

the Lamp



..as a light shining
in a dark place.
2 Peter 1:19

October 2005
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Number 10

Would God Call Us From Something Good?

Where does God want this congregation to go? Last year the shepherds of this congregation spent much time in prayer to God for his direction. We spent much time in discussion to develop a vision and mission statement, which we took to be from God, for providing guidance for this congregation as we grow as a body of Christ. The vision statement starts with calling us to know Jesus and Him crucified and the power of His resurrection. It continues to broadly summarize some of the important implications of this relationship and to call for every member to participate in service.

The elder's meditation and discussion led us to a mission statement that broadly summarizes areas of emphasis in which the congregation is not yet where we saw God calling us to.

Equip families to fulfill God's purposes.

Educate each person in the Word of God.

Share the Lord Jesus Christ with our community



Scott Jackson

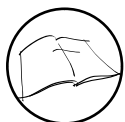
After the deacons were installed last year the elders instructed them first to get to know the areas of ministry that they were assigned to serve and then to examine everything the congregation was doing in light of these areas of emphasis.

One of the first tasks the deacons faced after being installed was to prepare the budget for 2005. At that time the deacons had not had a chance to get to know their areas of service and how to work together. The elders did not want to abruptly interrupt good works this congregation was involved in, so we instructed them for 2005 not to reduce the amount of funds that this congregation sends to missions outside this congregation. The elders sent a letter to several of these missions we support informing them of our commitment for 2005, but also informing them that we would be examining our congregation's mission. We also instructed the deacons for 2006 and forward that, if they decided to cut the funding to an outside mission that they were to give them a good notice. In carrying out this direction from the elders, the deacons sent the elders a memo which I quote from below:

"It is after much deliberation, discussion, and prayer that we would like to inform you that we have reached a decision that not only addresses concerns for participatory ministries, as related to foreign mission, but also works towards aligning ourselves with the elders vision statement. ...

"Simply put our decision is this: We will be discontinuing financial support for Allen Avery (African Outreach Ministries) as well as Mladen Jovanovic at the end of this calendar year. These ministries, while very strong, and without question of the Lord, have little to no participation or involvement from the congregation. ...It is this reason that we have voted ... and agree that we would discontinue financial

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Daily Bible Reading

A daily Bible study schedule for the month of October.



Ministry Highlights

David Veatch offers his insights into our Fellowship and Friendship Ministries.



Calendar of Events

A calendar highlights special dates along with listings of special events and birthdays for the month of October.

Ministry Spotlight

Making a Difference



David Veatch

Hello Everyone,

Jesus has given us the command to love one another. Love compels us to act. We can express love for each other in attitudes and actions. Becoming a designated servant has increased my understanding of all the many good works this church family is involved in.

My family has directly benefited from several ministries. When I returned home from Desert Storm the Fellowship Committee

held a luncheon for me and my family. When Matthew and Jared were born, ladies on the food committee brought food to us, visited, and encouraged us. Our children attend our Christian school. They are learning more than the traditional instruction. They are learning in an environment that includes God and Christian principles in everything it puts forth. Everything we do for others in the name of our Lord makes a profound difference.

On behalf of the deacons I would like to invite everyone to become involved in a ministry. Please contact a ministry leader or deacon to find out more about a ministry you are interested in. Be looking for a list of ministries coming your way soon. I'm certain we have something for everyone. If we don't it could be created by YOU!

God's Blessings,

David Veatch

Isaiah 22,23 Ephesians 3	18 Isaiah 65,66 2 Thess. 1
Isaiah 24-26 Ephesians 4	19 Jeremiah 1,2 2 Thess. 2
3 Isaiah 27,28 Ephesians 5	20 Jeremiah 3,4 2 Thess. 3
4 Isaiah 29,30 Ephesians 6	21 Jeremiah 5,6 1 Timothy 1
5 Isaiah 31-33 Philippians 1	22 Jeremiah 7,8 1 Timothy 2
6 Isaiah 34-36 Philippians 2	23 Jeremiah 9,10 1 Timothy 3
7 Isaiah 37,38 Philippians 3	24 Jeremiah 11-13 1 Timothy 4
8 Isaiah 39,40 Philippians 4	25 Jeremiah 14-16 1 Timothy 5
9 Isaiah 41,42 Colossians 1	26 Jeremiah 17-19 1 Timothy 6
10 Isaiah 43,44 Colossians 2	27 Jeremiah 20-22 2 Timothy 1
11 Isaiah 45-47 Colossians 3	28 Jeremiah 23,24 2 Timothy 2
12 Isaiah 48,49 Colossians 4	29 Jeremiah 25,26 2 Timothy 3
13 Isaiah 50-52 1 Thess. 1	30 Jeremiah 27,28 2 Timothy 4
14 Isaiah 53-55 1 Thess. 2	31 Jeremiah 29,30 Titus 1
15 Isaiah 56-58 1 Thess. 3	
16 Isaiah 59-61 1 Thess. 4	
17 Isaiah 62-64 1 Thess. 5	



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support for the Averys and Jovanovics next year and continue support for Steven Taliaferro in the Ukraine. Our work there is just beginning and we already have many families and children participating in the support of the Ukrainian orphans.

“...While the fact that Steve Taliaferro is one of “us” (that is to say that he is from our congregation) played no small part in this decision, we also took into consideration that our support for Steven represents one third of his total support. We are a much smaller percentage of support for either the Averys or the Jovanovics.”

The elders accept and support this decision of the deacons. Although I fully accept and support this decision, I have mixed feelings about it. This congregation has had a long, good relationship with both the Avery's and the Jovanovic's. I appreciate their ministry and I enjoy the idea of being a member of a congregation that has been a faithful participant in such successful ministries.

Would God want us to ever leave something good? I think back to things written in the scriptures for our learning. I remember Jesus leaving a successful healing ministry in Capernaum to “preach the good news of the kingdom of God” to other towns. (Luke 4:42-44 NIV)

I remember Paul and his companions being “kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia,” which to me seems like it would be a good thing. They “tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.” Then “Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia” and Paul concluded that God had called them to preach the gospel to Macedonia. (Acts 16: 6-10 NIV)

The elders have a vision of where God would have this congregation go. The elders and deacons have not completely fleshed out this vision, but we will keep talking to God and walking with God. In moving to where he leads us, yes, we may leave some good things.

Scott Jackson



Announcements



Ladies Bible Fellowship – Ladies, you are invited to Duda Fulgham's home on Thursday, October 6 for a time of Bible study and fellowship. We will meet from 7 to 8:30 P.M., and our October topic will be “Godly Friendship.” Duda's phone number is 281.484.7303 and her home address is 11506 Gullwood Dr., Houston, 77089. Please join us for a lesson, prayer and fellowship.

All Church Picnic – Sunday Picnic — Oct. 9 2 - 6 PM at Frankie Carter Park (FM 2351). Invite your friends & neighbors to join us for games, food, singing, and fellowship. See Bruce Belk, Adam Reeder, or Chad Adair for more information.

Community Prayer Breakfast – October 15 – 7:10 - 9 AM at First Baptist Church of Friendswood

Kids 4 Kids Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction – Kids 4 Kids will host a *Spaghetti Lunch and Silent Auction* on Sunday, October 16th, following our morning services. Silent Auction begins this Sunday and will end on Sunday the 16th. The proceeds from this event will go towards building a transitional living center for orphans in the Ukraine. For more info on this ministry, please see Bryan Watson. Tickets are almost sold out so get your tickets NOW!

Ladies – You are invited to a Wedding Shower honoring *Jessica Miller & Josh Kirklin* on Saturday, October 22nd, at 7 PM in the fellowship hall at the church building. Jessica & Josh are registered at Bed Bath & Beyond, Pottery Barn and Dillards. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Cravens (281-996-1527) or Nancy Smothermon (281-482-1702).

Communion Preparation

Carl & Betty Dillon

Greeters

David Veatch, Emily Curlin,
Naseem Khonsari, Anna &
Adrian Duron

Contribution Counters

Betty Dillon &
Esther Scott



October 2•0•0•5

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
5:00 P.M. <i>Fusion 316</i> 2	3	4	5	QUILTING NIGHT 7:00 P.M. 6	7	8 WOMEN'S ABUNDANT JOY CONFERENCE @ BAMELL RD. C OF C
2 PM - 6 PM SUNDAY IN THE PARK (FRANKIE CARTER PARK) 9	10	11	12	QUILTING NIGHT 7:00 P.M. 13	14	15 7:10-9:00 AM COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST @ FIRST BAPTIST
5:00 P.M. <i>Fusion 316</i> 16 TEENS LEAD WORSHIP KIDS 4 KIDS LUNCH & AUCTION	17	18	19	QUILTING NIGHT 7:00 P.M. 20	21	22 KIRKLIN/MILLER WEDDING SHOWER @ CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL
5:00 P.M. <i>Fusion 316</i> 23	24	25	26	QUILTING NIGHT 7:00 P.M. 27	28	29
30	31					

Happy Birthday!

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1 - Mike McAlister | 10 - Jacob Williams, John Williams | 26 - Mike Ross, Courtney Cox |
| 3 - Chad McAlister | 12 - Reeana Keenen | 30 - Kelly McAlister, Lindsay Bradshaw |
| 6 - Bill Keenen, Sarah Davis | 14 - Destiny Hampton | 31 - Carolyn Simpson |
| 8 - Bruce Berger | 16 - Doug McDonald, Jeff Kirklin, Kaleb Fulgham | |
| 9 - Brandon McAlister, April Bouley, Brian Main, Jr. | 17 - Esther Scott | |
| | 19 - Courtney McGinn | |
| | 20 - Scott Wennergren | |



THE CHURCH OF CHRIST
IN FRIENDSWOOD

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