

# the Lamp



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

## In This Issue



*Book of the Month*  
The Lamp makes some humble reading suggestions ...



*Ministry Highlights*  
Worship is the focus of this month.



*Calendar of Events*  
A calendar highlights special dates along with listings of special events and birthdays for the month of March.

### MINISTERS

MIKE ROSS, PASTORAL CARE  
JUSTIN BRUNER, YOUTH & FAMILY

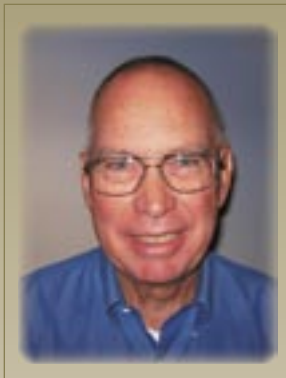
### ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY  
BIBLE CLASSES 9:00 A.M.  
WORSHIP 10:15 A.M.  
CARE GROUPS 6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY  
BIBLE CLASSES 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY  
LADIES CLASS 10:00 A.M.

## Our Relationship with God



Forrest Norman

This is my first Lamp article and I am humbled that you would want to read it. I am one of your new elders, so you may be wondering what my personal perspective is on any number of topics. I consider this the most important topic to share with you first.

Allow me to quote Roy Osborne, a noted Church of Christ evangelist because he really says well what I believe, *"I think the great danger to the average church member today is not that he does not believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, but that he takes this fact for*

*granted, and gets caught up in the trappings of religion...organizations, rituals, theological rules and regulations. These things may give the aura of piety, and a satisfying feeling of righteousness, but they do nothing to change the life of the person, nor do they turn him from a satisfied religionist into a penitent sinner, who feels a constant need for guidance from above...into one born into a new relationship with God"*.

The Lord opened my eyes to this danger for me after we moved to Friendswood some 30 plus years ago. A long time to be working on the details of being born into a new relationship with God. And I am still working on my relationship with God. Our personal relationship with the Father is everything. It is all important. We are all sinners and must depend on the Blood of Jesus Christ everyday.

Therefore, our relationship with our Lord is moment by moment. You may say wait, I don't have that much time every day. Start your day with prayer, pray during the day and don't forget to listen for His reply. As your relationship with Him develops you will come to know His voice. Pray and listen and expect to hear.

Forrest Norman

New spring quarter adult bible classes begin March 3rd.

Please join a class as we explore the mystery and miracle of prayer as a gateway toward understanding God's will for us, both as individuals and as one body, striving to serve him and please him more perfectly. Teachers will be Ed Hoskins, Scott Jackson, Tom Kirklin, Scott Mitchell and Wayne Vowell.

# Ministry Spotlight



*Bruce Belk*

Hebrews 10 warns us not to forsake the assembly, but to come together. What is the purpose of this admonition? Surely it is not to check off yet another duty, but to provide something God knows we need. There are many facets of our meeting together--praising the Lord, worshipping our Savior, singing songs of adoration, enjoying fellowship, offering service to Him, listening to God through the study of his word, and providing edification and encouragement to each other. Sunday morning worship/fellowship is a vital and unique experience in our lives. Think about it! Life gets so busy and full of commitments and chores that just have to get done, it is really easy to put off the important

things to attend to one more squeaky wheel. It is imperative that we recharge our spiritual batteries, so to speak, and remember our reason for being. We were created to worship the Lord; it is the one thing we have that God wants.

Over the last several years the worship ministry has endeavored to plan services that inspire, uplift, inform, teach, and encourage participation. The praise and worship time of the service incorporates songs, scriptures, and prayers that fit together with the subject being studied. The goal of this purposeful planning is to provide a natural flow that encourages the thoughtful meditation and spirited involvement of every member.

During the months of December through February, the transition team has been working to compile input from the congregation for the "next chapter" of our history. There is expectation that this input will impact the way we structure the worship service.

Many thanks are due to the planning team of Mike Ross, Justin Bruner, Kay Belk, and Ron Cox who have stepped up and filled the void produced by the recent changes in our staff. The planning and the praise teams have worked diligently during these difficult times to keep our services uplifting and have endeavored to implement improvements. It is just one example of people being willing to "put their oars in the water" when and where there is a need.

It has been suggested and I think rightly, that the worship ministry should work to improve communications via announcements and emails to the congregation regarding upcoming events and suggested scriptures to study for future sermons. We are committed to making our time together the most profitable time of the week and are eager to have the input and participation of everyone.

For His Glory,

Bruce Belk  
Deacon of Assembly

Congratulations:

Marlie Dian Martin

Born to proud parents

Jenny and Davin Martin

On Thursday, February 22

Weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz., 19 1/2 inches

*Communion Preparers*

The Bergers

*Counters*

Jerry Scott & Mickey McDaniel

*The Minister Search Team* is now forming and will include the following participants: Bob Young, Carol McDaniel, Debbie Brown, Diana Bradshaw, Ted & Hazel Jagen, Lorena Counterman, Todd Smithgall, John Simpson, Eddie & Alice Turpin (Facilitator), Mike Ross (Staff Liaison), Scott Jackson and Charles Kirklin (Elder Liaisons').

Please pray for and participate with this group.



# MARCH 2007

| Sunday   | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday  | Saturday  |
|--|--------|---------|-----------|----------|---|---|
|  |        |         |           | 1        | 2   | 3<br>10:30 AM<br>O'BRIEN BABY<br>SHOWER BRUNCH                      |
| 4  | 5      | 6       | 7         | 8        | 9   | 10  |
| 11   | 12     | 13      | 14        | 15       | 16  | 17<br>7:00 AM<br>FWD COMMUNITY<br>PRAYER BREAKFAST<br>HOPE LUTHERAN |
| 18   | 19     | 20      | 21        | 22       | 23<br>5:00 PM<br>FCS ANNUAL<br>DINNER & AUCTION | 24<br>IMPACT<br>GARAGE SALE   |
| IMPACT<br>GARAGE SALE 25<br>6:00 PM<br>INTERNATIONAL<br>DINNER | 26     | 27      | 28        | 29       | 30  | 31  |

*Happy Birthday  
Happy Birthday  
Happy Birthday  
Happy Birthday  
Happy Birthday*

1 - Susan Khonsari  
5 - Adrian Duron, Katlyn McDonald  
6 - Brad Harrell, Jabari Bailey  
12 - Tammy Fowler  
14 - Bob Williams  
15 - Stan Johnston

18 - Mark Counterman  
21 - Amy Mitchell  
24 - Rebecca Price, Linda Williams  
27 - Michael Scott  
29 - Chris Kirklin, Matthew Counterman

## \* Announcements \*

March 17th / FWD Community Prayer Breakfast 7:10 a.m. / Hope Lutheran / Program - Caring for the Needy / speaker – Jon Thornbury

March 23rd / FCS Annual Dinner & Auction / "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" / 5:30 p.m. Dinner / 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Silent Auction  
7:30 p.m. Live Auction / Dinner Tickets for Sale / Adults \$10 / Child \$5 / Table Sponsorships – Table for 6 \$100  
Table for 8 \$125 / Still accepting donations for the auction. Please contact the school office for more information.

March 25th / International Dinner / 5:00 p.m.

April 2nd / Jews for Jesus present: CHRIST in the PASSOVER / 7:00 p.m. / FWD C of C

April 21 – 22 / Ladies Conference / Dr. Jackie Halstead, Marriage and Family Therapy Department, ACU / Theme: Humility, as it relates to God, Family, Children and the Faith Community / Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Sunday 9 – 9:45 a.m.

Homes of St. Mark / Benefit Garage Sale will be held May 11th and 12th from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. both days here at the church building.  
See Susan Khonsari or Peggy McCullum for more information

The "Supplied to Survive" AA Battery Drive continues through the end of March. You may drop off donations in the foyer at any time.  
Please go to [www.suppliedtosurvive.org](http://www.suppliedtosurvive.org) for more information about this non-profit organization founded by Steve Schulz, our Friendswood neighbor.

To my Christian Family at Friendswood Thank you so very much for your support and care through cards and phone calls. Knowing that you were praying for my recovery was very comforting and greatly appreciated. May God bless you as you continue to serve Him ... Diane Westmoreland

To All the Members at Church – We would like to express our sincere gratitude in all the help you have extended us during our time of sorrow. You went out your way to be there for us. God Bless You ....Victor Martinez and Family.



# KNOWING AND GROWING



# IN CHRIST

*Book of the Month • Book of the Month • Book of the Month*

Former journalist Lee Strobel has written a series of books that make for some informative reading. Written from the perspective of an honest investigative reporter seeking out the truth claims of Christianity, he tackles a host of issues and questions asked by skeptics. [The Case for Christ, A Journalists' Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus](#), [The Case for Faith, A Journalist Investigates the Toughest Objections to Christianity](#), and [The Case for a Creator, A Journalist Investigates Scientific Evidence That Points Toward God](#) are all valuable resources for those seeking to follow the admonition of I Peter 3:15 - 16 (you have to look it up).



THE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
IN FRIENDSWOOD

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