

the Lamp

... as a light shining in a dark place.

2 Peter 1:19



Unity



Book of the Month

The Lamp makes some humble reading suggestions ...



Ministry Highlights

Our Spiritual & Financial health 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 August.



Charles Kirklin

“There is one body...” Ephesians 4:4a

One body. Only one body. Only one body of Christ. Only one church. There are not many churches. We do not have our choice of churches. There is only one. This is a difficult truth for us living two thousand years after Jesus Christ' declaration that He would build his Church. It is difficult because man has formed many churches. Churches are all over the place. There are many churches, with many different names and many different practices. The result is that man has confused this truth and as a result the lost are confused.

Which church is the right church? How do you tell? How do you know?

One of the great tasks for the Church and for us as believers is to unite. We must take this great truth that there is one church and call together all believers in Jesus Christ into one body. Unity is God's idea and it is necessary that we act upon God's ideas and not our own. The disunity and conflict that exists among people who believe in Jesus Christ is interfering with the gospel message. God's vision for the Church is that all believers everywhere acknowledge their unity under the name of Jesus Christ.

How could we/I promote unity in the body of Christ? Here are some suggestions:

- 1) *Pray for unity.* Just this would be a powerful action. It would result in God hearing and answering your prayer and giving you direction for working for unity.
- 2) *Participate in the Friendswood Community Prayer Breakfast.* This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy and experience God's vision of unity. This meeting occurs once a month on Saturday morning at various area church buildings. It is a blessing to meet with other Christians in praise and worship. It is especially gratifying to pray together.
- 3) *Begin to recognize other believers* as members of the same Church that you are.
- 4) *Focus on the uniting power of Jesus Christ* and look for faith and practice in other people that are the same as yours.
- 5) *Pray for and support our Friendswood Christian School ministry.* This ministry has had a wonderful uniting impact on our community. Teachers and students and their families from many different denominations come together here at school under the banner of Jesus Christ and for his glory.

God bless us with success as we seek to unite all believers in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Ministers

Mike Ross, pastoral CARE
Justin Bruner, Youth & Family

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:00 A.M.
Worship 10:15 A.M.
CARE Groups 6:00 P.M.

Assembly Schedule

Wednesday

Prayer service &
Youth Bible Classes 7:00 P.M.



Jerry Scott

Independence Day

This past month we celebrated our great country's independence. I enjoy July 4th because it usually means my family gets together, fireworks, lots of food and so much more. We are truly blessed to live in this country. Unless you have traveled outside of the United States, you might not realize just how fortunate you are to live here. People risk their lives just to come to live in the United States. We take this and other freedoms for granted every day. This past July 4th holiday I heard what I thought was an excellent idea. The suggestion was to read the Constitution at the family gathering. This was an attempt to remind us of the true meaning of the holiday, not just a day off from work, hotdogs and the other things I mentioned. Freedom comes at a very significant price. Many Americans have

paid the ultimate price for us to live in freedom and we are very grateful to all members of the Armed Forces that served this country.

It occurred to me that there is a strong correlation with our spiritual independence from Satan. Christ paid the price for our freedom from Satan. We often take for granted our spiritual and physical blessings from God. By no means am I suggesting that these two are equal. Even without our country's freedom we would still have freedom from Satan because of Christ's sacrifice. Many people around the world have this spiritual freedom without our other freedoms. While it's not necessary to read the Constitution daily, we do need to read and study His Word to understand it so that it can guide and comfort us daily.

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We are a blessed people in so many ways. We have the opportunity each Sunday to give back to God some of those blessings that He has given us. The leadership of this congregation has established a budget for the works of this Body of believers. In our case perhaps the budget could be better described as a spending plan to guide and monitor our spending. The amount that you see each week in the Order Of Worship is the total contribution as compared to the budget. Historically during the past few years, the actual spending is less than budgeted. Such is the case this year. For much of this year we have not had a pulpit minister's salary.

Also, for part of the year we will not have a youth minister's salary. In the near future you will see an adjusted number that compares an adjusted budget to actual giving taking into account these adjustments.

May God continue to bless us and may we never take for granted how blessed we truly are.

Wednesday Prayer Services

Adults meet as a body in the fellowship hall for a time of prayer. Our mid-week prayer service is from 7 – 8 PM. The emphasis will be on prayer, but there will be some singing and sharing in the mix. Please plan to pray with the church family. TEAMKid will continue for the children, and the FUSION teens will join the adults once or twice a month and meet as a teen group on the other weeks.



AUGUST 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 10:30 am Baby Shower for Heidi Meurer and baby @ the church
5 Fellowship Meal honoring the Bruners After Services	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 7:10 am Community Prayer Breakfast @ the Friends Church
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 FCS School Begins	28	29	30	31	



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|--|---------------------------------|--|
| 2 - Cathy Price, Bill Shropshire | 14 - Carl Dillon, Anthony Duron | 25 - Albert McCullum, Lori Jackson |
| 3 - David Smith | 15 - Jamie Reeder | 27 - Steven Taliaferro, Christopher Berger |
| 4 - Tom Kirklín | 16 - Betty Watson | 28 - Terry Fowler, Tyler Mitchell, Lorena Main |
| 8 - Christopher Hoskins, Gary Taliaferro | 17 - Ed Hoskins, Steve Fulgham | 30 - Shirle Smith |
| 11 - Mike Lawley | 18 - Eric Sacramento | |
| 13 - Andrew Thomas | 19 - Melissa Watson | |
| | 23 - Kyle McGinn | |

* Announcements *

August 4th / Ladies, you are invited to a baby shower honoring Heidi Meurer at the the church Fellowship Hall on Saturday, August 4th at 10:30am. Heidi & Will are expecting a boy & are registered at Baby's "R"Us & Target. For more info, contact Debbie Kovitz @ (832)865-4878

August 5th / Fellowship Meal honoring the Bruners. In addition to a commemorative gift we will have a Money Tree available for all to contribute to in expressing thanks ... contact Betty Dillon for more info.

August 18th / 7:10 A.M. / Friendswood Prayer Breakfast will be @ Friends Church. Speakers from Child Evangelism, FCA, and Young Life will be speaking on "Back to School." Cost is \$5. Call Ed Hoskins to reserve your spot.

Congratulations to Kristie & Matt Johnson on the birth of Evan Johnson born Tuesday, July 3rd weighing 6lbs. 15oz.



Contribution Counters

Debbie Brown & Mickey McDaniel

Communion Preparers

The Sullivan's

KNOWING AND GROWING



IN CHRIST

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

This month's suggestion from the Lamp is Eternity In Their Hearts. Former Papua New Guinea missionary Don Richardson believes that as God has prepared the gospel for all peoples, so he has prepared all peoples for the gospel. This book examines the examples Richardson has found around the globe of people whose cultural background had prepared them to openly receive the gospel, and suggests that all people have a sense of God's existence. The title of the book comes from Ecclesiastes 3:11 which suggests the same thing, that God has 'placed eternity' in people's hearts, so that they will seek Him. First published in 1981, it has been revised and is still in print (I checked, it is available from Amazon.com).

THE CHURCH OF CHRIST
IN FRIENDSWOOD



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