

GRACE AND GLORY

The Official Newsletter of:
GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725
"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

January 15, 1979

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Greetings in the Name of Christ,

Welcome to a "resurrected" GRACE and GLORY. We published a few editions a couple of years ago but we hope to make it a regular thing now. I hope it will help keep you informed about what has happened and what is going to happen at Grace. Some editions will probably be full length sermons to help spread the Word and some will be mainly news but I hope it will prove a Blessing either way.

I return from my Mississippi Ministry convinced that God can do ANY THING He wants with a yielded vessel. I don't understand what God is doing nor why He's doing it but I'm excited because I know He loves me and is working things together for my good. My key verse in life (Ps. 16:11) says that God will show me the Path of Life and what a joy it is when we walk that Path together.

The Future is as bright as the promises of God! If the people will continue to work together, depending on God to work miracles, then we can be a great force for God in the Community. Every where I look I find a Hunger for the Peace of God. If we'll preach the Truth and practice what we preach many can come to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.

"We are journeying unto the place of which the Lord said, I will give it you: come thou with us, and we will do thee good:" (Num 10:29). We invite you to visit with us at Grace and be a part of what God is doing for and thru us.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00am
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00am
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE 6:00pm
Wednesday- Bible Study for Adults
and Youth 7:00pm

Pastor Mircheal Jones

P.S. If you know of anyone else who would like to receive GRACE and GLORY then contact me and I'll be glad to add them to our list.

WHAT'S HAPPENED RECENTLY???

(1) We praise God for His marvelous Blessings to us on Christmas Eve. We had our highest Sunday School attendance this year (69) and our largest White Christmas Offering ever (over \$2300). We also had a fine Christmas Program directed by Mrs. Marjorie McAllister.

(2) New Year's Eve was a great night at Grace. We had almost 5 hours of Church (8:00pm-1:00am) and many thought it was not long enough. Rev. Ronnie Jones preached a wonderful message and Carey McElveen, the Singing Echoes, the Lynches River Singers, and the Grace Singers provided outstanding singing. The Midnight Altar Prayer seemed to cap things off just right and we can hardly wait until next year.

(3) The men of the Church meet on Monday, Jan. 1, 1979 to organize a Master's Men for the Church. The fellowship was good and the men decided to build some shelves for the Sunday School rooms and put dirt around the walks. Several other projects were discussed and you can look for a lot of action from the Master's Men in the future. Officers elected were:

President: Danny Broach
Vice President: Ralph McAllister
Program Chairman: Marion Coker

(4) The talk of the Church right now is the new Fellowship Building that we hope to begin soon. We need more Sunday School room and a place for fellowship so we hope to build an addition on the east side of the Church. A building committee consisting of the Deacons and Trustees was elected at the last Conference and we anticipate a report from them soon.

(5) Our Wednesday night adult class taught by Danny Broach has proved to be a Blessing to the Church. The Adults began in Genesis and are going verse by verse through the Bible. Meanwhile, the Youth are learning to be Christian Soldiers in their class. They are learning the books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments, How to use their "Sword", and having a lot of fun with Bible Quiz Games. Wednesday Night is a time for the whole family.

TEACHER TRAINING COURSE
at
GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

January 30 - February 1
(Tuesday) (Thursday)
7:00pm - 8:30pm nightly

If you'd like to know how important Teaching is, How to prepare to Teach, and receive some Aids you can use in Teaching then be here for this course. This is a condensation of a year and a half Bible Institute Course I taught on Christian Education and will help you even if you never plan to teach.

CAN WE HELP YOU??? We at Grace believe that he that "will be great among you, shall be your minister:" (Mark 10:43). Therefore our goal is TO HELP people to know Christ as Saviour and then to Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. As God provides funds, we plan to make available to people tapes and printed material to help them know more about the Lord Jesus. This material will be provided free of charge because that's what "Grace" is! (Unmerited Favor). Some things available right now are:

Tapes:

(1) Glimpes of Glory
Dr. Jerry Vines
(One of the Greatest
Sermons I've ever heard)

(2) Soul Winning
Dr. Curtis Hutson
(An enjoyable tape that will
stir you to get busy in this
important work.)

(3) A Man God Can Use
Rev. Billy Bevan
(A Great Message that
will stir your heart.)

(4) Sin and Sickness
What to Do About Doubt
Rev. Mircheal Jones
(Two messages about areas of
concern for many Christians.)

(5) When the Burden Gets too Heavy
to Bear. Rev. Mircheal Jones
(God used this message for one of
the best services our Church has had)

If you'd like one of these tapes just write and ask for it. We'll send it to you to listen to for two weeks and then we ask that you send it back so others can enjoy it also.

Grace Free Will Baptist Church
P.O. Box 1003
Lake City, S.C. 29560

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The Newsletter of:
GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 1003, Lake City, S.C.
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

January 23, 1979

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Have you ever noticed the vessels God uses? A famous Preacher once said that God uses strange vessels- some of which are a little cracked! I think that Preacher must have been reading in the book of Judges like I have recently (It's my devotional Book this week!). It just amazes me to see how mightily God was able to use some unlikely people.

As I have sat and meditated on this Book God has turned my amazement into abounding Joy. If God can use these "strange tools" to do His work then He can use me! It's not a case of my ability- but of my availability. I don't have to worry about, "Can I do a Job?" because "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Phil 4:13). What a difference it makes when we face the future with the mighty Strength of God instead of the weakness of the flesh.

I know some of you are wondering about what brought this on. Well, we received a rough sketch of the plans for the new Fellowship Building Sunday and the artist had also drawn in the picture of the proposed future Sanctuary to give us a perspective. Frankly, it's a little scary to suddenly "see the future" and realize how close it is- and how much work is going to be involved. I'm so glad it's God's work and not just mine.

I guess we're going to have to adopt the motto "The Future is Now", because THIS YEAR we plan to double our attendance (at least) and begin our Building Program. It's going to take work (by everyone) and waiting on the Lord for Strength (Is. 40:31) but God can use even us to bring Glory to His Name.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

Luke 13:18-19 Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and where unto shall I resemble it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.

TEACHER TRAINING COURSE

Tuesday, January 30 "The Teacher"
7:00-7:40pm Teaching: Its importance and its people
7:50-8:30pm Motivation and Methods

Wednesday, January 31 "The Tools"
7:00-7:40pm Aids to Teaching
7:50-8:30pm How to get Student Involvement

Thursday, February 1 "The Task"
7:00-7:40pm How to Win Students to Christ
7:00-8:30pm Preparing a lesson Sample lesson

This Course is for everyone (Regardless of whether you teach - or are a member of Grace.) It, of course, is designed to help Teachers but it will be of benefit to anyone who is interested in knowing how to Study the Bible or lead someone to Christ.

There will be much free material given out, many workable ideas shared, and time to ask any questions you may have. I hope it's the beginning of something big for everyone who takes part in the Course. We should not only want the biggest Sunday School but also the best.

A Chinese Preacher, speaking of robbing God, used this illustration: It came to pass that a man went to market with a string of seven coins. Seeing a beggar that asked for alms, he gave the poor man six of the coins and kept one for himself. The beggar, instead of being thankful, followed the good man and stole the seventh coin also. What an abominable wretch! Yes! And would you, to whom God has given six days, steal the seventh also?

I wonder how many people stay home from work because relatives are coming to dinner.

I think we must need to change our day of Worship to Monday. The reason: So many people are sick on Sunday but they get well on Monday morning!

OFFICERS FOR 1979: (Pray for these members as they attempt to help the Church Go Forward for Christ. Think about it - These not only have Job responsibilities, Family responsibilities, and Personal responsibilities, but they have accepted the added responsibility of trying to help the work of the Church go smoothly.)

DEACONS:

Marion Coker 1980
Carl Jordan 1981
Ralph McAllister 1982

TRUSTEES:

Charles Hanna 1981
Richard Weaver 1982
Arnold Lowder 1983

TREASURER Carl Jordan
Assistant Marjorie McAllister

Clerk Ralph McAllister
Assistant Dot Sullivan

Play Director Kaye Floyd

Home Coming Committee
Marion Coker

Building Committee Deacons and Trustees

Danny Broach
Ralph McAllister

Vacation Bible School Committee- Charles Hanna, Richard Weaver, Arnold Lowder, "Sully" Sullivan, Dot Sullivan

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COMING IN FEBRUARY:

Feb. 24 Day of Prayer for Revival and Enlargement Campaign
Feb. 25 - March 2 REVIVAL
Sunday 7:00pm Rev. Jerry Ownby, Salem FWB Church
Monday 7:30pm Rev. Theron Scott, New Town FWB Church
Tuesday 7:30pm Rev. Harry Cooper, Tabernacle FWB Church
Wednesday 7:30pm Rev. Lamar Smith, Sand Hill FWB Church
Thursday 7:30pm Rev. Bob Burke, Kingstree FWB Church
Friday 7:30pm Rev. Bill Potent, Pamplico FWB Church

Feb. 18 and Feb. 25 Morning Worship Service Broadcast over WJOT

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We had amazing response to our first Tape offer. So much so until we're temporarily out of some titles but they should be available again soon. Meanwhile we add two more titles to the list: (Remember that these tapes are available on a 2 week loan basis absolutely free of charge. We expect God to supply funds as He see fit and necessary.)

1) Kindling Wood
Rev. Vance Hayner
(It will set your soul on Fire.)

2) Knowing Who Rules
Rev. Mircheal Jones
(An important message in this day of uncertainty.)

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 * P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C. *
 * Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725 *
 * "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST" *
 *
 * February 8, 1979 *
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PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

"If 'If and Ands' were Pots and Pans
 The World would be a Kitchen!"

The common measure of a Church's Growth is the number in Sunday School. The reason for this is simple- That's generally the only service in which people are counted and the number posted for public knowledge. (So much for the junk about numbers not being important.). This makes it important for us to really push our Sunday School because if our Sunday School increases so will our other services. And, with the kind of Spirit we've had in our Services recently, if the Lost would have been here I believe some of them would have been saved- and that's what it's all about!

IF...

What can YOU do to Help???

(1) Godly Living- Live so that people can see something in your life that will make them want to have it. Then when you invite them they may come. (Also God isn't going to Bless Luke-warm, sinful Christians.)

(2) Goals- How many people do you plan to invite to Church this week?? (Aim at nothing and hit it!) Church Goals, Class Goals, and Personal Goals are important. (I remember well when we thought 75 was beyond our reach but we prayed, planned, and promoted until the day we had 75 in Sunday School. Soon after that we were disappointed when we had ONLY 75! WE CAN DO IT AGAIN.)

(3) Going- If Everybody leaves it to Somebody else then Nobody will do anything. (Phone, visit, write- Do Something!)

A SPECIAL THANKS to Carl Jordan and Susan Springs (and W. Lee Flower's Computer) for the Address Labels for "Grace and Glory". It was taking me a half day or longer to hand address the over 200 newsletters we mail each time and this will free me to do other work. We have tried to correct any address errors but, being human, we probably left some. Please let me know if your address is wrong and we'll correct it. Also, we'll gladly add any addresses you'll send us.

A future project will be for better printing equipment (electric typewriter and memograph machine) but for now we ask that you bear with us. The new Fellowship Building and several other Church projects deserve first priority but I've been praying and God will give it when it's for the best.

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IT'S CLOSER THAN YOU THINK! The Day of Prayer for Revival is Saturday, Feb. 24 beginning at noon. The Prayer Sign up list will be available soon. (You'll be asked to sign up for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of Prayer at the Church Altar. Prayer helps and Prayer Requests will be available.) Revival is when God "re-breathes" life into the Church and raises the Dead in Sin. Every major Revival has begun in Prayer. If you can volunteer to pray or if you have prayer requests contact Mrs. Ruth Weaver or myself.

The MASTER'S MEN decided at their last meeting to spend as much time as possible visiting the week before the Revival. If you will be a Visitation Captain for this week then contact Danny Braoch or the Pastor. If you'd like to have a Cottage Prayer Meeting in your home then contact the Pastor as soon as possible. The Revival Preachers are to bring

taught the things of God. There were 12 who attended every night. A number attended 1 or 2 nights. (Notes and Tapes are available for the asking.)

PLAN AHEAD. We'll soon begin a study in the book of I Thessalonians entitled "Waiting for the Son". If you're interested in knowing how a Christian should live in the light of the Coming of Christ you'll benefit from this Study. The thing you need to do is begin reading the 5 short chapters of this Book at least once per day. (Hopefully, notes and tapes will be available for all who can't come.)

PARENTS, Help me help your Children. Each Wednesday night I'm trying to help your Children learn some practical things about the Word of God. (With help from Mrs. Marjorie McAllister and Mrs. Lottie Hanna.) Right now I'm trying to get them to learn the Books of the New Testament, the Ten Commandments, and the Christian Soldiers Dress from Ephesians 6:10-17. These are being taught in and around a number of Bible Quizzes and Games. You can help by encouraging your Children to learn their lessons and to be here every Wednesday Night. GOD ENTRUSTED YOU WITH A CHILD WHO HAS A SOUL. WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH IT????

SPECIAL THANKS to several men who have contributed money in order for us to buy more tapes. A great deal of interest has been expressed in receiving these Sermon Tapes and this ministry will be expanded as God supplies funds. We offer this week for any who ask for them Short Printed Sermons written by Rev. Mike Jones.

1. "A Trip Thru God's Garden"
2. "What To Do About Doubt"
3. "A Godly Politician"
4. "Who Hindered You?"

Have you ever wondered, "What is this World coming too?" The answer is found in II Peter 3:10-11, But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness.

I never have understood why men make many of their plans based on what a weather man says (and he's wrong much of the time.) and ignore what God says who's right 100% of the time. ARE YOU READY TO MEET GOD???

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February 14, 1979 4th Edition "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"
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ASTOR'S MESSAGE:

What is Love? That's a difficult question with a multitude of answers. The Songwriters and the Poets have written "an ocean of Odes" to Love and it's meanings but somehow they always seem to come short of the heart of Love.

I posed the question to the Adults at our Valentine's Banquet Monday Night and received some VERY UNUSUAL answers.

I don't dare quote any of them in this paper (Some people are in trouble enough as it is!) but it helped me to realize that there are a number of ways to look at this thing called Love.

I express an interest in Love, not only because it's Valentine's Day, but because one of the greatest things to happen to me in my Christian Life was when God revealed unto me that He loved me; Not for what I could do for Him, but simply because He loved me. (See Rom 5:8). After thinking about this love and praying about it's meaning I have come to the conclusion that Love may best be described by what it does. And I think there are three things Love does:

1) LOVE CARES- Possibly one of the best known verses to describe this is John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. God loves me- and this love cared so much until it gave the Best Heaven had to redeem a lost, hell bound, sinner like me.

The Scripture says that (Rom 5:5) the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us". This means that a Christian will care enough to be committed (I 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.). Do we Christians care enough about a lost world to give our selves to witness and invite people to come to Christ and the Church?

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Continued)

(2) Love Chastens- Heb 12:6 Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth. Loves cares too much to allow the loved one to harm himself. Many people fear what the Preacher will say about their missing Church or being Lukewarm to God. They need to remember that the Preacher can only fuss- God loves them enough to spank them.

(3) Love Continues- Love never fails (I Cor 13:8). God loves me even if I sin! He doesn't love my sin but he loves me. That's the mystery of love- it loves the unlovable. It's not a lack of God's love that sends a person to Hell- it's the lack of a person's love for God.

The Beauty and Mystery of Love- it passes understanding. If you love God, or if you want to meet the God of Love, then be in Church THIS Sunday.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

RADIO- This coming Sunday (Feb 18) and next Sunday (Feb 25) our Morning Worship Service will be broadcast live over WJOT. Remember these Services in Prayer and be here for them.

The Lord has also blessed me to have the Morning Devotions over WJOT the week of our Revival (Feb. 26- Mar 2). This will allow me to promote our Revival and share the Blessings with others.

There's More! We'll broadcast our Morning Worship Service again June 17, June 24, July 1, and July 8. This means Home Coming will be broadcast live. What a great day that's going to be.

GIFT- Praise the Lord for MRS. RUELEE BROACH. She read our last newsletter and decided to send the Church \$100 to go on the Building Fund. It came at a time when the Church needed a boost and was a real Blessing.

... prayer lists and Prayer helps will be provided. This has a two fold purpose: (1) It gets Christians to humble themselves, Pray, and seek God's Face, and (2) It allows us to tap the unlimited Power of God to Raise the Dead in Sin. (If God's not present during our Revival then we waste our time!)

If you have Prayer requests or if you will pray then contact Mrs. Ruth Weaver or the Pastor.

WANT TO TRADE- 11 copies of "Let Earth Receive", A Christmas Service in Pantomime, Choral Reading, and Song. A good Program that is simple to present. It was a real Blessing to the Church. If your Church presented a Christmas Program last year and you'd like to Trade it away instead of Throwing it away then contact Mrs. Kaye Floyd P.O. Box 811, Scranton, S.C. 29591 or the Pastor.

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TAPE LIBRARY- Add to our Tape Library Loan List the following:

1. Teacher Training Course- A 3 tape set complete with notes.
2. LAYING UP TREASURES/ Shelter in the Time of Storm
3. WHAT A SINNER NEEDS TO GET SAVED/ Raising Dead Children

REVIVAL- begins Sunday, Feb. 25 at 7:00 with Rev. Jerry Ownby (If it hasn't begun before then we've got problems.). The rest of the week the Services will begin at 7:30pm nightly. Special Singing has been planned for almost every night and I'm looking for a Great Time in the Lord.

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75- We're looking for 75 in Sunday School, BUT WE'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE IT UNLESS EVERYONE WORKS. You may not be able to do it all but you can do what you can!

Have you begun studying I THESSALONIANS?? This is a good Book about how to live in the light of the Return of Christ. It gives an example of what a Church should be like, what a Preacher should be like, and how we should Hope and work until He come again. Some background on the Book is found in Acts 17:1-9. Start finding "Key Verses" and marking them down for futher study.

"For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake." (I Thess. 1:5)

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* *** **

rch 7, 1979 Number 5 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

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STOR'S MESSAGE:

(Continued)

Is. 57:21 "There is no peace, saith God to the wicked."
usings at Midnight in a Hospital iting room.) I write this while iting to see if my dad is going to ll through his latest heart attack. e of my member's dad passed away day (or yesterday, depending on when finish this artic le.) and my heart : torn between the need to be here d the desire to be there also. Thank d for good members who can help out : a time like this.

The thing that astonishes me right w is the Peace of Heart that God as given me about my dad. I have sat i innumerable waiting rooms in days one by and tried to comfort families a a time like this with the assurance f God's Love and Care. I have been old by various people and Satan has ispered to my heart on many occasions, That's well to talk but wait until ou face the situation.". Well, here sit, face to face with the Problem nd THE PEACE OF GOD THAT PASSEST ALL NDERSTANDING HAS KEPT MY HEART AND IND THROUGH CHRIST JESUS. (Phil 4:7)

It does work! When I don't know what omorrow holds I do know who holds omorrow. I'm convinced of the fact hat God loves me and that all things ill work together for the good. And hat's something a lost person can ever know as long as they're lost, hat would I have if I didn't have he Lord? How could I go on if I only ad human effort and my own frail self o depend on? I don't see how a person ould go thru a time like this and ot realize their need of God. Truely, here is no Peace to the wicked!

We as Christians have got something orth bragging about. How much the world needs it and how little we tell it. May each of us renew our Love for od and our proclamation of His Peace in the midst of this sin cursed world.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, - - - - - Let not your heart

As most of you know by now my Dad passed away Friday, Feb. 23. I decided to go ahead and put the article in as I had originally written it because what was true then is doubly true now. The Peace of God, the encouragement and comfort of a vast number of Friends, and the assured Hope of where Dad is today have turned a time of sadness into comforted rest in the Lord.

It's been a tremendously busy two weeks with Dad's sickness and Revival. I arrived home Saturday Night after the funeral in time to finish up some work here at the Church and then finish up our 7 hours of Prayer for Revival. Then our Sunday Morning Service was broadcast over Radio and we began one of the strangest and best Revival I've ever been in on Sunday Night.

The Lord Blessed in the Singing and in the Preaching and moved in mysterious ways all week long. He mightly stirred the hearts of the people and many vows were made that will continue to bear fruit for years to come. Then there were the Grandmothers of the Revival.. one of which was Saved during the Revival and another of which received assurance of Salvation.

Was it a real Revival or just a series of meetings? It may be too early to completely tell but these facts give me some indication- we have 56 on our Sunday School roll and we had 56 in Sunday School last Sunday, We put out a list at the beginning of the Revival for volunteers to help in Vacation Bible School and got almost more people than we can use!, and God is continuing to save people we had prayed for during the Revival. I believe that the days ahead will show seed sprouting and growing as a result of what was done this week. PRAISE GOD FOR HIS GOODNESS!

Pastor Mircheal Jones

P.S. THANK YOU for your Love and concern during Dad's sickness and

MEMORIALS- A total of \$245 was received for the Building Fund in memory of
MR. ALMON HANNA AND MR T.M. JONES from the following:
Mr. and Mrs. Marion Coker, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph McAllister, Mrs. Marion
Benard, Mrs. Nellie Hambrick, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Weaver,
Mrs. Marjorie McAllister, Mrs. Billie Ard, Mrs. Mattie Floyd, The
Victor Stenbridge Family, and WJOT.

Through Gifts like this these "being dead yet speak" (Heb 11:4).

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I hope you've been studying the Book of I Thessalonians. Here is the outline of
Chapter 1. "What a Church Should be"

I. ELECTED BY GOD vs 1-5 (Saved)

The Doctrine of Election is complex and often misunderstood (see Romans 9:10-33)
but simply put it is that God knows already who will accept Christ as Saviour
and He chooses these to become a part of the Body of Christ. This means that man
must come to God on GOD'S TERMS and not his own.

How do you know if you're elected??

- A) Your reaction to the Word (vs 5). You receive it as the Word of God and
not as the word of men. (In other words it's mixed with Faith. Heb 4:2)
- B) Your Works (vs 3)
 - 1. Works energized by faith- see Ep. 2:8-10
 - 2. Labour motivated by Love- If you Love me keep my commandments.
 - 3. Unweavering Hope in the Lord's return- Ready for the Rapture.

II. IMITATORS OF THE LORD vs 6 (Separated)

- A) The Pastor's example
- B) The Lord's Life- the Light of Men, The Word made Flesh; Serving, obeying
the Father, forgiving enemies...

III. EXAMPLES TO ALL vs 7 (Shining)

Practise what you hear preached II Tim 2:2

IV. EVANGELISTIC vs 8 (Saving)

Trumpeting the Word all around

V. EXPECTANT vs 9-10 (Sober)

- A) Watch in our daily lives
- B) Waiting for deliverance from the wrath (See II Thess. 1:7-10)

This message is on tape, yours free for the asking.

Also available are 4 of the Revival messages. (My tape player messed up on 3
of the nights and I didn't catch it until it was too late to do anything.)

WHAT DOES A SINNER NEED TO GET SAVED??

- A Means- The Shed Blood of Jesus Christ
- A Method- Faith in the Cross of Christ
- A Message- How shall they hear unless WE tell them???

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March 14, 1979

Number 6

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

(Continued)

(Monday, March 19 is my 17th "birthday" in the Lord and I thought it would give me a good excuse to share my testimony with you.)

I guess you could say it came about because a Deacon cared. Living next door to (at times almost living with) Mr. Buster and Mrs. Josie Poston I saw something in their lives that I wanted. They had problems and pains like everyone but they also had "something" that even a 14 year old boy knew was different from what the average person had. And they wanted me to have it!

They kept inviting me to Church and made a special effort to get me there during a Spring Revival in 1962. On the Friday night of the Revival, I felt God tugging at my heart but I decided to wait another day before I yielded. Saturday night I came with the intentions of getting saved but (And I don't think I'll ever forget it!) the Lord did not deal with my heart and I left Church confused and frightened. That night as I lay in bed I determined to go to the altar Sunday and beg God to call me again. But, Sunday morning, Dad decided to go to Browns Ferry Park and all of us had to go with him.

I thought it was all over until the next morning when I learned that those "Fanatical Free Will Baptist" had decided to run the Revival another week! Monday night, March 19, 1962 as I listened to the Preacher (I don't know what he said except that somewhere in the Sermon he said that Jesus would save me and it seemed to beat in my brain.) I again felt the tug of God on my heart. When the invitation was given I started down the aisle of New Prospect FWB Church but I felt a tug on my coat. Tommy Poston was sitting beside me and wanted to encourage me but I thought he was trying to hinder me so I left my coat and went to the Altar.

I didn't know a lot about Salvation so I just told God I was lost and wanted Him to save me. Then someone leaned over and told me, "Trust Jesus", and that's what I've been doing ever since. I've had ups and downs, successes and failures, but I've found that not only do you "Trust Jesus" to be saved but you can trust Jesus to lead your life. Thank God for a Saviour willing to die for me and People who cared enough to get the Gospel to me.

Soon after I was saved I felt the tug of God to go into service for Him. A number of young people in the Corner had been saved in the Revival and we wanted a place to worship and learn about God. It was too far for us to go to New Prospect so Mr. Buster let us set up a Church in his pack house. We build an altar of 2 by 4's and tobacco sticks and a pulpit of plyboard and tobacco sticks. The seats were boards laid across sacks of grain. We decided to meet on Friday night because of school and told all the young people to be there.

Were we ever surprised on Friday night when almost 50 adults and young people showed up. The Lord blessed the services (It was there that my Parents answered God's call for commitment to Him) and I answered God's call into the ministry. Services were held at the packhouse for several months and then in the fall work was begun on constructing Mill Branch FWB Church.

I was licensed by the Eastern Conference of FWB of S.C. to preach in Dec. of 1962 and preached in various places during 1963. I was ordained at Hillside FWB Church in Florence, S.C. on Friday night Jan. 10, 1964. I preached at various places until graduating from Hannah High School in May of 1965. I then worked at King Drug Co. in Florence until November 1, 1965 when I joined the Navy.

(Continued on Back)

(Continued from Front)

I was discharged from the Navy in Oct. of 1969 and began pastoring Poplar Hill F.W.B. Church, Hemingway, S.C. on Nov. 16, 1969. The Lord blessed me during my ministry there with understanding and loving people, a marvelous wife (Paula Evans), and in Dec. of 1972, the opportunity to go full time into Pastoring. I felt God was finished with me there in April of 1973 so I resigned and accepted Grace F.W.B. Church in Lake City where I began Pastoring July 1, 1973.

The Lord greatly blessed our work at Grace with a number of people saved and a great Radio Ministry. There I had time to pursue my Bible studies and add to the basic training I had received while attending the Florence Bible Institute in 1971-72. I worked with the people of Grace until Feb. of 1977. I then accepted the pastorage of Beech Springs F.W.B. Church in Saltillo, Miss. beginning March 16, 1977. The Lord blessed my time there with loving people, many opportunities to work for Him, and the chance to teach others at the Northeast Mississippi Bible Institute where I taught Christian Education. In September of 1978 Grace Church asked me to return as Pastor and I returned here Nov. 1, 1978. Since my return the Lord has tremendously Blessed with a good Church Spirit, Souls saved and rededicated, and more open doors of Service for Him.

My key verse in life is Psalm 16:11 "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." And that about sums it up- 1) I have always tried to heed the leadership of God aware of the fact that God loved me enough to save me and now He has a plan for me, 2)

(Continued in next column)

(Continued)

I have found the Joy no tongue can tell in the Presence and Power of God, and 3) I know I'm just a pilgrim in this world but one day I shall see Him face to face whom so long I have known heart to heart. Oh Blessed thought! Oh Glorious day! Even so come Lord Jesus.

Pastor Mircheal Jone's

If you'd like to know this Life transforming Christ (He took a poor backwoods Hill Billy and made him a Son of God- Jn 1:12). Then:

- 1) Acknowledge you're a Sinner who cannot save your self.
 - 2) Trust Christ to Save You
 - 3) Walk with the Lord day by Day.
- Rom 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (If you've trusted Christ then come to Grace this Sunday and Confess Him as Saviour.)

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Things are moving right along with our new Fellowship Building. The Land has been cleared off so the dirt can be hauled in and the architect is working on the final plans. We don't have the money yet but we trust that it will come in as needed.

Our attendance has been great in every Service since the Revival. The Wednesday Night has increased so much until we're having to add another class for the Young People. Let's keep it up and really grow for the Lord.

REMEMBER THIS. The people we lead to the Lord today will be the Pastors, Teachers, and Leaders of tomorrow.

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The Newsletter of:
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 P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.
 Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

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 March 21, 1979 Number 7 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"
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PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

(Continued)

I Chronicles 14:2 And David perceived that the Lord had confirmed him king over Israel, for his kingdom was lifted up on high, because of his people Israel.

Have you ever noticed how often the Pastor gets credit for what the people do! It reminds me of a football team. When the Blockers are blocking, the Tacklers are tackling, the Receivers are receiving, and the team is winning then everyone talks about what a great Quarterback the team has- not realizing that the victory comes when the Team works together. The same Quarterback of a team that wasn't working together would be branded a loser and replaced because unless the team works together you aren't going to win many games.

It's been my happy privilege to Pastor Churches where the people were willing to work together with each doing their job. I try to stress as often as possible that a Christian is a part of the Body of Christ and needs to do the job that they're called to do. I think anyone who reads I Chronicles can see this abundantly clear.

The Lord in His divine Wisdom decided to preserve all those hard to pronounce names so that we would know how important each individual person is. He also had some little descriptive phrases put with some of them that are extremely interesting:

2:4 Achan, the troubler of Israel
 (What a way to be remembered!)

6:31-32 And these are they whom David set over the service of song in the house of the Lord, after that the ark had rest. And they ministered before the dwelling place of the tabernacle of the congregation with singing, until Solomon had built the house of the Lord in Jerusalem: and then they waited on their office according to their order. (How important the right singers, in the right place, singing the right song are.)

(Continued in next column)

12:32 ...men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do: (It's so important to have men who know where the Church is going and how to get there.)

12:33 ...which could keep rank: they were not of double heart. (Faithful people dedicated to the work of God!)

The Lord has worked thru the united efforts of the people lately to give us an increase in attendance and a number of people saved and rededicated. Let's keep up the good work and AS A TEAM BE VICTORIOUS FOR THE LORD. Each of you is important! Be faithful in whatever job God has put you.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

What a great time we had last Sunday night as various members shared their Salvation Testimony, their favorite verse of Scripture, and their favorite song. We may do something like it again soon.

About a month or so ago I told the Young People that I would buy them ice cream if they would have as many as 20 in Wednesday nite class. Sometimes it's better to look before you leap for they had 20 the very next week! So this Wednesday we're going to have ice cream and cake after Service. (I'm even going to let the Adults join us!) See what you miss by not coming on Wednesday Night.

Here's the way things look on Wednesday Night: The Adults are in a verse by verse Study of the Bible led by Danny Brauch. The Teens are studying Basic Bible Doctrine led by Charles Hanna. The Youth have Bible Stories followed by Bible Quizes and Sword Drill led by Marjorie McAllister and Lottie Hanna. The Pastor acts as a "General Flun'ry" to help the Teens and youth with their Quizes and answer all hard questions for the Adults.

GIVE ME MEN! We want more men to attend and take part in our Church. Most times if you can get the men of a family to attend Church then you have little trouble getting the women and children to attend. And we want many many people to attend in order to hear the Gospel and be saved.

Jer. 52:8-11 tells the story of Zedekiah the King who was captured and the last thing he saw before his eyes were put out was his sons being slain. Imagine how he must have suffered after that and then imagine what you'll suffer if you watch your wife and children being cast into hell just ahead of you because you wouldn't carry them to the House of God. I hope you'll be in Sunday School THIS Sunday with your family.

FREE WILL BAPTIST JOINT SUNRISE SERVICE- 6:00am Sunday April 15 at Lynches River FWB Church. We're looking for a Church full and a tremendous Service. Most of the area Free Will Baptist Churches are involved and we hope this will be just one of a number of Community endeavors by Free Will Baptist. Joint Choir Practise will be held at Lynches River at 3:00pm Sunday April 1st and April 8th.

FOREIGN MISSION FAITH PROMISE CONFERENCE with Missionary Jimmy Aldridge will be held Tuesday April 10. Inflation and the slide of the dollar have really worked a hardship on our missionaries. Theirs is a VITAL job that must continue so pray about what God would have you trust Him for to give each month.

REVIVAL at Lynches River Free Will Baptist Church March 26-30 at 7:30pm each night. Our Choir will be singing and the Pastor bringing the Message on Friday night. Pray for and Prepare for this.

REMEMBER THE YOUTH RALLY at Lynches River FWB Church this Saturday (March 24) at 7:30pm. We'll meet at the Church at 7:00pm and go together from here. Youth and Adults are invited.

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CAN WE HELP YOU??? We have available a number of Sermons on tape and written up. If you'd like any of them then we'd be glad to get them to you. We're not here to build up a big organization but to PRESENT EVERY MAN PERFECT IN CHRIST JESUS. The Latest cassette is entitled "Burdens, Battles, and Blessings". I'll try to list most of the tapes available in the near future.

"Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Is. 45:22). If you've been bitten by the serpent of sin (Gen 3:1-6) and are dying (Rom 6:23) then look to Christ and live (Num 21:5-9). "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:14-15)

THE LORD IS COMING SOON! WILL YOU MEET ME IN HEAVEN???

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Pastor Mircheal Jones 324-3725

March 28, 1979 Number 8 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

(Continued)

Prov. 19:21 There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand.

Can a man go by the dictates of his heart? We're living in a very trying and confusing time. Almost everyone has an opinion and false Prophets seem to bloom almost on every street corner. It has gotten to such a state that many people just kind of throw up their hands and say, "I'm just going to do the best I can according to the dictates of my heart".

The main problem with that is that "the heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer 17:9). You see, your heart will deceive you! Paul said that "the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would." (Gal 5:17). This is an important thing to remember in this day of "doing your own thing" and "if it FEELS good, do it" kind of Philosophy. One of the greatest times of Chaos in the history of the nation of Israel was in the days when there was no king: every man did that which was right in his own eyes. (Jud. 21:25)

If you can't trust People and you can't trust self, who then can you trust? "In God is my Salvation and my glory; the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God. Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us." (Ps. 62:7-8). God is a Changeless God in an everchanging world. His Word can be depended on no matter what the circumstances and we can find the assurance we want and need in Him.

So don't fool yourself today. Don't think you'll get to Heaven because you do the Best you can. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ep 2:8-9). If you've been "playing the game" and trying to live up to people's standards then bow today and tell God what a miserable sinner you are for trying to do it your way instead of God's way and trust Christ as Saviour. I'm glad Christianity is not just a new leaf but a new life!

Pastor Mike Jones Ps. 16:11

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Because of "sickness and sorrowness" we only had 47 in Sunday School last Sunday. This pulled our average down to 54 for the month of March, and we didn't reach our goal of 75.

So Brother Ralph and I have decided to give you another chance. We're hoping to pull out all the stops and have at least 75 on Easter Sunday Morning. We can't expect to do it with just members because we've only got 62 on our Sunday School roll (That's an increase of 6 during March, by the way.). It's going to take ALL of the members plus at least 13 visitors. But what a joy it would be for you if one of the Visitors you brought was saved by the Grace of God.

Easter Sunday Morning will also be the time of our Easter Program. It will feature Songs by our Youth Choir, Poems, and other special music. Mrs. Kaye Floyd is directing it and it looks like it's going to be a good one.

(Continued in next page)

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GLORY

*** ** April 4, 1979 *** ** Number 9 *** ** "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST" *** **

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

It's that time of year again! Time for Taxes. Now I know that paying taxes is not a pleasant subject and if there's ever a time when it's most unpleasant it's during the month of April. This is the time of year when I have to pay not only my quarterly estimate but also the taxes over my estimate. I could really get wrapped up in this because I have some STRONG feelings about the rottenness of the tax system but that's not the purpose of the article.

The thing we have to remember is that it's a Christian's responsibility to pay taxes. Look at Matt. 17:24-27 "And when they were come to Capernaum, they that received tribute money, came to Peter, and said, Doth not your master pay tribute? He saith, Yes. And when he was come into the house, Jesus prevented him, saying, What thinkest thou, Simon? of whom do the kings of the earth take custom or tribute? of their own children, or of strangers? Peter saith unto him, Of strangers. Jesus saith unto him, Then are the children free. Notwithstanding, lest we should offend them, go thou to the sea, and cast an hook, and take up the fish that first cometh up; and when thou hast opened his mouth, thou shalt find a piece of money: that take, and give unto them for me and thee." Paul makes it even plainer in Rom. 13:6-7 "For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due..." Remember, too, that Paul was writing during the time of some wicked sinful rulers and Christ was speaking about a government that would soon crucify him!

There are probably a number of reasons for taxes (Not counting making you pull out your hair.) but I'd like to mention just two. First of all, Taxes are to

provide Service. Things like modern roads, Police and Fire Protection, Military Protection, the cost of government and a multitude of other services. We take many of these for granted but they come as a result of Tax dollars.

The second reason for Taxes is to complete God's plans. "The Powers that be are ordained of God" (Rom 13:1) and their power comes from Tax money. (The Burden of Government Taxation to establish power is one of the main reasons Samuel gives for Israel not to elect a King- I Sam 8:10-18). But God also uses Taxes for His own purpose. All the world was taxed in the days of Caesar Augustus so that Christ would be born in Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-5). We tend to see our own little problems with Taxes but remember that God is still ruler over all and He has a plan.

Finally, the old saying is that the only two things for sure in this world are Death and Taxes. Well, Taxes may seem to be sure but I can guarantee you that death is sure. My question is, "Where will you go when you die- Heaven? or Hell?" Jesus paid your sin debt if you'll trust him today.

Pastor Mike Jones Ps. 16:11

P.S. If you want me in the next few weeks and can't find me I may be fishing! I think I'll try for a large mouth Bass and see if there can be any left over.

(PRATT TALK- I wrote the preceding article about 4:30am in the morning. I had had my taxes figured the day before and it looked real bad. I went to bed with it on my mind and the Lord woke me up with the message of the article on my mind. When I completed the article I went to get the mail and found a check for \$100. The person who sent it sent it before I figured out (Continued on Page 2)

(PRAISE NOTE continued)

my taxes and had no way of knowing how much I would need the money. And, listen to this, he had sent the check folded in a bulletin from his Church, and as I opened the bulletin, on one side was the check and on the other side the bulletin said, "Where do you like to go fishing?" (GLORY!). I'd rather be a door-keeper in God's House than to dwell in the tents of the wicked! AIN'T GOD GOOD!)

+++++

SPECIAL TIME FOR EASTER SERVICES Sunday School - 9:00am Worship- 10:00am
The reason's for this are twofold. 1) To cut down on the time between Sunrise Service and Sunday School and 2) To give those who want to go to "Mom's for Dinner" a chance to attend Sunday School and Preaching and still not be late to dinner. It will also give me a chance to see how a new time schedule would work if needed in the future. (If we doubled up on our Services we could have twice the people using the same room we have now!)

I know that changing times is not the best thing to do on the Sunday you want to have the Biggest Crowd so far this year but if everyone will make a little special effort we can go over the top and have a great Service.

THE EASTER PROGRAM will be presented between Sunday School and Preaching.

MISSIONARY FAITH PROMISE CONFERENCE with Rev. Jimmy Aldridge Tuesday, April 10 at 7:30pm at the Church. A Faith Promise Offering is when you tell God You'll give so much to Missions if God will give it to you to give. It's one of the most Blessed things in the life of a person and a Church. To see month after month how God meets the need is an exciting experience.

The Church decided to divide our Monthly Faith Promise Offering between Rev. Jimmy Aldridge and Rev. Bobby Poole. With the monthly support the Church gives to Rev. Carlisle Hanna this means we'll be supporting most of the missionaries from our area. May God continue to increase our vision.

Besides sending \$50 per month to Rev. Carlisle Hanna the Church also decided to send \$50 per month to the Children's Home and \$50 per month to the State Promotional Secretary, Rev. Norwood Gibson. We're trying to get all of this in order now because it becomes easy to become selfish during a Building Program and let things that are needed go lacking.

The Building Fund continues to grow. Every week someone sends or gives a gift to the Fund. The latest gifts were from Mrs. Richard Barnhill and Mr. and Mrs. Don Coker. THANKS.

Speaking of Building, The dirt is being hauled in for the foundation to be laid and the plans are expected back soon. Pray about what God would have you give on Building Fund Sunday, April 29. The more we receive the less we'll have to borrow and pay interest on.

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The Blessings the Lord has poured out on the Church have come about largely as a result of PRAYER. We like the Blessings and so we want to continue Praying. If you would like to have Cottage Prayer Meeting at your house then contact the Pastor.

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CHURCH

April 18, 1979 Number 10

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

II Chronicles 29:36 And Hezekiah rejoiced, and all the people, that God had prepared the people: for the thing was done suddenly.

IN PRAISE OF PEOPLE! Thank God for the people of Grace. Where would the Church be without them?? The Building would stand but it would have no purpose. There would be no bills but there would also be no blessings. Think of it- no support of missions or the Children's Home or the rest of the denominational works. No Pastor to preach and pray and visit and put out newsletters. No Teachers to teach Adults and Youth the way of the Lord and the truths about Salvation. No singing the songs of Zion and fellowshiping with the Saints. People are important!

I think that was demonstrated abundantly well this past Sunday. As the week progressed it seemed that all I heard was a different one sick or would be out of town on one week end. I started the week praying for 75 in Sunday School and ended it hoping for 25! Sunday Morning at 8:45 they began to arrive and they kept coming and kept coming until we had 79 in Sunday School. It was our largest Sunday School in over 2 years and I wish I could claim credit for it but the Praise must go to the people. They worked super hard inviting and making arrangements to be here and I thank the Lord for them. They've shown me a little of what they can do if they'll work together and I'm excited about what God's got in store for us.

God has prepared (and is preparing) the people at Grace for a special work for Him. Doors of opportunity are open to us and we are limited only by our

willingness to allow God to use us. I know that Satan will continue to worry us and try to destroy the work but we have the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. When Satan slanders the work or the workers just ignore him. When he causes a brother to stumble or offend then help that brother up and forgive him as God has forgiven us for Christ's sake. When he tempts you to stop along the way remember to run with patience the race that is set before you looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of your Faith.

Thank God for the People. May God Bless us with many more!

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

P.S. Another example of People working together was in the Sunrise Service. The Joint Choir was simply tremendous and Brother Theron Scott is to be commended for the fine job he did in leading them. There were 8 to 10 Churches represented and the Church was full. The Spirit of the Lord moved during the service and I look forward to the next meeting.

*** **

Special Thanks to Mrs. Julia Brown for her gift to the Building Fund in memory of Mr. Lev Brown, Jr.. Because of gifts like this our Building Fund continues to grow.

Speaking of Building Fund remember that Sunday, April 29 is BUILDING FUND SUNDAY. All money received on this Sunday will go to our Building Fund. I'm Praying for a good offering.

Remember that our Choir will sing and the Pastor will preach at High Hill FWB Church this Sunday (April 22) at 6:30pm. The Pastor will be in Revival at Poplar Hill FWB Church April 23-28. PRAY.

(Continued in next column)

Our Missions Faith Promise Conference with Brother Jimmy Aldridge was a real success. He and Miss Janie gave a slide talk and answered questions and helped all of us know more about the burdens and blessings of the work. I look forward to having them again in the future.

Faith Promise Pledges totaled \$122.50 per month. Jesus said in Luke 16:10 "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much". God is going to supply these Faith Promise Pledges and then look to see if we use them for ourselves or put them in the work as we're supposed to. And if we're good Stewards in the small things then God will Bless us with greater things.

How will God supply these Faith Promise Pledges? AS HE SEES FIT! One member has already told of an increase in business the day after the pledge that over doubled his pledge. I have had mine supplied by a decrease in insurance premium equal to a month's pledge, or the month I received notice that I had the exact amount of a month's pledge in a savings account that I didn't know I had in a bank I hadn't done business in in 4 years, or the year the Church increased my pay per month equal to my pledge per month. (See, if I'd have give more I'd have received a bigger raise!). You just keep on praying and looking for God to supply and it'll Bless your heart to see how He does it. After all, IF YOU CAN'T TRUST GOD WHO CAN YOU TRUST??

Almost every week we continue to add names to the GRACE AND GLORY mailing list. If this is your first edition then we welcome you into the family. Past editions are available upon request we'll be glad to add any names you'll send us to our mailing list.

Also available are cassette Sermon tapes from our lending library. You're invited to request one or more to listen to and then return to the Library. There is no charge for this service. (Grace means "Unmerited Favor" and we try to supply as much as possible without cost or obligation.)

Some of the latest titles are:

When the Burden gets too heavy to bear/ But some doubted-	Rev Mike Jones
Laying up treasures/ Shelter in time of storm	Rev Mike Jones
Living in the light of the Resurrection (With Joint Choir) and	
Three Days that changed the world	Rev Mike Jones
The Family/ A Parent's Concern	Rev. Mike Jones

A person with one watch knows the time. A person with two watches is never sure. That may sound silly but there's a lot of truth in it. We're living in a day and age when everyone has an opinion but no one seems to know anything for sure. People are depressed, despondant, and in despair and grope around in the dark like blind men. Why can't they turn to that that never changes and is always true- THE WORD OF GOD. (It never ceases to amaze me that men will allow a doctor to examine them, recommend surgery, and place their lives in the doctor's hand and yet when the Pastor points out the deadly results of sin ren just shrug it off.)

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April 25, 1979 Number 11

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

(Continued)

James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

James could be called the "show me" Book. One of his most famous verses is verse 18 of chapter 2 "...show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works." This is referring, of course, to the fact that saving faith produces works in a man's life. Works alone will not save but a Faith which does not produce works is a faulty faith. This outward fruit of an inward Faith is what James is referring to in verse 26 and 27 of chapter 1. He says that true religion is shown by 3 basic things: 1) A Controlled tongue, 2) Care for others, and 3) Clean living.

I want us to look at the second one of these things today and apply it to a specific group of people. What is the Church's responsibility to Widows today? What is the Widow's responsibility to the Church? I want to first of all answer these two questions and then go to some practical suggestions for widows and for the Church on behalf of Widows.

The Lord has always had special provisions for the Widows. They are promised God's protection (Ex. 22:22), they are to be provided for from the tithes (Deut. 14:28-29), and they have God for a judge (Ps. 68:5). The gleanings of the field were to be left for them (Deut 24:19-21), a woe is pronounced on them that take advantage of them (Isa. 10:1-2), and they were the original reasons for Deacons (Acts 6:1-4).

The need of this provision can be readily understood when you remember that in those days it was almost impossible for a woman to get work
(Continued in next column)

outside the home. But then, as now, there were "Religious Racketeers" who tried to misuse or abuse God's Plan. So Paul instructed Timothy in 1 Tim. 5:1-16 on basic guidelines for Widow support: (1) If she has children or grandchildren (a better translation of nephews) then they are to support her (vs 4). To not do so is to deny the faith and makes us worse than an infidel (vs 8). (Read and ponder Matt 15:1-9 where Jesus says it is even wrong to devote your wealth to the Lord at the expense of neglecting your parents!) (2) If she is indeed a Widow she is A) without help, B) seeks help from God to bring Glory to Him, and C) does not seek help simply to enjoy things more (vs 5-6). (Indications are that such widows worked in and for the Church whenever possible helping teach the younger women and making clothes for others.) (3) Such Widows could not be enrolled until they were at least 60 years old, had been married but once, and had a good testimony (vs 9-10). (4) Younger Widows were to be refused because they could, would, and should remarry (11-15). (The tendency of younger Widows would be to Fellowship which would lead to them becoming Tattlers and busybodies- vs 13. Some good advice for Widows (and everyone else) is that we must breed loose tongues which do Satan's work.)

Now, where does that leave us today? Well, as you know, the Customs are different and the Conditions are different today. Widows are able in many cases to find jobs and Government support is sometimes available. But in spite of this, Christians and the Church have responsibilities to ensure that the Widows are not neglected and suffer in hardship. The Deacons of the Church need to realize afresh that
(Continued on back)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE continued

they need to visit the Widows of the Church on a regular basis and make the Church aware of their needs.

Widows are a very important part of the Church and they need to realize that even if they can only give "the Widow's mite" the Lord notices and Blesses because of it. They sometimes have Physical, Emotional, Financial, and Spiritual needs that the Church fails to meet but hopefully in the days ahead as we make a sincere effort to understand and help them they will come to realize how important they are to the Church and to God.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps 16:11

(I had planned to list some specific ways to help but as I wrote the article and thought about it I decided that it would be much better to simply show the situation and allow God's Holy Spirit to speak to people about what they can and should do. I would appreciate any comments you have (which will be kept confidential) about what could and should be done.)

*** **

Sunday, April 29, is BUILDING FUND SUNDAY. All monies received on this Sunday will go to our Building Fund. What's received this Sunday will go a long way toward telling how soon we can begin seeing lumber hauled in for the new Fellowship Building. Ask God to Bless you to be able to give what you should. Remember too the TIME CHANGE this Sunday. We begin Daylight Savings time so don't be late for Sunday School.

Beginning the first Sunday in June the Adults and Young Adults will begin a series of studies entitled FOCUS ON THE FAMILY. This will cover a number of subjects including; Authority in the Home, To spank or not, Spiritual Training of Children, The impact of TV, Fatigue and Time Pressure, Homosexuality, Abortion, Infidelity, Divorce, Aging, and A Death in the Family. It's hoped these Studies will strengthen our Sunday School as they strengthen our Families. We hope you'll make plans to be a part of Sunday School at Grace.

SPECIAL THANKS to Mr. T. O. B. for contributing 4 tapes to our Cassette Library. They are all by Dr. W. Robert Smith and are available to listen to by anyone requesting them.

- 1) Determining God's Will For Your Life
- 2) Witnessing By Word and Life
- 3) Deepening Our Life of Prayer
- 4) Speaking In Tongues

DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU HAVEN'T TRUST CHRIST AS SAVIOUR THEN YOU'RE GOING TO HELL?

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May 2, 1979 Number 12 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"
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PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

BEWARE OF TREES

I've always had this thing about trees. Maybe it's because I was raised in the country and always had them near or maybe it's because I know what it is to be at sea for a long time and then see and smell the beauty of a forest. But for some reason I've always like them- that is, until I began to study the Bible and realize that maybe we should put up big signs saying "BEWARE OF TREES".

It all begins way back in Genesis chapter 3 when Eve is deceived into eating the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, and partaking with her, sin is brought on the entire human race (Rom 5:12). Then Adam and Eve are cast from the Garden of Eden lest they take of the tree of Life and live forever in sin (Gen 3:22-24). It begins to make you wonder about trees, doesn't it??

But there's more. Take the case of the prophet of God in I Kings 13. He was told to deliver a message of judgement to King Jeroboam and then to return without eating or drinking at Bethel. He got along pretty good at first. He delivered the message fearlessly and refused the offer of refreshment from the King. But when he started back home he happened to see a nice shady oak tree (vs 14) and by stopping there he became disobedient to God (vs 21) and paid with his life (vs 24). (I wonder how many people have started well and then decided to rest under some "tree" before the job was done and God had had to cast them off?)

(Continued in next column)

(Continued)

There's another preacher that could give you some good advice on being aware of trees. He's none other than Elijah in I Kings 19. He wasn't disobedient like the first preacher but he knew what it was to despair under a juniper tree. He, too, had done his job and delivered the message God had told him to deliver but things didn't go like he planned afterwards and he ended up running and despairing of life. Some preachers rest under an oak proud of a job well done (The best time for defeat is immediately following victory!) while others panic and cower under junipers, but God is looking for people who'll daily take up the tree (cross) and follow him (Mk 10:21) in victory and "defeat".

Other men have found out about trees also. Absalom found out that long hair and trees don't mix (II Sam 18:19). I could have told him that! Have you ever noticed that you have very little trouble convincing cross-bearing disciples that long hair is a shame for men? Then there was Zacchaeus who went up a sycamore tree to be curious and came down to be a convert (Luke 19:1-10). And, finally, there was Jesus who was made a curse on a tree (Gal 3:13) and took the sins of man on his sin-free shoulders that we might have life thru him (Jn 3:16). These all learned one lesson- Beware of trees; they bring change, pain, or death. And in the life of a Christian they bring all three.

But there is another aspect of Christians and trees. When a man takes up the cross and is crucified with Christ he figuratively is made a tree (Ps. 1:1-3). His fruit is used to judge him either

(Continued on back)

true or false (Matt. 7:15-20) and fruitlessness is grounds for God's curse (Mk 11:12-14). He is to bear the fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-24) and by so doing he will be able to cure the bitter waters of life (Ex 15:23-25).

So with all our caution about trees we need to be aware that if used right they have a good purpose. They can either fall on you to crush you or be used to build a fence to escape the flood of God's wrath. The question then becomes, "Are you under the tree or on the tree???" Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me (Mk 8:34).

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

* * * * *

PRAISE THE LORD! We got a real boast to our Building Fund last Sunday. We only had 55 in Sunday School but our offering for the day was over \$1168.00 which pushed our total Building Fund to over \$4000.00. I think it's pretty good when a Church our size can do all the things we've done in the last 4 months and still adverage over \$1000.00 per month extra for the Building Fund. Why, if we could adverage 100 in Sunday School (LIKE WE OUGHT TO!) then there's no telling what we could do.

Added to the sacrificial giving of the Church members is the continued Blessing of gifts received from people who do not normally attend Grace. It has thrilled my heart to see how the people in the community have rallied around the Building with help, encouragement, and gifts of money. The latest gift was \$25 from Mrs. P.C. Brown. She quarreled at me for not going to see her but send her money anyway! That's loving in spite of faults.

This Sunday Evening you're in for a treat. The 16 member FLORENCE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL ENSEMBLE will be singing in our 6:00pm Service. They're directed by Miss Vickie Mathews and should bless your heart as they sing. Everyone is invited and especially all young people. we'll have a fellowship time following the Service. (Ladies are asked to bring "finger Food")

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is only a month away. It's planned this year for June 4-8 from 7:00pm until 9:00pm. Teachers are already studying, crafts are already being prepared, and enlistment will begin this Sunday. Let's make this the biggest and best VBS ever.

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As most of you know, I'm the Editor-in-chief, typist, printer, chief reporter, and mail clerk of Grace and Glory. I do the best I can with the manuel typewriter and worn out memograph machine I have but the best is far from good. One of these days, the Lord willing, I'll have an electric typewriter, a professional copier, and a secretary. (If you're going to dream, DREAM BIG!) Until then I ask that you bear with me and overlook the mistakes and non-printouts. Remember our motto: I WILL DO WHAT I CAN WHERE I AM WITH WHAT I HAVE.

The best looking part of the newsletter is the address label. Mrs. Susan Springs is in charge of this and renders invaluable aid.

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Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

*** ** May 16, 1979 ***
*** ** Number 13 ***
*** ** "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST" ***

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Psalm 126:5-6 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

It's Spring again! The Sun is shining, the birds are singing, and crops are being planted and cultivated. People are beginning to stir around, the fish are beginning to bite, and another group of young people are graduating from Schools and Colleges. It's a good time to be alive and to be a Child of God.

As I sat and thought about the planting of seed and graduates I began to see the tremendous importance of sound Bible Preaching and Fundamental Sunday School Teaching. It ever remains true that "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal 6:7). And the important truth to remember is that between the sowing and the reaping the seed multiplies - We sow the wind and reap the whirlwind (Hosea 8:7). What a responsibility a Seed-Sower has!

With these things in mind, we need to know how to be good Seed-Sowers. First of all, get the right seed - the sower soweth the word (Mk 4:14). People don't need a religion or a Church or a set of rules; they need Christ, the Living Word of God. He must be the center of what we Teach, What we Preach, and What we Live.

Second, don't leave the seed in the Barn and expect a harvest. "He that tilleth his land shall be satisfied with bread:" (Prov 12:11). We must Go if we're to Sow the seed. What a shame that multitudes perish from lack of spiritual food when we have a barn full of "seed" waiting for the planting.

Pastor's Message continued

The third thing a Seed-Sower needs is Patience. "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Gal 6:9). What a sad thing it is to see discouraged Seed-Sowers quit sowing because they don't see fruit the day they sow the seed. The thing we have to do is sow the seed and expect God to give the increase. It may not even come to fruit in your life time. Maybe Paul will plant and Apollos will water (I Cor 3:6) and someone else will reap the fruit but we're not after Self Glory, we're after fruit.

One final thought for the Seed-Sower.. YOU EITHER WEEP WHEN YOU SOW OR YOU WEEP WHEN YOU REAP. I'd rather work and weep now and rejoice in the harvest myself. And I do rejoice in the seed that have come to fruit here in the Church. Many of the Young People who have been raised in the Training and Teaching of the Church are now taking their place as responsible Christians. To me it's one of the great joys of being a Pastor.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

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My wife and I will be leaving sometime next week for Mississippi. Please Pray for a safe journey to the Glory of God. I'll be performing a wedding on Saturday and Preaching on Sunday and hope to return the following Monday. We're looking forward to seeing our Mississippi friends and sharing some of the Blessings with them that God has so abundantly bestowed on us.

(Continued in next column)

This Sunday is Foreign Missions FAITH PROMISE OFFERING time. This is our first opportunity to give our Faith Promise so let's get off to a good start. If you didn't sign up but would like to participate then please do. If you do not put your offering in the special Faith Promise envelope then be sure and mark on your check that it's for Missions. Remember that your Faith Promise Offering should not effect your normal offering. Praise God for the opportunity to share in getting the Gospel to the world by giving of that that God has given us.

Mark July 15 thru 19 on your calender. That's the date of the National Association of Free Will Baptist meeting in Charlotte, N.C.. This will be the first opportunity many of you will have had to attend a national meeting and I hope you'll take advantage of it. I hope a number of car loads will go to the Sunday Night service and some of the Ladies plan to attend the Ladies Aux. which meets at the same time. If this year is like the last several then you'll hear some Soul Stirring Preaching and be heartened by the accomplishments of Free Will Baptist in the past year.

LOOKING AHEAD:

June 4-8 Vacation Bible School 7-9pm each day. Have you signed up yet??
June 17, 24, July 1, 8 Morning Worship Service broadcast over WJOT
June 17 Father's Day
June 24 HOME COMING Special Services. Displays. Special Music by Richard Lee and Venroe McKenzie and a group from the Baptist College. Dinner on the grounds. And (Hopefully) the largest Sunday School this year. (The largest Sunday School ever on Home Coming was 84 in 1976. I'd sure like for us to better that mark.)
July 30 - Aug 4 Teen Camp
Aug. 6-11 Primaries and Juniors Camp

THANKS to Mr. T.O.D. Johnston for 4 more tapes for our tape Library by Dr. W. Robert Smith -

1. Christianity: Religion or Revelation and Redemption?
2. The Word of God "Inspired and Infallible"
3. The Word of God "Textual Integrity"
4. The Word of God "Trustworthy"

These, as all our tapes, are available on a free loan basis. Simply contact me at P.O. Box 1003 or call 394-3725.

* * * * *

Special Thanks to Mrs. Annie Mae Hudson for her gift to the Building Fund. We Praise God for the help and encouragement we're receiving.

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May 22, 1979 Number 14 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

When Peace, Like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like seabillows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my Soul.
(From "It is well with my Soul" by P.P. Bliss)

One of the most common problems I face as a Pastor is the problem of lack of assurance about Salvation. The primary purpose of Satan is to keep men from coming to Jesus Christ as Saviour and finding pardon and forgiveness of sin. If he fails here, he then resorts to a war of Propaganda to keep the Christian defeated so he won't enjoy the abundant Life found in Christ.

Think of it for a moment, what better way to keep a Christian from witnessing than to get him to doubt what he has. You may want to keep this little solgan tucked away in your mind- "Doubt Dooms you to Discouragement and Disappointment". And a despondent Disciple can never really be an effective witness for Christ. How important it is to know that you're saved.

The thing about Assurance of Salvation is that it rest on the same foundation as Salvation itself- Faith in Christ as revealed in the Word of God. "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life..." (I Jn 5:13). We are saved by Faith (Ep 2:8-9) and the Just shall live by Faith (Rom 1:17) and this is the Victory that overcomes the world, even our Faith (I Jn 5:4). What Victory and Blessing it is when I stop trusting in man or man's methods and place my confidence in the Word of God, who cannot lie (Tit 1:2).

That's the simplicity of it but Satan (and men) use numerous methods to divert us from God's way. One weapon Satan uses is Problems. I believe one of the primary purposes of the book of Job was to show us a "behind the scenes" view of problems so we would be aware that

Satan is using them to try to come between us and God. We need to remember that Satan is a liar and the Father of it (Jn 8:44) and he tries to get you to believe that God doesn't love you or that He doesn't love you as much as He does someone else. Satan will say, "If you were saved you wouldn't have this problem" or "You must not be saved as good as they are because they don't have as many problems as you do."

Have you ever watched a Mother fix a meal. Some things she'll shift, some things she'll grate, some things she'll cut, and some things she'll handle very carefully. But all of them go together for a meal for her family. God may deal with me differently from other people. That does not prove I'm saved, it simply means God has a different purpose for me.

God spoke to my heart on this subject a number of years ago from Mark 4:35-41. This is the story of the Storm on the Sea. After a day of preaching and Teaching, Jesus and the Disciples start across the sea. As they traveled a storm came up and "the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full" (vs 37). These men were fishermen and they did all they could do and still the boat was sinking and the storm raged. Then they saw that Jesus was asleep and they cried, "Don't you care that we're perishing?".

Jesus awakes, rebukes the wind, says to the sea, "Peace, Be still" and everything calms down. He then turns to the Disciples and says what at first seems surprising, "Why were you afraid? Don't you have Faith?". Do you see it? Jesus tells them that when they've done all they can do and the storm is still (Continued on back)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE Continued-

raging and the boat is still sinking that they can still Trust Him.

I settled it in my heart then to not trust circumstances but to trust Christ. Today I'm absolutely sure that I'm saved because I've trusted in Christ by Faith and continue to do so. So when Peace, like a river, attends my way, or sorrows like seabillows roll; God has taught me to say, "It is well with my soul."

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

If you'd like to know Christ as Saviour today then Repent of your sins and Receive Christ as Saviour and Lord. If I can help, please contact me.

*** **

While the Pastor is away in Mississippi this Sunday Rev. Seldon Buck will bring the Morning Message. I trust we'll have a good crowd and give him a good Grace Welcome.

The Ladies had their first Softball practise last Tuesday and it was great. There were over 35 present (Counting a few men "advisors") and it was a very "interesting" practise. It would surprise you to see what the Ladies can do if they put their minds to it.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is just around the corner. It will begin June 4 at 7:00pm. We're looking for a great School this year and hope you'll be a part of it.

The Young Adult and both Adult classes will meet together during June, July, and August to Focus on the Family. Satan is attempting to undermine and destroy the Family and we want to help people find God's plans and methods. Our topics:

1. Focus on the Family/ Authority: the Foundation of the Home
2. To Spank or Not to Spank
3. How to Save your Marriage
4. Questions Parents ask most frequently about Rearing Children
5. The Spiritual Training of Children/ The Impact of TV on Young Lives
6. Fatigue and Time Pressure/ The Single Parent
7. Homosexuality/ From Drugs to Deliverance
8. Guilt in the Christian Life/ Abortion: A Moral Dilemma
9. Overcoming a Painful Childhood/ The Importance of Family Tradition
10. One Woman's Story (The Story of Joyce Landorf)
11. The Lure of Infidelity/ The Real Meaning of Divorce
12. The Impact of Aging/ A Death in the Family
13. How to Keep the Lawyer Away from your Marriage

The Titles are just the beginning. We're going to talk about Practical, Biblical Methods of Family Life. I hope you'll be here for every lesson. It will begin every Sunday Morning at 10:00am.

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*** ** May 31, 1979 ***
*** ** Number 15 ***
*** ** "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST" ***

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Early in my Christian Life I promised God something that has probably had as much to do with my Christian Growth as any other thing. I promised God that if He would help me that I would try to read 5 chapters in the Bible every day. This daily time of meeting God in the Word has not only been a great Joy but also been the means of strengthening my Faith in God's promises and Love. My convictions about what is right and wrong have come mainly from what God said in the Book (That sounds simple but more and more as I grew in the Lord I found many people tend to build convictions on what is right in their own eyes instead of what God has written.). The Bible shows me the Path of Life and tells me of the Shepherd who will hold my hand even thru the valley of the shadow of Death. It has molded my Life and assured me of what awaits me at death. Thank God for the Word.

That's a long introduction but I get excited about the Word of God! What all this is bringing us to is the fact that I want to share some thoughts with you that God shared with me in my Daily Bible reading on this date last year. I was in the process of reading the Bible thru again and was in the Book of Psalms. I'll just share a few of the verses and thoughts with you.

Ps. 111:2 The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.
(You don't have to force God's things on God's people! You don't have to beg a dedicated Christian to come to Church, or study the Bible, or Pray. The works of the Lord are GREAT, worthy of being sought.)

(Continued in next column)

Ps. 112:7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.
(While going to the hospital several years ago to visit several people who were facing surgery I asked God to give me a verse to share with them. This is the verse He gave me and I've used it countless times since then. To me it's just another way of saying, "God Loves Me, come what may." What a joy it is to rest in that fact.)

Ps. 115:2-3 Where is now their God? Our God is in the Heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.
(Men may mock and defy God and His claim on their life now but one day the Lamb will become the Lion and every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord. This also cautioned me to remember that GOD IS GOD and He does whatsoever HE pleases. God is not to conform to my plans but I am to conform to His!)

Ps. 115:14 The Lord shall increase you more and more, you and your children.
(What a Promise! In Crow Corner English that translated to, "It'll get Gooder and Gooder!" The greatness of God is that there is always more of Him. It seems at times as if God has Blessed me with everything I could want and yet He keeps saying, "You haven't seen anything yet." What a Joy it is to be a Child of God!
Notice that He says that it's for me and my Children. As the Lord does things in my life I pass them along to the Church Family to help them grow in the Lord. What a Privilege - and what a responsibility!)

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

MONDAY JUNE 4 - Thru FRIDAY JUNE 8

It will begin each night at 7:00pm (Except for Friday when we will begin at 6:00pm.) We're looking for one of the Biggest and Best VBS ever. Invite everyone you know. There'll be stories and songs and crafts and learning about the Lord.

Graduation will be Friday, June 8 beginning at 8:00pm. ALL Parents are urged to be here Friday night at 8.

Graduation will be followed by a HOT DOG Supper. The Master's Men will be providing the Hot Dogs (And knowing them they'll be eating a lot of them!also!).

+++++

We WELCOME into our Church Mr. Jack Hanna. He was saved several weeks ago and joined this past Wednesday Night. We hope we'll be a Blessing to Him and he'll be a Blessing to us.

God has really Blessed in our Services in the past few months with people being saved and blessed and It's just great to see what He's doing. May we continue to Pray and work and allow God to use us to Glorify His Name.

The Building Fund continues to grow. The latest gift is from Mr. and Mrs. John S. Hanna of Florence. It just thrills me beyond words to see how people outside the Church pitched in to help us build.

It rained and turned cold but Paula and I had a good time on our trip to Miss. Thanks to everyone who carried on the work while I was gone. In fact you carried on so well until you had more in Sunday School than we've been having. (I wonder if that's trying to tell me something??)

It was good to see so many of our friends in Mississippi and it was encouraging to see the fine job Brother Bob Cooper is doing at the Church. Their Choir is still fantastic and really blessed my heart.

DON'T FORGET HOME COMING. Sunday June 24. We've got lots of extra chairs. Let's have to put them out.

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*** ** June 7, 1979 *** ** Number 16 *** ** "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST" *** **

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Energy Shortage, Inflation, Sickness, and just plain despair. Every time it seems that things will level out they seem to take a nose dive. What should be the Church's position in times like these? Do we have Real Answers for Real People with Real Problems? I'm convinced we not only have an answer - we have the ONLY answer.

This Sin Sick World is rolling and tossing like a drunken man toward it's ultimate doom. We've tried organizations, Programs, and Plans and iniquity continues to abound. It looks like men would finally learn and turn from self effort to the Saviour Jesus Christ but they continue to rush headlong over the edge into the Flames of Hell. What can and should we do during these final days?

The first thing we must do is remember that even if we are Pilgrims and Strangers in this wicked world we are still effected by the pains and troubles it undergoes. Christians, too, face price increases, sickness, taxes, and all the other problems that mount up until life seems almost unbearable. But this in itself gives us some of our greatest opportunities to witness. In the midst of confusion and chaos we have stability because we are founded upon the Rock and this very stability is what drowning men seek. The World may listen with half closed ears to what you say but they never can completely ignore what you are. Religion and Philosophy hold up ideals that burden men down even more trying to live up to them. Christ gives men a new Birth by Grace thru Faith making them new creatures indwelt by the Holy Spirit to give them Peace and

Another thing that's desperately needed is a clear sounding voice in the midst of confusion. The nation (Or the Church) cannot survive if every man does that that is right in his own eyes. God left us His Word in the Bible and that is our final rule of authority. Satan is attempting to destroy the Bible because he knows that if he can cause men to doubt the Bible then he's got them. If you believe the Bible is the WORD OF GOD then you'd better start reading and heeding what it says.

I'm a Christian because Christ is the only way to receive forgiveness of sins. I'm a Pastor because God called me to this office. I'm committed because God said that if He told me to warn men and I didn't then they would die in their sins but their blood would be required at my hands (Ez 3:18). May God help us to realize the nearness of the end and to be Bright shining lights as the days grow darker.

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. BUT PUT YE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND MAKE NOT PROVISION FOR THE FLESH, TO FULFIL THE LUSTS THEREOF." (Romans 13:11-14)

PASTOR Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL has been good so far. We've had good attendance and the Teachers have taught some good lessons. All the classes are doing Decoupage Plaques for their craft and everyone seems to enjoy it. (There's something a little "fishy" about some of the plaques but that's another story.)

Graduation is scheduled for Friday night at 7:30pm (Note the change). The School will begin at 6:00pm and the parents should be here by 7:30pm. We've moved the time up a half hour so it won't be so dark when we have our Hot Dog supper. (Although as many Hot Dogs as some people eat they may want it to be dark when they eat!)

A SPECIAL THANKS to all the Teachers and Helpers for the work they put in this week. We've had good cooperation and everything has gone along as good as could be expected. It seems that every time there was a need someone would jump in and do what needed to be done. Thanks.

We will have a BAPTISMAL SERVICE this coming Sunday Night (June 10) at Lynches River Free Will Baptist Church beginning at 7:00pm. Lynches River Church has agreed to share this Blessing with us so we ought to have a Church full. Mr. Jack Hanna and Mrs. Mildred Lowder are to be Baptised. We appreciate what God has done in these lives and rejoice in the Blessings they've already been to the Church.

If you think I'm excited then you're right! A couple of more days like the last two and the Lord may have to Rapture me on out cause I won't be able to stand it! Tuesday Night Jones Construction Company (That's those rich Jones I can't keep up with!) gave me \$400 to buy an electric typewriter I've been praying for for 6 months. I'm in the process of looking for one now.

Then Wednesday afternoon Coker Oil Company gave the Church a wet copier that I'd been praying for for nearly 3 years. (My Prayer list shows that I started praying for it Aug. 30, 1976.) And it's so new until it's still under warranty.

THANKS so much to these for helping me try to get the Gospel to as many people as possible by lightening my load.

(By the way, I got something on Tuesday, something on Wednesday, and I can hardly wait to see what happens today! I'm glad God still hears and answers Prayer.)

Remember that we begin broadcasting our Morning Worship Service over WJOT next Sunday (June 17). We'll be on 4 Sundays in a row and we couldn't have picked a better time. Lots of people will be on vacation and, hopefully, we can get the Gospel to them as they travel. Be much in Prayer for this outreach time.

HOME COMING is Sunday June 24. Make sure you invite all our friends and former members and anyone else you can think of. There'll be special music, special presentation, and dinner on the grounds (Hopefully for the last time. Next year we hope to have a new Fellowship Building. The plans are due today.)

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Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

GLORY

*** **

June 14, 1979

Number 17

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE: "Counting The Cost"

"For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish."
(Luke 14:28-30)

"When will we atart building, Preacher?". That's been the most often asked question I've heard in the past 3 months. Everyone seems to want the new building started and just can't wait until it's done. And we do desperately need the room and the facilities. But...

Jesus said that if a person was going to build he'd better sit down first and count the cost. The reason was simple- if you don't count the cost you might start and not be able to finish and be worst off than if you'd never started. (See II Pet. 2:20-22 for the spiritual application of this.). So I want us to count the cost and see if we mean business or not.

The first thing that comes to mind when you count the cost is money. Frankly, I think that this will be the least of our worries. Now don't get me wrong! We're planning to build a 36 X 60 ft. addition (2160 sq. ft.- some small houses aren't much bigger than that) and when the final cost is in and we see how much it cost us it will probably staggar our imaginations. But I look at what we've done in the past 8 months and I believe God is well able to meet our financial needs. (In the past 8 months we've built our General Fund from nearly nothing to a blance of around \$1000, bought song books and storm windows for the Parsonage, put shelves in the Library and book racks in the Choir, painted the inside of the Parsonage and Church, increased our outside giving plus begun giving to Foreign Missions, plus a number of other things and at the same time built our building fund to over \$4600.)

Hopefully, we will only have to borrow around \$15,000 in the beginning to get the building dried in and then we can do much of the work ourselves and take things a project at a time. But be aware of the fact that this means we'll be receiving special offerings regularly for the inside work - while we continue to deal with inflation in our personal budgets. I know that sounds rough but I want us to enter this thing with our eyes open.

Let me just add that I'm praying for God to meet our financial needs and God has never failed me yet. In my first Pastorage we started with almost nothing in the Building Fund and in around 4 years the Church had a new Church and it paid for. The first time at Grace we were able to build a sign, put in walks, carpet, and pews, and pay off the remaining debt on the Church and the Parsonage. And in Mississippi we did a number of things while paying off a \$15,000 debt in 15 months. I don't know where the money will come from but I'm expecting God to supply it according to His Riches in Glory.

That's the cost in money but there's another cost and that's in men. Once the work begins we're facing a lot of work nights if we're going to do a lot of the work ourselves. There are several things to be aware of in this -

(PASTOR'S MESSAGE Continued)

1) Already tired men will be asked to work some more (and some more and some more!)
2) Families will be somewhat neglected, and 3) if we aren't careful, we'll get so busy building until we'll forget about Soul Winning, Prayer, and Devotions. Here again I'm looking at the bleak side of this so we'll be prepared and the Building will be a Blessing instead of a Burden. The Answer to this is fairly simple as well. We've got good men and understanding Families and should be able to keep our perspective.

There's a finally cost to building that I feel I must include and that's the "when the building is completed Depression." If we aren't careful the building will become the goal and when it's completed and there are still bills to pay before a new project can be started we'll lose our vision of where we're going and things will go down. That's why I had the Blueprints to include a picture of the new Sanctuary. The Fellowship Building is simply another step in our plans to be effective witnesses for the Lord Jesus. If you've got 4 or 5 hours come by the office and I'll share with you some of what the future holds.

Well, we've counted the cost. It's not going to be easy (Would it mean anything if it was??) but by God's Grace and help we'll be able to finish that that we started.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

P.S. As most of you know by now, the blueprints are in and the Building Committee is in the process of getting bids on beginning the work. We're going to need a lot of money in a little while so to "kick things off" we're going to give all the Offering received Home Coming (June 24) to the Building Fund. I'm praying for an exceptional offering to really get things started off right. My wife and I have decided to give a week's salary to the Offering and trust God to care for us that week. Pray and then give as God directs.

+++++

HOME COMING IS NEARER THAN YOU THINK!! It's next Sunday (June 24). We're looking for the biggest day this year in our Sunday School, a big offering for the Building Fund, Good music from a number of groups, and a good dinner on the grounds (Hopefully our last one on the grounds.). (You ladies please note that the Church will provide Fried Chicken and slaw.)

The Morning Worship Service will be broadcast over WJOT for the next 4 Sundays. If you know of someone sick or shut-in then tell them to tune in and worship with us.

Some people are really enjoying the tapes on the Family we're using in Sunday School and some aren't. So we'll have a Bible class for those who want one this Sunday Morning while the others listen to the tapes.

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GLORY

*** ** June 21, 1979 *** Number 18 *** "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"
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HOME

COMING

SUNDAY JUNE 24 IS ONE OF THE BIG DAYS OF THIS YEAR AT GRACE. IT'S THE 19th ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH. AND IN ORDER TO CELEBRATE WE'VE DESIGNATED THIS SUNDAY AS HOME COMING. WE'RE HOPING FOR THE BIGGEST CROWD THIS YEAR AS FRIENDS AND FORMER MEMBERS JOIN US IN CELEBRATION OF GOD'S BLESSINGS UPON US.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE EVENTS OF THE DAY:

SUNDAYSCHOOL - Be 1 Of 85 in our largest Sunday School this year. It begins at 10 so don't be late. The Adults will choose between a tape on "The Spiritual Training of Children" and a Study on Bible Revival from Nehemiah 8:-, 9:-, and 10:-.

MORNING WORSHIP - Broadcast live over WJOT. It will include special music, the sharing of past Blessings, and the Home Coming message by the Pastor. Past, Present, and Future boards will be on display and Dinner will be served following the Service.

SINGING - Time to praise the Lord in Song. Special Singers will include Richard and Venroe, Carey McElveen, Betsy Thompson, and the Tabernacle Singers. (We'll begin the singing right after dinner - around 1:45pm.)

OFFERING - The day's offering will go to the Building Fund. Let's break all records as we prepare to build!!

THIS SUNDAY

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

"He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ."

"The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me."

"Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." (John 1:41, 43, 45)

A lost person needs to be found!! Jesus said He was the Door, the Way, and the Light. He wanted the lost to be found. He told parables about Lost Sheep, and Lost Coins, and Lost Boys (Luke 15). And His primary mission on earth was "to seek and to save that which was lost". (Luke 19:10). How about YOU?? Are you leading people to safety or into the ditch??

If my wife was lost in the wilderness, I'd want all the help I could get to find her. If I had children lost in the swamps, I'd seek someone to help me find them before it was too late. Why then do Moms and Dads and Husbands and Wives find every excuse possible to stay away from the House of God where we're trying to help them and their families find Life???

If you're lost I can show you the way. ASK ME.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

+++++

We WELCOME into the Fellowship of the Church Mr. Sammy Floyd. Sammy joined Wednesday Night and will be Baptised in the near future. He has already been a Blessing to the Church and we're glad to have him. (That gives us 2 waiting to be Baptised - Well, it actually gives us 3 but yall don't know that yet.)

Our Wednesday Night classes have really enjoyed a boom. We started with 2 and now we're up to 4 - Adult, Teens, Intermediate, and Primary. I think the young people are really learning a lot and I especially thank their teachers for their time and dedication to this work. The Adults are concluding Genesis and will go into Prayer and Prophecy (a double program) in the near future. Wednesday nights you ought to be at Grace!

Everyone has done a super job preparing the Church and the grounds for Home Coming. The Committee has done an outstanding job and everyone else helped whenever needed. You can tell a lot about a Church by the way it's members care for it.

If a certain young lady in the Church has a "swelled head" it's because she caught a long fly ball during practise the other day. See, Miracles still happen!!!

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June 28, 1979 Number 19 "TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"
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What a Day Home Coming was! We surpassed our goal of 85 in Sunday School (We had 90), We had a great offering for the Building Fund (\$1174), We received a new Church member (Darin Matthews), and heard some great singing. We had the Church full for every service and one of the biggest Dinner crowds ever. And the precious moving of the Holy Spirit was evident in every service. I think it was one of the best Home Coming Days ever.

Thank the Lord for the Ladies who cooked and supplied enough food to feed an "Army". Thank the Lord for the men who helped set up charis and tables and brought ice and bread and did so many other things. And Praise the Lord for the Families - So many people had family members present and it's always a Blessing for families to worship together. And, of course, there was the Singing. Everyone that sang did a great job and helped make the day a real Blessing. I can hardly wait until we get the Fellowship Building dried in so we can have another day like this. (About the only Problem I can think of is that in all the excitement everyone forgot to take any pictures. So we want everyone to come back this Sunday!)

Sunday School - Don't get slack now! Let's not even bother with a "Summer Slump" this year. Let's just keep right on growing for the Lord.

Morning Worship Service - Broadcast live over WJOT. A 1000 years from now you won't care about Economic Summits or Truckers Strikes but you will care about the Word of God. Be where it's proclaimed this Sunday.

Baptismal Service - At Lynches River Free Will Baptist Church at 4:00pm. Those to be Baptised include Jack Hanna, Sammy Floyd, and Darin Matthews. (I pray we have more by Sunday!) This will be our regular Evening Worship Service.

$$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{5}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{7}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{10}, \frac{1}{11}, \frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{13}, \frac{1}{14}, \frac{1}{15}, \frac{1}{16}, \frac{1}{17}, \frac{1}{18}, \frac{1}{19}, \frac{1}{20}, \frac{1}{21}$$

Regular Quarterly Church Conference will be held Wednesday July 11 instead of July 4. This will give the Building Committee more time to decide on Bids to present to the Church. Pray for the Committee as they make these difficult decisions.

...to be held as part of the Sunday Night July 8 Service.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

In our Sunday Morning Bible Class we have been talking about "Bible Revival". I selected this subject because it is one of the most pressing need of our day. Almost all Churches have one or more "Revivals" each year and the sad truth is that in many cases so little is done during the "Revival" until the Church would almost be better off not having one. The fact is that I personally have been told by a number of Pastors that they have never seen a "Bible Revival" in all their years of Pastoring. What a heart breaking fact!

What do I mean by "Bible Revival"? I mean a Revival that comes from God that changes people, Churches, and communities. The Scripture I used to show an example of such a Revival is Nehemiah 8:-, 9:-, and 10:-. A careful reading of these chapters will show 4 requirements for such a Revival:

1. THE PEOPLE HUNGER FOR THE WORD OF GOD. (That's why it's called a BIBLE Revival.) No matter how good a speaker, or how well organized you are if the people aren't interested you're "beating your head against a wall". (Just a note- I consider it one of my responsibilities as a Pastor to get People to hunger for the Word.) This hunger MUST come first. The main problem with the Laodicean Church is it's self sufficiency instead of a hungering for the Word of God. We look at Buildings and Budgets and starve for Blessings.
 2. The second requirement is that the people return to God's Plan. (God had told Israel to dwell in Booths during the 7th month Feast and they hadn't been doing it). It may seem "fanatical" to have days of Fasting and Prayer and it may make more "sense" to organize instead of agonize but it's time we remember that God is the Master and we're the Servants. How much "good" do we do (no matter how good it may seem!) if we do it our way instead of God's.
 3. The third thing is a Confession of Sin. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (I Jn 1:9). The Cleansing fire of confession needs to begin in the Pulpit and sweep thru the pews. When men get right with each other and with God the World must take notice!
 4. The final thing is a Rededication of doing right. For the Israelites it meant:
 - A) Separating from Sin (We're supposed to be a Holy People.)
 - B) Streightening out their homes (Notice that Paul's example of a Spirit filled person proper family relationship. Ep 5:18- 6:4) is that of a
 - C) Honouring the Sabbath (If you don't have anything else to repent of read Is. 58:-)
 - D) Freely giving to the Work of God. (A Church that's had real Revival doesn't have to depend on selling "Pies and Pepsis".)
- May God grant us such a Revival. Nothing less will do.

Pastor Mike Jones Ps. 16:11

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Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1
July 12, 1979	Number 20		"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"	
Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1	Each 1 Win 1

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Rev. 3:1 "And unto the Angel of the Church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead."

A name to live yet you're dead! Reminds me of a Disneyland show in which a robot delivers a speech by Lincoln. Did you know there are people like that! People whom we call the "Living Dead". They appear to be alive but God has said they're "Dead in trespasses and sins" (Ep 2:1). They walk, talk, eat, and do all the things a person normally does - but they're missing the main ingredient - LIFE.

Perhaps it would help if we looked at Death a little closer. When does a person "Die"? Technically a person is said to "Die" when the breath leaves him. This is when the Spirit leaves the body. (Interesting tonote that "Breathe" and "Spirit" come from the same Greek word). In the Spiritual realm the same thing is true. If the Soul is apart from God (Who is Spirit.) then that Soul is dead. And this "apartness" is caused by Sin.

Many people have a very false impression of Sin. They think Sin is standards set by Mankind. But Jesus had His greatest condemnation for people who were the best at keeping these standards - the Pharisees.. Sin is in fact a falling short of God's Standards; and this can be committed either by doing something God has said not to do or else by not doing what God has said to do.

God is Holy and He cannot have communion and fellowship with those who have broken His laws. This is the awfulness of Death; Separation from God. The place of this separation is Hell or the
(Continued in next column.)

Lake of Fire and when most people talk of Sin's results this is what they talk about but the awfulness of Death is not this (And it is awful beyond Human knowledge) but it's the fact that you're eternally separated from God.

Are you that way? Are you apart from God and even though you go thru the motions of living you're dead and face only a greater awareness of that death when your body ceases to function. Perhaps, like Jarius' Daughter (Lu 8:49-56), you have just begun to realize you are dead. Or by chance you may be like the widow of Nain's Son (Lu 7:11-15) who has been dead so long til you're beginning to be set in a pattern and your family and friends already weep for you.

There is another Dead Man that may fit some of you. Lazerius, who had been in the tomb 4 days, and even his sister said "by this time he stinketh" (Jn 11). Perhaps you've been dead so long you're rotten! And people hate to be around you. Oh! Yes! there's one other example of dead men. People who have gotten beyond the stinking stage. These are Pharisees who keep the letter of the Law but know nothing of the Love of God. Jesus called them graves full of Dead men's bones (Matt 23:27-28). Sure, they don't stink but who wants to hang around dry rattling bones??

Do you see yourself among any of these? Then let me close by giving you the "Good News". Jesus said "I am come that they might have Life..". The "Good News" is that, just as Christ gave Life to each of these we've mentioned, so He can give Life to you. In His death Christ has provided a way that you can come to God (By Grace thru Faith) and receive Eternal Abundant Life.

The choice is yours. Do you want to remain one of the "Living Dead" or do you want Abundant Life? Won't you bow
(Don't stand on back)

(PASTOR'S MESSAGE continued)

where you're at and right now ask God to forgive you and give you newness of Life thru Jesus Christ. Judgement is coming. It may be soon. Will you face it alive in Christ or Dead in Sin?? If I can help you then PLEASE contact me.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

* * * * *

The Lord really Blessed during the 4 Sundays we broadcast our Morning Worship Service over WJOT. We had several Rededications, we received several new members, and in a time when you normally expect a slump in attendance our Sunday School adverage increased to 70. (Compared to 37 during the same period last year. That's almost double! Praise the Lord!)

The tapes of the 4 messages that were broadcast plus the tape of the Home Coming Sing are available. If you'd like a copy of them then let me know. They're available without cost or obligation. Thru some member contributions (THANK YOU!) I was able to purchase 25 blank tapes to use in this ministry. I believe God will supply more when there is a need. (The Tape Ministry can be a tremendous Outreach work. Thru Tapes we can BRING the Gospel to people who can't or won't COME to the Church. I need a few things to begin it that I'm praying about but you can become involved simply by obtaining a cassette player (They're generally under \$50) and borrowing tapes to get others to listen to. A good project would be to give a player to a shut in so that they could listen to preaching and singing as you carried them tapes. If you have a burden for this kind of work then contact me and I'll help you get started.)

We WELCOME into the Fellowship of the Church Mrs. DeVonne Hanna. She joined last Sunday and we appreciate her. (Wouldn't it be great if we had someone to join our Church every week?!)

Remember that this Sunday is Faith Promise for Foreign Missions time. Give Faithfully to get the Gospel to all the World.

The Church has accepted a bid on construction of the Fellowship Building and things should be moving along quickly now. We face a period of much expense and much hard work but with the Lord's Presence it will be a Blessing instead of a Burden.

We also elected a Sunday School Nominating Committee (Ralph McAllister, Sammy Floyd, Joyce Cowan) and they will be contacting many of you in the near future about one of the greatest joys of life- Teaching people the Word of God. Pray for them and Pray over any decision they ask you to make.

THINK 100!

THINK 100!

Think 100!

THINK 100!

THINK 100!

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August 1, 1979

Number 21

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Pastor's Message: BUILDING A GREAT CHURCH

"By Faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." (Heb. 11:7)

This week I'm going to begin a series of articles on "Building a Great Church". We are in the process right now of "Double-Barrel" growth at Grace and I thought it would be good to put down the "Blue print" of growth so we'd know where we were going and how to get there. One "barrel" of growth is Physical growth and we're accomplishing that by building the new Fellowship/Educational Building. (It's coming along real well, by the way. The Lord seems to be meeting every need as it occurs and it's exciting to see the work progress.)

The other "barrel" of Growth is Spiritual. We're "headed for a hundred" in our Sunday School and look for the day when someone being saved is the rule and not the exception. And we're trying to have Sermons, Study Courses, and Church Activities scheduled so as to promote Christian Growth and Discipleship.

That's a basic idea of what we're after and the very fact that we have a goal is the first order of business in building a great Church. Noah had FAITH to believe God and this Faith put him to work. He believed there was a Purpose to his work (To save all that would come into the Ark) and he followed God's Plan. (He didn't build a row boat just for his own little crowd. If he had and it could have somehow survived the rains and flood what would he have eaten when the flood abated? I may not always understand God's Plan but I'd sure better follow it!)

So the first requirement is Faith. "Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1). A Great Church is not built by People who do what they see but by People who see the invisible. (Heb 11:27). People who believe they're doing the work of God, the way God says, with the wealth of God at their disposal. People who refuse to be satisfied with the possible and who take the impossible as a matter of course.

So the Foundation Stone is Faith. We're saved by Faith and we walk by Faith. We have seen the Promises afar off and being persuaded of them, we've embraced them (Heb 11:13) and all that we do is based on the fact that Christ has come and that He's coming again.

It would be much too lengthy for an article like this to go into much detail but you can readily see that Faith will determine how much (Or how little) we pray, how much or how little we sacrifice, and how much or how little we attempt to Grow.

I believe God has a Purpose for this Church, a Plan of action for it, and the necessary Power and Provision to get the Job done. That's why God has Blessed us with Growth and will continue to do so as long as we "keep the Faith".

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11 (Next issue- "The Moving Force of Fear.")

Do People read Grace and Glory?? Last week we received an offering for the Building Fund. The only place it was mentioned was in "Grace And Glory". We received over \$750.00 on what is traditionally one of the lowest attendance Sundays of the year because all the A.B. Dick people are on Vacation.

This coming Sunday Night we're going to attempt to involve EVERYONE in the Ministry of the Church. Normally we begin Sunday Night Services at 6:00pm. This Sunday Night at 6:00pm we'll have Choir Practise for the Youth. We've been neglecting this work and we've got too much talent to let it go to waste. While the Youth are practising the Adults will have the opportunity to join in PRAYING for the various works fo the Church. Prayer Leaders will supply you with specific Prayer lists and requests and then lead in Prayer. Because of Prayer times like this we're expecting God to continue to Bless the Church. We're also expecting to see people saved thru the ministry of "Grace and Glory", the cassette ministry, and the other outreach ministries of the Church. When People Pray and touch the hand of God then things begin to happen! The regular Evening Worship Service will begin at around 6:15pm.

By the time you receive this the floor of the Fellowship Building should be being poured. We were finally able to get enough dirt in the foundation but sometimes I had my doubts! We had to call back 3 times this week asking for more dirt and still haven't got any extra. I call it "disappearing dirt". Special Thanks to Mr. Richard Weaver for using his equipment to level the dirt. He saved much time and effort. (It has been marvelous to me to see how the Lord has met the needs this week as they have occured. Praise the Lord!)

The Ladies Aux Emphasis Program on Wednesday night was REAL GOOD. All the Ladies did a good job and I'm thankful for the work of the Ladies Aux. After the program we had a "Salad Supper" and either everyone enjoyed themselves or a lot of "polite" people licked their platters clean to keep from throwing anything away! (They also had a GOOD birthday cake for the Preacher- so good until he had to almost fight to get a piece! They also received an offering of \$45 for the preacher's birthday which is a "little" less than \$2 for each year old he is. Thank You! I beleive that's those shoes I've been praying for.)

You probably won't receive a newsletter next week because I'll be in Youth Camp. Please pray for wisdom and strength for me as I'm in charge of teaching. Youth Camp is a tremendous ministry and I'm glad to be a part of it.

A little word of warning to all members. Get your going done in August because we're planning to have Revival in September and pull out all the stops toward breaking that 100 barrier regularly in October. You ought to already be PRAYING for those you expect to see saved during this time. The Lord's coming back! Let's get them into the ark while there's time.

Available on free loan thru our cassette library:

1. His Soon Coming/ Heavenly Homecoming
2. Homecoming sing
3. Revealing Jesus/ Vision of a Glorified Lord

Want to find out how good of a mate you have?? Come to Sunday School this Sunday and learn about THE PERFECT MATE.

8-2-79
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CHURCH

A Ministry of:

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.

Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

August 15, 1979

Number 22

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Pastor's Message: BUILDING A GREAT CHURCH (Part II)

"By Faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." (Heb 11:7)

"The Moving Force of Fear"

Last week I talked about the Foundation of a Great Church being Faith. (Actually, the Foundation is Christ (I Cor 3:11) but He's who our Faith is in.) Upon this Foundation of Faith there must be something built and the moving force to get that done is Fear. Now the Fear that I'm talking about is not an inward terror of heart that immobilizes us for, after all, our Faith is in Christ whom we know loves us and "There is no fear in Love; but perfect love casteth out fear;" (I Jn 4:18).

The Fear that moves a Great Church is the fear based on the fact that we have the only means of escaping the wrath to come - abiding in Christ (II Thess 1:7-9). Paul said that "Knowing the terror of the Lord, we persuade men;" (II Cor 5:11). Many Preachers have said that if it were possible to allow every Church member to spend 5 minutes in Hell then the Church would experience the greatest Revival ever. Great Churches are not built by people who simply want to see a better world but by people who fear the fact that EVERY man, woman, boy, and girl apart from Christ will spend eternity in the fire without help or hope.

This type of Fear is what moves men to be saved also. Almost every lost person you meet will admit that they need to be in Church and do better but they must realize that the wages of sin is death before they'll accept the Gift of God which is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord (Rom 6:23). Simply said, it means you must get a man lost before you can get him saved. Because of this, Great Churches must preach and teach on sin (and make it very sinful) as well as proclaim the Love of God.

This motivating force of Fear is why I push and promote all the time. Right now we could sit back, relax, and enjoy what we have - good people, good offerings, and a good spirit. But I remember a "back woods nobody" named Mike Jones who was going to hell until someone moved with fear cared enough about his soul to invite and plead with him until he left the Terror of the Lord for the Love of God in Christ Jesus.

May God grant that our Fear of the Fate of men apart from Faith in Christ will cause us to build a Great Church to the Glory of God.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

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The Fellowship Building is really coming along now. The walls are up and the roof is to be put on soon. It won't be long until the men should be able to begin working on the inside. And we've already begun planning to use it for a banquet! I'm excited because when we move the tables and stove into the Fellowship Building it will give us much more room for people in Sunday School. And, after all, WE'RE HEADED FOR a 100!!!

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Congradulations to the new Ladies Aux. officers for 1979-80:

President	Paula Jones
Vice President	Dot Sullivan
Sec./ Treasurer	Jenene Brown
Program Chairman	Marion Benard
Assistant	Mildred Lowder
Mission Prayer	Marjorie McAllister Ruth Weaver
Mission Study	Althea Coker Lottie Hanna
Mission Action	Beatrice Beasley Kathy Purvis
Cards and Flowers	Billie Ard Kaye Floyd

BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE will hold Registration for the First Semester Tuesday August 28. Courses will be offered in Techniques and Methods of Teaching, Homiletics, Old Testament Survey I, Introduction to Music, Epistles of John, Biblical Ethics, and The Christian Wife. These courses are intended to be very practical while being very Spiritual. If you'd like some Bible training then make plans to attend. Several from this area are planning to go so we should be able to car pool. If you need Registration blanks or a catalog then let me know.

Our Sunday Night Prayer and Practise Time has proved a real Blessing. The Youth Choir is doing a fine job and may soon put the Adult Choir to shame! The Prayer Time has been a real time of communion with the Lord and has helped make the Evening Services some of the best yet. If you miss Sunday Night at Grace you miss a Blessing! It begins at 6:00pm.

Our Sunday School Study on the Family this Summer has been most interesting. I think the Class has learned some and the Teacher has learned more. We'll probably finish studying on the IDEAL WIFE this Sunday. I know none of you Husbands will want to miss that!

Did you know that you are responsible to GOD for what's done with your life?? Will He say "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." or will He say "Depart from me you worker of iniquity, I never knew you!"?????

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COLONY

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

"By Faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." (Heb 11:7)

A Great Church is founded on Faith in Christ, and moved by the fear of the fate of lost men which causes it to build a Facility to weather the storm. In Noah's case it was the ark and his preparation can be a real lesson to us.

The first thing you think of is, of course, the Physical Church Building. Great Churches must think of their facilities and constantly be looking ahead so they'll be able to handle the people they reach for the Lord. (After all Noah had a lot more than his family to worry about.) Right now I'd like to have a thousand (or 2) in every service but we'd have a lot of trouble figuring out where 850 of them were going to sit!! Already we're figuring how to make the best use of the new Fellowship Building with overcrowded Sunday School rooms and, in my mind, I've already torn out the back wall of the Sanctuary to double our seating and provide a Baptistry. (I've even got a student Draftsman working on a set of plans for a new Sanctuary to put on my wall to Pray for!)

The two main things Noah needed in his preparation were Patience and a Plan. It took a long time for him to build the ark - but it was able to stand the storm! And he built it according to the Plans God gave him (Gen 6:22). Men may think they can build bigger or better than God but they soon learn that God always has the right size and the right design.

A Great Church, however, is not just bigger and better buildings. The Building God is after is one in which His people "are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." (Ep 2:22) A great Church is one that seeks to build PEOPLE and the buildings are simply a place to put the people. By the way, this takes Patience and a Plan also. New Christians must be taught that they're a part of the body of Christ and then they must learn to function according to their part in the body (I Cor 12:27-30). But when the Body is working together as it should things really get done for God!

So a Great Church is one that Prepares People to know the Lord and to Show the Lord. And at Grace, the People make it special!

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

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I don't have to close the curtains on my office windows anymore! The roof is on the Fellowship Building and I can walk and pray in the shade now. Thank the Lord, for the work that's already been done. (If it doesn't soon get done I'll be worn out!. Between doing my regular work, preparing for Revival and the Bible Institute, "Supervising" the work on the Building, and talking to all thy people who come by the Building I'm about run down. But the Lord has given me an opportunity to witness to several who came by and that makes it all worthwhile.)

IF YOU MISS SUNDAY SCHOOL AT GRACE YOU MISS A BLESSING. Plan to attend this

NOMINATIONS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS FOR 1979-80

Supt.	Ralph McAllister	Sec.	Jenene Brown
Beginners (0-5)	Miriam McAllister, Beth Broach, Susan Springs		
Primary (6-8)	Paula Jones	Assist.	Mildred Lowder
Junior (9-11)	Kaye Floyd	Assist.	Beatrice Beasley
Teen (12-14)	Danny Broach	Assist.	Pam Weaver
Young Adult (15-25)	Marion Coker	Assist.	Joyce Cowan
Ladies	Ruth Weaver	Assist.	Dot Sullivan, Ann Barr
Men	Rev. Mike Jones	Assist.	Richard Weaver

Submitted by: Ralph McAllister, Sammy Floyd, Joyce Cowan

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SNEAKING A LOOK AT SEPTEMBER:

2 Installation of new Sunday School Officers and Teachers
3-7 Pastor has Morning Devotions over WJOT
4 Bethel Bible Institute begins it's first semester at Florence
5 Church Conference
9 Grandparents Day Communion/Feet-washing
10 Ladies Aux
11 Bethel Bible Institute
12 Cottage Prayer Meetings???
16 Faith Promise for Foreign Missions due BEGIN REVIVAL with Rev. Jimmy Aldridge
16-21 REVIVAL 7:00 each week night (Many people brought to the Lord.)
25 Bethel bible Institute
26 Begin grounding the new converts in the things of God
28-30 Pastor in Revival at Columbia Free Will Baptist Church
30 BUILDING FUND SUNDAY (A \$5000 offering wouldn't hurt!! Except the Preacher who'd probably hollar himself hoarse.)
October 100 in Sunday School. (If we're going to have 100 in Oct. we'd better have 75 in September!)

Thanks to Joyce Cowan for supplying us with a number of copies of "Prayer Power Unlimited" to use in our Prayer Study on Wednesday Night. (We think Prayer is important. Some of the men meet for Prayer before Services on Sunday Morning, We have 3 prayer groups that meet while the Youth Choir Practises on Sunday Night and we study about Prayer before we Pray on Wednesday.)

Thanks also to Mr. and Mrs. John S. Hanna and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Weaver for their recent gifts to the Building Fund.

8-22-79

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CELEBRITY

A Ministry of:
GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

August 29, 1979

Number 24

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Pastor's Message: BUILDING A GREAT CHURCH (Part IV)

"By Faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." (Heb 11:7)

The Family

The Family is under seige in America today. Divorce, Adultery, and Immortality are like a rampaging disease in homes all over the country. There is hardly a young person who hasn't tried drugs or is acquainted with someone who has. And the Disrespect for governmental authority of the 60's has bloomed into anarchy in the homes today as parents orders are simple disregarded in many cases and the almost constant cry is, "I can't do a thing with them!"

What can be done to help the Family during this crisis? "Noah...prepared an ark to the saving of his house;". Now, let me tell you right off what this doesn't mean. This doesn't mean that Noah "sent his children to Sunday School" or "took them to Church til they decided they didn't want to go anymore". It doesn't mean that he expected the Preacher to "save" his family or Sunday School Teachers to "unteach" a weeks worth of wrong and teach the Children what was right in an hour a week. (There were no Churches or Sunday School Teachers and Noah was the Preacher!). I say these things at the beginning because Christian Families are under attack also and many of them are falling because they don't know their source of strength and direction.

The thing about Noah was that he prepared. He didn't wait until the day before the flood to start building. Too many parents today wait until a problem comes before they attempt to deal with it and then they get so busy dealing with it until they leave themselves open for the next problem! The Formula God gives is still to "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Prov 22:6) This means that your job is not to "teach your children to swim" (As the world attempts to do), but to build an ark with them knowing they can't "outswim" God's wrath. It takes time and sticking to it but the benefits far outweigh the work involved.

The fourth thing about a great Church, then, is that it attempts to build and help families. It shows the Family God's Blueprint for "preapring an ark" through sound Bible Preaching and Teaching. It helps provide the material needed to build through Sunday School, Training, and Christian Activities. And it even helps "drive some of the nails" as Parents join together in Prayer for one another and as Children see the Principals they have been taught at home demonstrated by lives transformed by the power of God.

I'm committed to helping Families. We just spent a Summer of Sunday School "Focusing on the Family" and one of our main aims in the upcoming Revival is to win Husbands and Wives and Children to the Lord. Jesus is soon coming and I want none of my Family to face Him unprepared. I'm claiming them for God and expect God to bring them all into the ark. Noah's family was saved (Gen 7:7), Rahab's family was saved (Josh 6:25), Lydia's family was saved (Acts 16:15), and the Philippian jailor's family was saved (Acts 16:31-34); and I plan to "give God no rest" (Is . 62:7) until they're all in.

"Noah...prepared an ark to save his household". Come let us help you build!!

SPECIAL SERVICES THIS SUNDAY (Sept 2) - Vacation time should be over and every one should be here this Sunday for the Special Services Installing new Teachers and Officers for our Sunday School. Don't be late!. The Services will be different and special and we want you to be a part of it.

ARE YOU PRAYING FOR REVIVAL???? Remember it begins Sunday September 16 with Evangelist Rev. Jimmy Aldridge. Since the first service of the Revival will be on Sunday Morning I think we should go all out and have over 100 in Sunday School. What a Blessing it would be to you if someone you invited was saved - and what a Blessing it would be to them!!!

We need the biggest BUILDING FUND SUNDAY we've ever had on Sept. 30. We're financially drained from drying in the Fellowship Building and we'll only be able to move forward as the money comes in. I have no doubt that we will get it after seeing what has been done in the past but some of the men are anxious to get started working and I hate to keep them waiting.

The building is complete on the outside except for paint (Which should be done tomorrow) and brick (Which should be started soon.). We decided to re-roof the entire Church while we were roofing because the old shingles were 16 years old and after seeing them beside the new shingles I say it was the best decision we could have made. It was extra expense (along with changing out the windows on the front) at a time when we can least afford extra expense but we felt it was the best thing to do. (I told yall when I came back that I could spend \$100,000 and not waste any of it and I think you're about to believe it!!)

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Bethel Bible Institute had over 30 to pre-register and it looks like it's going to be a good year. If you haven't signed up there's still time. The first classes are Tuesday, Sept. 4. A good number of people from the Lake City area are going so you shoudn't have any trouble finding a ride. Courses and Instructors for the first Semester are:

Techniques and Methods of Teaching	Lloyd Donica
Homiletics	Steve Cannon
Old Testament Survey I	Mike Jones
Introduction to Music	Theron Scott
Epistles of John	Kenneth Upright
Biblical Ethics	John Reed
The Christian Wife	Mrs. Kenneth Upright

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Remember to Pray for our Sick: Mr. Richard Weaver and Mrs. Granger (Dot's mon)
Please Pray also for the Pastor as he brings the Morning Devotions over WJOT
Next week at 8:45am e-ch day. Pray that souls would be saved and Christ glorified.

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P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

GLORY

September 12, 1979

Number 25

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Pastor's Message:

BUILDING A GREAT CHURCH (Part V)

"By Faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith."

Heb 11:7

THE FAVOR

This is the last article in our series on "Building a Great Church". So far we've found that a Great Church is built on Faith in Christ, motivated by Fear of the Judgment of God on unbelievers, prepares facilities so they won't get "caught in the rain", and places a major emphasis on reaching Families. Because it does all this, this brings a Great Church into Favor with God and out of Favor with the world.

This is normally where the stumbling block comes in in building a Great Church. People like a Church where people are being saved, families are being ministered to, and building is going on but few seem to want to suffer reproach for Christ's sake. The thing most people need to realize afresh is that you can't be friends with God and with this world. (James 4:4)

You'll never be popular telling a Pleasure hungry world that they must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Jesus. (Mk 8:31-34) But if we expect to be effective for God (and be Blessed of God) then that's what we have to do. Sin must be called by name and exposed as being against the will of God. Men must be driven out of comfortable complacency and exposed to the cutting sword of the word of God (Heb 4:12).

This will not make us Popular with men but it will give us Power with God. And we, as a Church, are going to have to choose one of those two - Popularity or Power. We can't have both - and the choice we make will determine weather we have a Great Church for God... or just another Church meeting in Lake City.

The Pharisees will condemn us because we care for the Publicans and Sinners (Luke 5:27-32) and "John's Disciples" will condemn us because we don't meet their standards (Luke 5:33-35) but we're out to do a work for God - not to win men's approval. "And have ye not read this scripture; The stone which the builders rejected is become the head of the corner: This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?" (Mark 12:10-11)

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps 16:11

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Remember BREAKFAST this Saturday Morning (Sept 15) at 8:00am sponsored by the Master's Men. We'll eat and have some Fellowship and then clean up around the Church for Revival. It promises to be a good time so come on out. (I knew when Mr. Marvin and Mr. Richard started talking about Ham that we couldn't keep the Ladies away!!)

We hope to have this meal in the new Fellowship Building. There's still a lot of work to do but at least we've got a roof and walls. We'll finish up the rest as soon as we can so remember that a very important Building Fund Sunday is coming up Sept. 30. (And with 100 in Sunday School we're going to need that room!!)

DATE: SUNDAY SEPT. 16 thru
FRIDAY SEPT. 21

TIME: SUNDAY- 10am
6:30pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:30pm

EVANGELIST- Rev. Jimmy
Aldridge, Missionary to
Ivory Coast. A man God
uses.

"TO PREACH DELIVERANCE TO THE CAPTIVES" Luke 4:18

Special Singing

Nursery Provided

RETREAT

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO THESE SPECIAL SERVICES. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;" (I Tim 1:15). God wants to do a special work this week for His honour and Glory. Don't let anything stand in your way.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED????

Acknowledge you are a sinner Rom 3:23

Believe that Jesus is the Son of God who die for your sins Rom 5:8

Confess Him as personal Saviour Rom 10:9-10

WHAT IS SAVING FAITH?? Suppose you were being chased by a roaring Lion (The Devil is a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour I Pet 5:8). You come to a river that you couldn't swim across. You're trapped with no way out. Suddenly you see a boat to carry you across. Head Faith is saying, "I believe that that boat will take me across to safety." Heart Faith is GETTING INTO THE BOAT AND GOING ACROSS!!

IF YOU HAD TO FACE GOD TODAY WOULD HE SAY, "WELL DONE" OR DEPART FROM ME???

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P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

September 19, 1979

Number 26

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

Pastor's Message:

"And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and everyone that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him (David); and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men."

(I Sam 22:2)

A young man came to my office last week to ask me if his children could attend Sunday School here at Grace. Of course, I told him they could and that they'd be more than welcome here. (Praise the Lord! Isn't that good! I'd been going hard all week and still hadn't got to invite as many people to Church as I wanted to and was on my way to the hospital so I wouldn't get to spend any more time on it and the Lord brings them to me! That's like several weeks before when I had some studying that had to be done so I asked God to send me some people to witness to and 5 people came by the Church that day that I was able to witness to!)

Back to the story, I told the man that his children were welcome and then I urged him to attend also. He hemmed around until finally he said his clothes weren't good enough. I told him they were and he and the children were in Sunday School last Sunday.

The point of telling all this is to expose a major weakness in Churches today. This man (and a number of others) have used this excuse (and I'm aware that among other things it is an "excuse") to cover up the fact that they weren't socially 'good enough' to come and worship with us. Somehow or other the world has "rated" Churches as they would social clubs and the very people that the Church should try to reach (Christ came to seek and to save the LOST Lu 19: 10) won't attend Church to hear the Good News of the Gospel because they feel "looked down upon".

Where there is smoke, is there fire? Has the Church gotten so clannish until we only want to reach our social equals with a few "token" bad people thrown in to show that we're pretty liberal after all? And if the accusation is not true how can we convince the Lost World of that fact and convey to them the Life Transforming Gospel of Salvation thru Faith in Christ?

I think the answer is found in a very simple statement, "Be Christlike". He was as concerned about "Religious" Nicodemus as he was about a Samaritan "harlot" (John 3 and 4). Jesus didn't look at men according to their worldly rank but He saw them as they really were- Lost sheep that He, the Good Shepherd, had come to give his life for (Jn 10:11). And many a Church member needs to have the prejudice transforming vision that Peter had in Acts 10 where God told him not to call anything common that God had cleansed.

Let's make this personal in closing. What kind of people do we want to visit here at Grace? Do we want "good, clean cut, socially acceptable" people or do we want lost hell-bound sinners (Regardless of their worldly status)? The verse at the beginning of this message says David began his kingdom with people in distress, in debt, and discontented - in other words, people with problems. Think about it for a moment, if they don't have problems what do they need our help for?

I'd like for every Church member to get the message to everyone in our area: if you want to go to Church where you'll be accepted for Christ's sake and not for your abilities or lack of them then come to Grace and hear the Good News that Christ will forgive your sins, forget all about them, and give you a new abundant life.

Pastor Mircheal Jones (A man God loved when he was unlovable and saved him anyway!)

REVIVAL - I'm writing this on Wednesday and so far the Lord has really Blessed during the Revival Services. There have been no Salvation decisions yet but God has really used Brother Jimmy's message to speak to and strengthen the Church. There is just a Revival "Spirit" here! I'm excited about it myself and look forward to the rest of the week.

We began Revival Services right by accepting 2 new members into the Church during the Sunday Morning Service. We WELCOME Mr. Henry and Mrs. Olive Miles into the fellowship of the Church. They have been visiting with us for several months and already we've grown to appreciate them.

The Saturday BREAKFAST to clean up for Revival was a tremendous success. Mr. Richard Weaver and Mr. Marvin Flowers (With a little help from some of the Ladies) fed us country ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, grits, toast, and trimmings. About 25 to 30 turned out for the meal and the work after and a lot of food was eaten and a lot work done. It really made a difference in the looks of the Church.

The brick work on the Fellowship Building should be almost completed by the end of this week. We'll begin working on the insides soon (depending on funds) and I'm already looking forward to Dedication Day. BUILDING FUND SUNDAY is Sept. 30. We need a good offering so "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." (II Cor 9:7)

The Pastor will be gone Sept. 30 (He'll be in Revival in Columbia) but Brother CAREY McELVEEN will be here for both services. He was a Blessing to the Church about this time last year and I hope you have 100 in Sunday School for him and receive a \$5000 offering.

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REVIVAL REVIEW

Mark 12:29-31 And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord Our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Mark of spiritual maturity - Heb 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil

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P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.

Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

September 26, 1979

Number 27

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

For the Pastor's Message this week I thought I'd give you a Quiz on Salvation.

(Answers on the bottom of the page.)

1. The great purpose of the Bible is to give a history of the world. (Jn 20:31) T F
2. In John 8:12 Peter is called the light of the world T F
3. All men are willing to come to the light of Jesus (Jn 3:19) T F
4. Those who do evil are afraid that their evil deeds will be reprov'd (Jn 3:20) T F
5. If a man sins he is a servant of sin (Jn 8:34) T F
6. Jesus said in John 16:9 that not believing on Him is a sin T F
7. All men are sinners (Rom 3:23) T F
8. The result of sin is death (Ez 18:4 Rom 6:23) T F
9. The sinner is not under condemnation now but will be when he dies (Jn 3:18) T F
10. Christ came to condemn you (Jn 3:17) T F
11. Even though man is sinful God loves him (Jn 3:16) T F
12. Because Christ died for everyone he will automatically save everyone (Jn 8:24) T F
13. Jesus was proved guilty of several faults at His trial (Jn 19:4 Heb 4:15) T F
14. Rom 6:23 teaches eternal life is a gift T F
15. You receive it by doing more good things than bad things (Ep 2:8-9 Tit 3:5) T F
16. What are your "righteousnesses" (good works) like in God's sight? (Is 64:6) _____
17. Could there be another way to God? (Prov 14:12 Jn 14:6 Acts 4:12) _____
18. Jesus says, Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will _____ to him." (Rev 3:20)
19. If you say, "I'll take my place as a sinner, for all have sinned (Rom 3:23); I turn to Christ, the One who died in my place (1 Pet 3:18); and receive Jesus as my personal Saviour (Jn 1:12)". Will He save you? _____
20. Have you receive Him? _____ When? _____
21. Do you believe He has saved you (Jn 5:24)? _____
22. What did Jesus tell the man in Mark 5:19 to do? _____
Will you do the same? _____

Rom 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

ANSWERS: 1. False 2. False 3. False 4. True 5. True 6. True 7. True 8. True 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. False 13. False 14. Gift 15. False 16. "Filthy Rags" 17. NO 18. "Come In" 19. YES (If you need further help or would like to accept Christ then contact me at 394-3725.)

We WELCOME into the fellowship of the Church Mrs. Clara Leach. She joined last Sunday Night and we're real glad to have her. May God continue to send us the people He would have to be a part of this Body of Christ.

Brother Jimmy Aldridge did a great job during the Revival. I thank God for him. The "fires" of Revival seem to be burning real well and I pray God would give me wisdom and strength to keep things going so that many people will accept Christ as Saviour.

BUILDING FUND SUNDAY is this Sunday (Sept 30). The Building Committee decided to go ahead by faith and get the electrical supplies so that that part of the building can be completed. (Cost- around \$1750). We trusting that God will give us the necessary funds and I believe that He will. "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: " (II Cor 9:8)

(A note of thanks to the Building Committee. It has been a real pleasure working with this Committee. We get together, discuss the needs, voice our opinions, and when the decision is made everyone seems to unite together to get the job done. Well Done, Men. Let's keep up the good work in the days ahead.)

Special THANKS to Mr. Russell and Mr. Arnold Lowder for their work in drawing up plans and lists for the Electrical supplies. They're also going to be in charge of installing it and they have no idea how much we appreciate that.

We received several Memorial Gifts last week. The Marion Cokers' and the Richard Weavers' in memory of Mr. Froach and the Marion Cokers' in memory of Mr. Murray McLendon. (I believe some more were received but I didn't get the list. If so I'll acknowledge them later.)

We also received gifts to the Building Fund from Rev. Jimmy Aldridge and Mrs. P.C. Brown. THANKS.

The Pastor will begin a Revival at the Free Will Baptist Church of Columbia on Friday night and run thru Sunday Night. Pray for him as he preaches the Word of God.

Carey McElveen will be speaking at morning and Evening Services at Grace on Sunday. Give him a good Grace Welcome.

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HEADED FOR A HUNDRED. Now we get down to "brass tacks". October is just around the corner and we plan to have 100 in Sunday School. We began the year in the 30's and 40's; around Easter we were in the 40's and 50's; during the Summer we were in the 50's and 60's and now we're in the 60's and 70's. We've been constantly moving up but now it's time for 1 giant step. We want to go from the 70's to the 100's. We CAN do it. That's not wishful thinking or a "hope so", that's a fact.

One of the greatest Evangelist tools we have is the Sunday School. If we can get lost people to Sunday School regularly then there's a good chance they'll be saved. So let's work, and pray, and reach 100 and see people saved.

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Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

October 17, 1979

Number 29

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE: (I wrote this article several years ago and have had several people request it so I thought I'd put it in the newsletter.)

A TRIP THRU GOD'S GARDEN

Gen 2:8 And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

Have you ever wondered what God did with His "spare" time? He planted a garden! And what a beautiful garden it must have been! I don't know what could possibly put pressure on God but whether from pressure or just for pleasure God would come down each day at the time of the cool evening breezes and walk thru the garden and commune with man (Gen 3:8). This must have been some of the sweetest and most blessed fellowship that has ever been known.

As I read thru the Bible recently I came to I Chronicles and stuck in the midst of all those tongue tangling names God spoke to my heart thru a verse, (4:23) "These were the potters, and those that dwelt among plants and hedges: There they dwelt with the king for his work." This started my mind to thinking about what a joy it would be if I could be a gardener in God's Garden and as the evening approached see the Master coming to walk and talk with me along the paths of the garden.

Where would He begin? Perhaps He would say, "Mike, As my eyes have run to and fro over the whole earth, to shew myself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward me (II Chron 16:9) I have seen so much sorrow and sickness and sin until my heart is saddened. Let's go along the flower path and brighten up the day." Off we would go (with me basking in the Glory and Love of God) and what a Blessing it would be to see God's face shine as He glimpsed the flowers. First, we'd see the Rose Garden and right in the midst of it the Rose of Sharon (Song of Sol. 2:1). I know that it would be the prettiest flower there and brighten God's face as He viewed it; for it would be blood Red to remind Him of the Blood of Christ shed for the remission of sins.

On down the path we'd walk til I'd stop and question God about an unusual flower- a lily among thorns (Song of Sol. 2:2). "That one," He'd say, "represents the resurrection of my Son conquering death, hell, and the grave (Rev 1:18). The reason it's placed among the thorns is to remind us that there's no crown without a cross (Phil 2:8-9)."

Next we'd come to an unusual part of the Garden- a part separated from the main garden by a wide gulf, and God's face would sadden again. "Mike, heed what you see there," God would say. "Those faded flowers there show how quickly man's life passes (James 1:10-11). This morning they were bright and colorful but now they're wilted and dead. See all the weeds and thistles that grow all over that part of the garden; they're there because of sin (Gen 3:18). And so much in that garden must be treated with caution because it's not what it first appears. There's a Fruitless Fig tree that looks like it has fruit but is without (Mk 11:12-14). There are plants that look like wheat but are actually tares sowed by the enemy (Mt 13:37-39). There's actually a part that looks like my garden but leads to the city of Destruction (Gen 13:10)!"

(Continued on back)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Continued)

"Take a deep breath, Mike, and smell the odor from that garden. It smells of onions and garlick and draws many of the mixt multitude into the gulf where they're destroyed (Num 11:4-6). The sad part is that men drink from the streams of that garden and thirst again (Jn 4:13-14) when they could drink from my garden and find satisfaction."

God's face is so saddened over men's folly until I fell I ought to hurry along to another part of the garden but there is one more thing in this part of the garden I feel I must ask about. It's a section of desert-looking ground with a strange tree right in the middle. As I point it out to God His face lights back up and He says, "That, Mike, is a root out of a dry ground (Is 53:2) that grew into a tree my Son died upon that man and I might again have fellowship. The ground was cursed for man's sake (Gen 3:17) but he took the curse on himself and satisfied my holy law (Gal 3:13-14)."

Now, with lighter hearts and joyful steps, God and I continue our stroll. What a Blessing it would be to see so many things and all of them point to the Glory and Grace of God. There'd be gopher wood trees to remind us of God's ark of salvation for Noah (Gen 6:14). There'd be a sycamore tree to remind us of the day Zacchaeus met the master (Luke 19:1-10). And there's be the tree of life with it's 12 manner of fruit and leaves for the healing of the nations (Rev 22:2).

So much more to see and rejoice in but the sun is going down and the wonderous walk must be brought to a close. I'd like for it to go on and on but God gently speaks, "Back now to your duties, my son. Sow the seed of the word, or water that which is planted, expecting me to give the increase (I Cor 3:6). Soon I shall come for my servants and we'll go stroll by the river of life and never have to worry about separating again- for there will be no night there and we shall reign for ever and ever (Rev 22:5)." EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS!!!

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

Only 2 Sundays left in October and we still haven't hit 100! WE CAN DO IT. Pray, invite, and be sure to be here yourself this Sunday. I can't think of a better Sunday to have 100 than this Sunday!

The Contractor finally finished with the outside of the Fellowship Building and we can begin work on the inside. We'll have a work day this Saturday beginning at 7:30pm. Lots of things to do so you men get your work clothes on and let's get this done and "off us'en mind".

While the world is thinking about "Witches and Goblins" we're going to be rejoicing in the Lord with a FAMILY FUN NIGHT on Wed. Oct 31 here at the Church. We'll have a devotional, play some games, and eat the Hot Dogs the Teen Class is going to provide (!!). Make plans now to be a part of this great night.

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CLUB

October 24, 1979

Number 30

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

"What About Halloween?"

"Halloween gets its name from its Christian Association. In the seventh and eighth centuries, it came to be observed as the eve of All Saints Day which was set on November 1. This was a day set aside to honor all saints, especially those not honored on other special days.

First celebrated on May 13, 610 A.D. as the Feast of All Holy Martyrs, it was gradually extended to honor all saints and finally changed to this day. Roman Catholics are required to attend mass on this day and refrain from all unnecessary servile work. Thus the name is from All Saints' Day or Allhallows' Eve (eve of all the holy ones' day)" (From an article by J.D. O'Donnell in CONTACT, Oct. 1979.)

The problem has been, and is, that the "Religious" part of this time has been overlooked and it has been changed into a time of "witches, goblins, and ghosts". The "trick or Treaters" dress as ghost, monsters, and whatever and learn the subtle lesson that it pays to pretend to be what you're not. And the basic lesson of the term "Trick or Treat" is that you're supposed to do harm to those who don't give you what you want. (Which is exactly opposite from the teachings of Christ who taught us to Love our enemies and to pray for them which despitefully use you. Mt 5:44)

Now, I realize that many of you are saying that I'm making much ado about nothing. And I readily admit that multitudes have come thru Halloween without any noticeable after effects. But I think it is VERY IMPORTANT that we step out of the normal routine of celebrating a day the way the world does

without any real thought of its meaning or significance. With Witch Clovens and Satanic Churches trying to gain a foot hold among the young people of this area I don't think young people should lightly play at "Witches and Goblins". And with Sadistic People who put poison in candy, razor blades in fruit, and molest children it does not seem to make even common sense to allow them to roam the streets.

That's some of the reasons I decided to have a FAMILY FUN NIGHT on Wed. Oct. 31. (Another reason is that I want to help families- and one thing families need to do is learn to have Fun and Fellowship as well as Worship together.) It will begin at 7:00pm and end around 9:00pm. We'll have a devotional service and then we'll have games for all the Family. We'll also have refreshments (Hot Dogs courtesy of the Teen Class.) There is, of course, no admission charge but if your Family would like to bring a bag of candy we'll dump it into a pot and have something to suck on or chew on while we play.

Among the "Superstars" we hope to have present are Susan "Scrabble" Springs, Charles "Checkers" Hanna, and Paula "Spoon" Jones. I was going to challenge the men to a checker match but who wants to play with men when there's children to play with!

It's going to be a good night of Christian Fun so forget about T.V. and "Tricking" and join in the Fellowship.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

(Be sure and put your name on any games you bring.)

(Continued in next column)

It's not Thanksgiving yet but we have lots of things to be thankful for so I'm go to get an early start.

Praise God for Wendy Barr. We've had tremendous response to the article about Wendy and it seems to have been a big uplift to many people. (By the way, some have asked. "What did the Doctor say?". The Doctor said it was a MIRACLE! The optic nerve has begun to function and the Doctor said that was an impossibility but it was happening just the same. He even gave a good prospect that she may not even need glasses in the future. Continue to remember her.

Praise God for the men and the work they're doing on the Fellowship Building. We had a good work day last Saturday (With a great Fish Fry thanks to Arnold and Russell Lowder!). We're just plugging along now until we finish. Last year this time we didn't have even a plan and now we're finishing up a building!

Praise God for opening up doors of opportunity to get the Gospel out. I just looked back over my records and found that I had been on Morning Devotions on WJOT at least 39 times since January. I keep a spare tape at the station and if the Preacher that's supposed to do the Devotion doesn't show up then they use my tape. It's a good ministry that doesn't cost us anything.

Thank God for the Teens and the part they're taking in the Church. I understand they did a good job of testifying last Wednesday while I was in Revival and I'm hearing a lot of "rumblings" from Teen Class parents about the interest they're showing in Sunday School now. Keep it up Kids.

Praise God for Gas. The Church is now paying my gas bill and they don't know how much of a help that is. I do a lot of traveling during a year to hospitals and conferences and visiting and it's great to have help with that.

And Praise God for Sullivan Office Supply that furnishes the paper for this Newsletter (And a folder if I get in a jam)! Thanks also to Carl Jordan and Susan Springs for the address labels for the Newsletter. And a special thanks to everyone that keeps turning in addresses. Our circulation just keeps growing and we praise God for it. If one person is saved or blessed then it's worth all the work and effort involved.

REMEMBER THE TIME CHANGE THIS SUNDAY!! No reason for you to be late this week.

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GLORY

November 7, 1979

Number 31

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

"The Aim of Christ's Atoning Work"

"And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister;" Col 1:21-23

Paul has been telling the Colossians about the Preeminence of Christ and about the fact that we can now be reconciled to God thru the shed blood of Christ. Now he lists 4 factors about this atoning work (Atonement = At-one-ment God and man able to fellowship again because the sin question has been dealt with.)

1. What We Were- "You were sometime alienated (apart from) and enemies (at war with) in your mind by wicked works" God hated sin and we loved sin. The problem was not just what we did (our sins) but the fact that the source of this sin was deep within us (We were sinners at heart). Notice that the problem was "in the mind". That was why Christ tried to show the Pharisees that Adultery, murder, and covetousness could take place without anyone else knowing about it because it was done in the mind! (Matt 5:27-28 15:16-20). That's why men need to realize that we are going to be judged by a God who knows every thought we think and who won't be fooled by the act we put on for the world.

2. What He did (and how He did it)- "Now he hath reconciled (us to God) in the body of his flesh through death," The wages of sin are death (Rom 6:23) and Christ paid that price for us when he died on the Cross. Now we can come to

God with the debts paid and have true fellowship. What a marvelous thing that God would love me so much until Christ would die in my place! (Jn 3:16)

3. Why He did it- "To present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight;" God is a Holy God and His people must be Holy people (1 Pet 1:16). We could not be Holy on our own because all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags (Is 64:6) to God so Christ shed His cleansing blood for us. Because of Christ I can stand before God without blame or reproof- Praise His Name!!

4. What's Required of us- "If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel," Faithfulness to Faith in Christ. We were saved by Faith (Ep 2:8-9) and we live by Faith (Gal 3:11). Don't fall into the trap of thinking you can live good enough for God because you're saved. You get grounded and settled and established in Faith in Christ and whatever you do don't you make shipwreck of Faith (1 Tim 1:19). By the way, don't you dare think I'm saying by this that you can live like you please. Faith in Christ means you live like God pleases. Remember that "Whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." 1 John 5:4

(What you have just read is part of the School School lesson for this Sunday. I got so excited studying it until I wanted you to share in some of it before Sunday. YOU SURELY DON'T WANT TO MISS SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS SUNDAY.)

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps 16:11



I found out something in the past 2 weeks- I pastor a bunch of "Birds". I say that because since the time has changed and it's dark when we begin our Sunday Evening Service many of the members must have already started to "roost" BECAUSE THEY DON'T MAKE IT TO THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE. Sunday night is a time for the Adults to Pray together, for the Young People to practise Singing, and for all of us to Worship and learn about God thru the Study of His word. We've had visitors for the past 2 Sunday nights and as they looked around and saw so many empty

pews they must have thought, "What a pitiful little Church this is!". And keep in mind that when you miss Sunday Evening Services you not only hurt the Church but you also hurt yourself. Let's have 70 this Sunday Night.

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The work on the Fellowship Building has been almost at a stand still for the past week as we waited for some material and then had to set up for Family Fun Night and a Wedding but we hope to finish the electrical work this week and have the ceiling put in soon. Even though it's not completed we have really enjoyed it so far with the things we've had there. Family Fun Night was a big success (So much so until we're probably going to have another soon) and showed us how much of a Blessing it will be to have a place to Fellowship without having to crowd up in little rooms.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE BUILDING FUND LATELY: Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Wise in memory of Mrs. Alberta Morris and other gifts from Mr. Howard Ward, Mr. Wilford Ard, Miss Pam Weaver, and Mrs. Jean Callahan.

*** **

I begin my second year of my return to Grace with much "Land to be possessed". Sure we have almost doubled our Sunday School from a year ago and are well on the way to completing our new Fellowship Building but we haven't even scratched the surface yet. The real test will come when we try to double our Sunday School again this year and keep right on expanding instead of slapping our selves on the back because a building is built. Let's keep on working and remember that "There failed not ought of any good thing which the Lord had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass." Jos 21:45

(Want some ideas about what I'm talking about- We aren't seeing nearly enough people getting saved. We've got ~~some~~ VERY slack Christians. We need a new memograph machine, a letter folder, a new P.A. system, Pulpit furniture, a Baptistery, more Sunday School space, etc.)

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Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

November 14, 1979

Number 32

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"



JOINT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT:

TABERNACLE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
DOWARD, S.C.

Beginning at 7:30pm Wednesday, Nov 21

Special Music provided by: Tabernacle F.W. Baptist Church
Camp Branch F.W. Baptist Church
Testimony and Praise Time - Rev. Sammy Taylor in charge
THANKSGIVING MESSAGE - Rev. Jerry Ownby, Pastor of Salem FWB Church
Rev. Harry Cooper, Host Pastor

Most of the area Free will Baptist Churches will be participating
so arrive early for a choice seat.

Let's have more from Grace than from any other Church.

"O Give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth
for ever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the
hand of the enemy;" (Ps 107:1-2)

+++++

Looking ahead to other Joint Services:

Watch Nite Service at Camp Branch FWB Church, Monday, Dec. 31. 8:00pm - 12:30am
Rev. Terry Dennis and Rev. Harry Cooper Speakers. Rev. Lamar Smith in Charge
Special Music provided by each participating Church

Sunrise Service at Gilead FWB Church, Sunday, April 6, 1980

Rev. Sammy Taylor special Speaker.

FREE WILL BAPTIST WORKING TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF CHRIST IN THIS AREA.

THE SATISFIED SOUL

As we approach the Thanksgiving Season and person after person exhorts us to be Thankful for our Blessings I seem to notice a seeming lack of sincerity in much of the praise. It's not that we aren't thankful for what we have, it's just that the "stuff" we have doesn't seem to satisfy a deep seated longing in our souls and this nags at us as a thorn in the side and won't allow us to be at Peace with ourselves. (Brother Bill Poteat of Pampllico has a message on "Stuff" that I want to put in the newsletter sometime. It'll help you realize the smallness of accumulating "Things".)



One of my favorite Psalms is Psalm 63. After expressing his need of the presence and power of God and acknowledging his thankfulness for the provisions of God the writer says in verse 5 that his soul will be satisfied when he takes time to remember and meditate on God. That's what we need this Thanksgiving! We need to get our eyes off the Gifts and get them on the Giver; to stop looking at the things we have and look to the God who gave them to us.

How sad it is that many people have become like the children of Israel. We think our dissatisfaction is caused by a lack of material goods and like them we ask for more - and like them God gave us our request; and sent leanness into our souls (Ps 106:15). More and more we need to read the book of Ecclesiastes and see how Solomon tried Wisdom, and Pleasure, and "whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour; and this was my portion of all my labours. Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun." (Ecc 2:10-11)

Do you feed that way this Thanksgiving season? Do you long for a Satisfied Soul? Then stop serving yourself and start serving the Lord. A person seeking self-satisfaction is like a man in quicksand - the harder he tries the deeper in trouble he gets. Listen to God's formula - "And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not." (Is 58:10-11)

God says that He will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on God: because he trusteth in God (Is 26:3) and he will satisfy the longing soul, and fill the hungry soul with goodness (Ps 107:9). What tremendous Promises! Thank God for a Satisfied Soul! If you don't have one then turn to God today and have the best Thanksgiving ever.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps 16:11

Remember the Ladies Aux Pre-Thanksgiving Service this Sunday Night at 6:30pm

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November 28, 1979

Number 33

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

"NEIGHBORS"

I. WHAT IS A NEIGHBOR??

A) The Greek Word means- Equal, Fellow, Near One, Companion, Friend

B) The Bible says in Luke 10 (The Good Samaritan) that it's one in need.

II. WHAT ARE OUR OBLIGATIONS TO OUR NEIGHBORS??

A) Things not to do:

Ex 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor (Don't lie about him- to yourself or others.)

Ex 20:17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's. (Don't try to "keep up with the Joneses")

Deut 19:14 Thou shalt not remove thy neighbor's landmark.. (How many neighbors have hard feelings and no fellowship because of 3 feet of land!!)

Prov 14:21 He that despiseth his neighbor sinneth; but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he. (God doesn't take it lightly when you "look down on someone")

Prov 26:17-18 He that passeth by, and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears. As a mad man who casteth firebrands, arrows, and death, so is the man that deceiveth his neighbor, and saith, Am I not in sport? Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

Prov 25:17 Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbor's house; lest he be weary of thee and so hate thee. (One thing to "visit", another to "hate")

Prov 25:9 Debate thy cause with thy neighbor himself; and discover not a secret to another. (Don't betray confidences)

B) Things to Do:

Rom 13:9 Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Ep 4:25 Wherefore putting away lying, speaking every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another.

Luke 10:36-37 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, GO, AND DO THOU LIKEWISE.

I hope you have good neighbors and are a good neighbor. AND I HOPE YOU'LL BE ONE OF MY NEIGHBORS IN HEAVEN!! (If you aren't sure you will be then get in touch with me and I'll be glad to show you how you can be.)

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps 16:11

P.S. Rom 15:2 Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good to edification.

One reason I'm saved today is because a good neighbor lived the Lord before me and kept inviting me to Church. Go, and do thou likewise.



The Adult Christmas Party will be this Saturday (Dec 1) at Big Jim's in Sumter. We will meet at the Church at 6:30pm. I hope we have a good turn out because I'm looking for a good time of fellowship as well as a good meal.

The Youth Christmas Party will be Monday Dec. 3 at Powell's Skating Ring beginning at 7:00pm. Refreshment will be served (More about this Sunday) and all our Young People are invited. (We also need several Adult Chaperons)

The Fellowship Building continues to come along well. We're having to do as money comes available but hopefully this year's WHITE CHRISTMAS OFFERING (To be received Sunday Dec. 23) will allow us to complete everything. It has really been a Blessing to see so many people give of their time and money to help work on the Building. The closer it gets to being completed the more we see the need of it and the more we see how important EVERYONE is to getting the job done for God.

The Youth Choir continues to improve as they prepare for the Christmas Program. Mrs. Paula, Mrs. Kaye, and Mrs. Jackie are doing a good job and the Young People seem to be really trying. I think it's going to be a good program with several of the Young People doing things they haven't done before. The Program will be Sunday, Dec. 23.

Speaking of Singing, you might be surprised this Sunday night if you come to Church. Not only will I allow people an opportunity to share Blessing and Bible verses but I'll also give some of our "unused" talent a chance to work.

Hopefully we'll finish the Book of Revelation this month and be ready to survey the entire Bible beginning in January. If people will just come to Church with some degree of regularity then I hope to teach them how to Know and how to Show Christ. What we learn about the Bible will be useful a million years from now. Can you say that about the things that keep you out of Church??

We begin a new Quarter in Sunday School this Sunday. Let's begin with a big crowd. We've got some good lessons ahead of us.

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Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

December 12, 1979

Number 34

"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"

"THE SEEKERS"

I know that it's probable that the Wise Men came to see Jesus 1 to 2 years after his birth but since we associate them with Christmas so much I thought I'd look at their story again and get some spiritual lessons.

Notice, first of all, that the Wise Men sought to find Jesus because they had seen something out of the ordinary ("We have seen his star" Matt 2:2). People are still that way today. The normal routine draws little response but they flock to the unusual. (Why else do you think stores put on Sales all the time?). I know that some people and churches have gone overboard on this but so many churches have the same things, the same ways, week after week and then wonder why people aren't being saved and the church seems "listless". I'm not saying we should compete with the entertainment of the world (as some do) but if everything that happens in church services can be accounted for by the Flesh then we're no different from the other clubs in town. The Wise Men would have stayed in the East if they hadn't seen an unusual star - Remember that the next time you see all those empty pews! (An example. The past two Sunday nights we've been singing part of 8 or 10 songs that people have requested instead of 2 songs and a prayer and our attendance has been up and there is a remarkable difference in the Church Spirit.)

The second thing about these Wise Men seeking Jesus was that they needed the Scriptures and someone to explain them before they could find Christ - Even with a Sign!! (Matt 2:2-6). I think immediately of the Ethiopian Eunuch who had gone to Jerusalem to worship and was reading the Bible but who had to say, "How can I (understand), except some man should guide me?" (Acts 8:26-39). God forbid that we should get people to Church and entertain them and send them home without giving them the Word of God. May we ever keep in mind that everything else we do is secondary to our main job of explaining the Scripture in order that men might know and show Jesus Christ.

Thirdly, these Seekers worshipped Christ and acknowledged their subjection to Him by presenting him their gifts (Matt 2:11). We want people to come to Church and hear the Word of God but we also want them to trust Christ as Saviour and follow Him as Lord. How many Churches will be crowded next Sunday with the "Christmas and Easter" crowd who will have ears to hear but will hear not the real story of Christmas. May God send us a harvest of souls this Christmas.

And, finally, when these Seekers had found the Messiah they sought they went back another way (Matt 2:12). The wonder of it all is that if we seek Him He will be found of us and being Born again we become Sons of God. No longer a slave to Sin and Death, we are free to walk in the way of the Lord. And that puts Joy in my heart this Christmas.

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

(P.S. If you're seeking, I'll be glad to show you The Way.)





SUNDAY, DEC. 23. A Special Day at Grace.

Hopefully the largest Sunday School this year as we get all our Family and Friends here. Then the Morning Worship Service when many accept Christ as Saviour. (That's our Prayer) Also the time to receive our WHITE CHRISTMAS OFFERING. Last year we received over \$2300 and another offering like that would go a long ways toward helping complete the Fellowship Building.

Then our CHRISTMAS PLAY (which will highlight the singing of the Youth Choir) will begin at 6:30pm. This is always one of the special

services and I hope everyone will attend and encourage our Youth. There will be a cake and coffee fellowship after the Program.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 19 we're planning to have a SALAD SUPPER following our services. The first one we had was such a success until we decided to schedule another. I didn't realize there were so many salads (egg salad, chicken salad, bean salad, tossed salad, etc.) but I found I like all of them. Mrs. Marjorie will give out the list this Sunday so check with her if you're wondering what to bring.

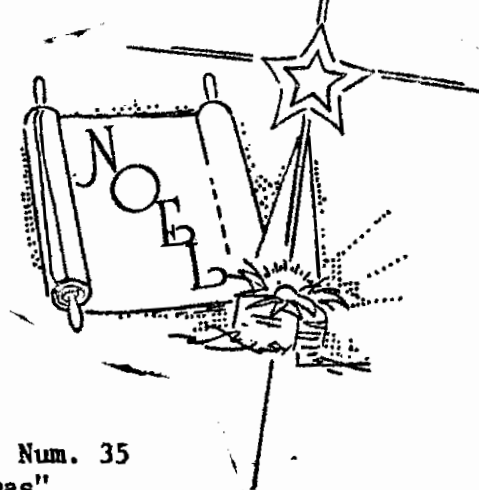
Our Sunday Night SING-A-LONG has been such a blessing until we've decided to carry it on thru this Sunday night. (Besides we haven't nearly gotten thru all the request yet.). Brother Marion is doing a fine job of leading this and the new groups that have sung have shown us that we have a lot of hidden talent. Hopefully we'll have some SPECIAL TESTIMONY TIMES in January as part of the Sunday Evening Worship Services. I hope to tie some of the testimonies in with some messages I'll be preaching and I believe it'll be a blessing.

Also beginning in January we'll begin a survey of the Books of the Bible in our Wednesday night class. Many people have never gotten an overview of the Bible and it's books and its necessary to do so in order to understand many of the things that God says. (Most people read a chapter of a part of a chapter and then go somewhere else and then wonder why the Bible doesn't make sense to them.)

Special Thanks to Miss Theresa Coker for her gift to the Building Fund. EVERYONE seems to be giving of their time and money to get the job done and it is one of the reasons we're seeing people saved. God WANTS to use us if we'll just let Him!

Remember that God's Gift to you was HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON to save you from sin's punishment. Don't neglect this Gift!!

GRACE AND GLORY



GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 1003 Lake City, S.C.

Dec. 19, 1979 Num. 35
"Merry Christmas"

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

It's Christmas time again and we're trying to keep our perspective about Christmas - Gifts or God, Joy or Jealousy, Burdens or Blessings. But do we really care a great deal?! It's hard to meditate on Christmas while we are assaulted with an Energy Crisis, Food Shortages, and soaring inflation. We're worried about paying our bills, passing our grades, or raising our children right and "Joy to the World" sounds hollow and meaningless in light of the world conditions. How can we get the "Christmas Spirit" under these circumstances? Let's look again at the Christmas story and see how real people handled the problems.

The first thing we see is Fear - Fear of the unexpected and unusual, the difficult, and the threatening.

A) Gabriel's appearance to Mary "troubled" and frightened her (and well it might, for the Angel told her she would have something happen to her that had never happened to another. She was to be with Child of the Holy Ghost.). But the Angel told her to "Fear Not, for thou hast found favour with God" (In other words, God cares for you! What a wonderful thing to know in time of trial.)

B) When Zacharias saw the Angel, "Fear fell upon him" (Luke 1:11-13). But the Angel told him to "Fear not: for thy prayer is heard" and you'll have that Son you've prayed for and he will be the forerunner of Christ. (God answers Prayer! Christ has come and we now have access to the Father through the Son. So God not only cares for us but He also provides for us.)

C) When the Angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds "they were sore afraid" (Luke 2:8-18). But the Angel told them to "Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, ...for unto you is born...a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." (God not only loves us and provides for us but He is willing to Save us! That's the heart of Christmas. A Saviour is Born.)

D) When Herod heard of Christ's Birth "he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him" (Matt 2:1-18). His problem was that he felt threatened by the Birth of a Baby King and instead of kneeling before Him he tried to kill him. He found what others have found - you must either follow or fight Jesus; you're either for Him or against Him. And because He came you will either fear not or increasingly fear.

But Christmas is not just Fear. Christ is Faith.

A) The Faith of Mary who when told she was to be with child of the Holy Spirit answered, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). That's Faith in the Word of God. God has never made a promise He didn't keep and one thing Christmas ought to teach us is to look beyond the circumstances now to the promises in the Word of God.

B) The Faith of Joseph who when told he must face the public and all their misunderstandings about his and Mary's relationship "did as the Angel of the Lord had bidden him" (Matt 1:18-28). That's Faith on trial. Men waited 4000 years for Christ to come the first time and it's been nearly 2000 years that we've awaited his return but I know He'll come. I've never seen the Christ Child and I've suffered some because of my obedience to Him but the "trying of my faith worketh patience" (James 1:3) and one day I shall see Him face to face whom so long I have known heart to heart.

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE (Continued)

C) And the Faith of the Wise Men who "having eyes to see" saw the sign of Christ's Birth and went to worship Him. Distance was no obstacle and finding a babe in a house instead of a King in a palace they still believed God and gave their gifts. That's Faith Triumphant- the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Heb 11:1)

If you're all bottled up with Fear this Christmas then bow before Christ in Faith and trust Him. You'll find there IS a reason to sing "Joy to the World".

Pastor Mircheal Jones Ps. 16:11

P.S. Paula and I would like to extend Christmas Greetings to each of you as well as our prayer that God would Bless you and yours during this season. We love you and trust God will continue to Bless ys in the coming year as we strive to serve Him. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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This Sunday (Dec 23) is a BIG SUNDAY and I hope you'll be a part of it. It begins with our biggest Sunday School of the year (hopefully) and our biggest offering of the Year (hopefully). The Sunday before Christmas is traditionally our WHITE CHRISTMAS OFFERING Sunday. We don't exchange gifts at Church- instead we give a gift to God's Work. This year's offering will go toward completing our Fellowship Building- which has already been worth the money put in it. Then at 6:30pm the Young People of the Church will present a Christmas Program. Mrs Kay Floyd has directed the play and it looks to be a good one. Mrs. Paula has gotten the Youth Choir to really singing and they'll be a major part of the program.

We WELCOME Mrs. Kathy Purvis into the Fellowship of the Church. Kathy was saved several weeks ago and joined last Sunday Night. We appreciate her so much and look forward to her serving the Lord with us.

Keep New Year's Eve open for the big Joint Watch Nite Service at Camp Branch Free Will Baptist Church. It will begin at 8:00pm and go until around 12:30am and include special music and special messages by Rev. Terry Dennis and Rev. Harry Cooper. Pray for this service that God would Bless and give a harvest of souls.

Remember that beginning Wed. Jan. 2, 1980 we will be surveying the Bible each Wednesday Night. We 're planning to get an overview of each of the Books of the Bible and try to gain an insight into God's Purpose and Plans. I believe it can be one of the most helpful things we've done and I want you to make a real effort to be a part of the study each week.