

view

August 7, 2005

This Week's Agenda

August 7, 2005

The Lord's Day

8:30AM & 10:15AM

Sermon: David Posey

5pm Sermon: David Posey

5:30pm: Classes for all ages from 18 months and up

Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Mark – Grant Mulligan, Dan Singleton
- Room 6: Bible Essentials – Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: 7 Churches of Asia – David Posey, Jr., Jeff Clark

Wednesday

7:30 PM - Classes for all ages 18 months and up.

Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Mark – Grant Mulligan, Dan Singleton
- Room 6: Bible Essentials – Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: (Young Adults) Divorce & Remarriage – David Posey, Sr.

News and Prayer Needs

Prayer Concerns

News and Updates: Pamela Ludlow had surgery on her shoulder on Tuesday and is doing well; Charles Davis' mother continues to recover. Wes Shamblin and Maggie Ivie lost loved ones within the past couple of weeks, so keep them in your prayers, too.

Continue prayers for Wes Shamblin's grandmother; Sharon Jones; Becky Woolpert; Cathy & Hank Wilson; Jamie Cole; those who are fighting cancer: Carly Cain; Larry Thompson; Brady Rembleski's grandfather; Justin Ivie's dad; Dave Fulton's mother, Monica (Monroe, WA); Tom Royston; Ken McClelland; Margaret Everett; Cheryl Wilson; Laurie Ann Reagan; Oliver Sasse.

Continue prayers for all the new children born recently and for the expectant mothers: Amber Karlsson, Janelle Thorp, Carly Posey; Carrie Sadowy; Dani Rembleski.

Out of Town

Dick and Rosie Gardner have been on vacation for several weeks and I've forgotten to mention it here. I apologize. The Thompsons, Boots and Tom, Melody and Katie, Sharon Tarrant and the children, Ed and Kristen, Quincy and Drew - probably many others are out of town this week.

Tim Dickey and Zac Brown will be heading toward FC on Wednesday, so this will be their last Sunday with us for

Bible Reading

Sunday – Reflection

Monday – 2 Chron. 16-18; Psalm 101

Tuesday – 2 Chron. 19-21; Psalm 102

Wednesday – 2 Chron. 22-24; Psalm 103

Thursday – 2 Chron. 25-27; Psalm 104

Friday – 2 Chron. 28-30; Psalm 105

Saturday – 2 Chron. 31-33; Psalm 106:1-23



awhile. Steve and Forrest will be driving with them. Andrew Westphal will be flying back there on the 16th. We will miss these fine young men and that's a major understatement!

Christians Serving in Iraq

Jeremy Allen, Philip Cain, Steve Reis, Titus Cain. Keep these good men in your prayers each day.

Other Involvement Opportunities

The Ladies Workshop will be meeting tomorrow night to explore ways to help others. Please see Denise Westphal for details.

Group Meetings

The third round of group meetings will begin during the week of August 14th. The deacons will be scheduling these, and you should hear from them at the appropriate time. The topic of discussion will be "Optimizing Opportunities." The discussions will center on how we can make the most of every opportunity to present the gospel.

The View contains news and articles of interest to the members of the Folsom Point church of Christ. Announcing an activity or event does not necessarily imply that we financially sponsor the event or that the elders specifically endorse every component of that event, since it may not fall under the direct oversight of the elders. The church's work and the elders' oversight is limited by Scripture. We will not announce events that are primarily social in nature. However, we do want to publicize those activities that provide an opportunity for you to be a more involved and active member of the body.

Editor

The Proof of Your Faith

In Peter's first letter he begins by reminding his readers, Christian exiles who have been dispersed throughout the entire regions, about their great blessings in Christ Jesus. He says, "In this (the knowledge of their blessings) you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ, 1 Peter 1:6-7.

We all have trials and suffering and pain. Some are worse than others. But it's not a matter of if we suffer, but rather when we suffer. The real issue is how we handle it. Peter was writing to Christians whose lives were thrown into turmoil. They had lost their homes, jobs, and in some instances, their families. They were literally scattered to the winds, because of their faith. Yet, Peter wrote to remind them of their blessings. The theme of his first letter could be described as "a lesson in how to live as Christians in a hostile world." Can we find a more relevant topic today? We are unlikely to face the kind of persecution in the United States that the first century Christians faced. However, the kinds of suffering and pain we experience are just as real and just as hard. They merely take on a different appearance.

You or a loved one may have a terminal disease, your child may have suffered a tragic accident, your spouse may have been unfaithful, you may have suffered financially or have difficulty on the job. Some of our suffering is self-imposed and some is imposed on us. The important question is not "why me," but "how do I react to it?" I recall reading some refrigera-

tor door wisdom once, "...that I refuse to allow someone else to determine how I behave." This is a statement of how we deal with our problems, which usually involve other people. We need to remind ourselves that it is up to us how we react to situations in life.

Peter said that we should remind ourselves of our blessings, 1 Peter 1:3-5. Refocus our thoughts on what is truly important. Paul said there are benefits

from suffering, Romans 5:1-5. He actually said that we should exult in our trials (temptations) because if they will lead to patience/perseverance, and that leads to character, and that leads to hope. And hope will not disappoint us, because it comes from

God. James says that we should count it all joy when we face trials because they will help to make us complete, James 1:2-4.

Our natural inclination is to avoid suffering. And we should try to make decisions in our life that minimize the chances for it. But it will come upon us anyway. God wants us to learn from it, be better for it, and move closer to Him because of it. Suffering reminds us we haven't reached heaven yet, that we should look to the end and see the benefits from endurance. It should also help us to know how much we want to avoid hell. The way we deal with the trials, pain and suffering that fall upon us will determine our ultimate destiny. It is proof of our faith.

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Vacation Bible School 2005

On Friday, we completed our second annual Vacation Bible School. From the sound of the children's voices and the teachers' enthusiasm, it was a resounding success.

Here are some statistics: we had as many as 46 children who attended during the week (compared to a high of about 35 last year). We had 31 helpers, with an average of 27 each day. There were 13 children who were visitors, including 8 from the community.

We got a bit of a late start on VBS this year, so all of this occurred with little lead time and almost zero advertising (last year, we had a bigger banner and put out door-hangers in the surrounding communities).

I had the privilege of being able to observe every classroom and the learning lab as the week progressed. I can sum it up this way (I realize I'm terribly biased): we have the most adorable and brightest children, the most talented teachers and the most dedicated group of young people that you will find anywhere.

The children are precious – of course! And this is all about the children. We do not spend the money or take the time and effort to do this because we get a



kick out of it or because it in some way massages our egos or makes us feel as if we have accomplished something. We do it is because it is a unique learning opportunity for the kids who attend. And they love it. Check it out for yourself. Ask Jordyn Ivie or Lexi or Michaela or Jude or Jadon or any of the other children what they



learned this week. You may get an ear-full! Ask them who visited their classrooms and spoke to them. Their eyes may get as big as saucers as they tell you. There is nothing better than watching these precious little chil-

dren put their hand over their heart and say a pledge of allegiance to the Bible. There is nothing better than to hear them say, when asked who made them, "God did!!"

None of this happens without the teachers: Paula Ladd, Rhonda Agee, Melissa Doty, Carrie Sadowy, Karen Smith,

Dana Carrozza, April Franklin, Sara Clark, Angie Cain, Kaitlin Reagan, Debbie Reagan,

Gwen Scott and Peggy Daniels (if I forgot someone, I'll feel terrible). And, boy, did the creative juices flow this week! No (scriptural) stone was left unturned as they pulled out all the stops to make the week a memorable one for the kids. There were replicas of the big fish that swallowed Jonah, all kinds of teach-



ing visuals and the contagious enthusiasm of women and their teenage helpers who love the Lord. We truly appreciate their efforts.

It was especially gratifying to see the young people involved. Nathan, Tyler and Zac Brown, Annie, Jolee, Jordan and Jake Thompson, Tim Dickey, Weston Tarrant – and others took their job very seriously and were a tremendous help to all the teachers.

The learning lab was a big hit again this year and gave the teachers 15 minutes to regroup and recharge their batteries. The kids were asked questions about the lessons which were associated with various activities. They were able to draw to their hearts' content on a giant roll of butcher paper (you'll see some of their work around the building today).

Christie Posey and Mary Ellen Veitschegger along with Jolee and Annie, kept the lab going

during the week and did a wonderful job.

We also want to thank David Byrd for expertly leading our closing exercise each day in the auditorium. He asked some questions about what the children learned, led a song and said a prayer before the children were dismissed.

We would be remiss if we didn't also thank Joseph, Jonah and Noah, who were so kind to step back in time and come to visit us in our 2005 VBS. The children were thrilled to meet them and to be able to ask them questions. Jo-

seph, Jonah and Noah were instrumental in helping make the Bible events real and memorable for the children this year.

Finally, the elders want to thank Chandra Brown, who tirelessly worked to get everything in order and ready for the week. She did this with very little time, but with great enthusiasm and love. There are no words that can completely express our gratitude for her work. She will be the first to tell you that she could not have done it without the teachers and others who helped; but if Chandra



had not taken on the work, there would not have been a

VBS this year. So thank you!

We will start our planning very early next year so that all will know what week to set aside for it. We also feel that it can create a wonderful opportunity to reach members of the community, so we want to maximize that potential and get the word out early and do some advertising. If you have any suggestions or comments, please speak to one of the elders. Thank you for your support.

dp

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Services

Sunday Morning Assembly
8:30AM & 10:15AM
Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study
7:30 PM
Classes for all ages.
Private classes arranged at your convenience.

For more information,
visit our web site at:

www.folsomchurch.com