bro. J. Foxworth (924-5029)

Co-Capt. Bro R. Oliphant (765-3105)

ZONE #8 Capt. Bro. R. March (727-0052)

Co-Capt. Bro. R. Burgess (748-0282)

CHILDRENS' WORSHIP

1st- Rose Ellerbe & Paula Evans

8th- Rose Ellerbe & Paula Evans

15th- Brandi & Rodney Evans

22nd- Brandi & Rodney Evans

29th-- Leah Adkins & Janel Brown

NURSERY DUTY

1st

TBA

8th

TBA

15th

TBA

22nd

TBA

29TH

TBA

MARCH GREETERS

1ST — Alinda Gadson
Bayyunah Brown

8TH — Athenia Pouncey
Lilly Alford

15TH — Carol Weathers
Hazel Gordon

22ND — Cindy Dulin
Mary Robinson

29TH — Cynthia Judge
Indya Rucker

COMMUNION PREPARERS For March

Treva Loyd/Tonya Oliphant



Baptismal Committee

For

Month of March

Diane Foxworth, Diane Robinson & Wendy Thomas