

# view

August 28, 2005

## This Week's Agenda

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### The Lord's Day

8:30AM & 10:15AM

Sermon: David Posey

5pm Sermon: Jeff Herrin

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

### “Weep with those who weep”

As I write this, Barbara Sterling continues to hang on to life. We are getting regular updates from her daughter, Jodi. Ken seems to be doing reasonably well. Keep the family in your prayers, please.

Continue to pray for the many who have recently lost their parents or other loved ones, including Sharron Tarrant, Steve Ries, Wes Shamblin and Maggie Ivie.

### News and Updates

Ben Thorp has been diagnosed with a serious case of Lyme Disease. The disease has spread to his spine and his brain which will require that he have an injection every day for 30 days. He will be off of work for an extended period. Please keep Ben and the family in your prayers.

Bertha Hamilton is scheduled for foot surgery next week. If you would like to help provide meals for Bertha and Willard, please see Angie Cain or Christie Posey.

Charles Davis will be going to see his mother early next month; continue to pray for her. Neta Sellgren (Sharron Wade's mother) has had additional surgery for cancer and is facing chemotherapy and radiation, so remember her when you pray.

Continue your prayers for Wes Shamblin's grandmother; Sharon Jones; Becky Woolpert; Kathy & Hank Wilson; Jamie Cole; those who are fighting cancer: Monica Fulton (Dave's mother), Carly Cain, Larry Thompson, Brady Rembleski's grandfather, Justin Ivie's dad, Tom Royston,



## Bible Reading

Sunday – Nehemiah 11-13; Psalm 118

Monday – Reflection

Tuesday – Reflection

Wednesday – Reflection

Thursday – I Timothy 1-3; Psalm 119:1-8

Friday – I Timothy 4-6; Psalm 119:9-16

Saturday – Esther 1-3; Psalm 119:17-24

Ken McClelland, Margaret Everett, Cheryl Wilson, Laurie Ann Reagan and Oliver Sasse.

### “Rejoice with those who rejoice”

Continue to pray for all of our children, especially those who are just born. Also, continue prayers for our new Christians, Terri Zwahlan and her son, Kyle.

Pray for the expectant mothers: Janelle Thorp, Carly Posey; Carrie Sadowy; Dani Rembleski; Angie Cain (!!).

### Out of Town

College students will continue to be returning to school. Leah Raposa has gone back to San Diego and Terry and Lisa are with her. Boots and Tom are in Idaho. Wayne and Shirley will be gone for about a month and a half.

### Christians Serving in Iraq

Jeremy Allen, Philip Cain, Steve Ries, Titus Cain. Pray for these men every day.

### Other Involvement Opportunities

The Ladies Workshop, a group focused on helping others, meets on the first Monday of every other month. Please see Denise Westphal for details.

### Group Meetings

The third round of group meetings have begun. The deacon in charge of your group will be contacting you about the time and place of the meeting.

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

## New Testament Background

# Christian Assemblies

*“In the spirit on the Lord’s day”*

New Testament Texts: Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Revelation 1:10; Luke 24:1-35; John 20:1-29; Hebrews 10:25.

### SOURCES

In the past, many non-inspired writers spoke about the church and its faith and practice. We include a few of the writings of these men, some who were contemporaries of the apostles. Many of the quotations here come from sources dating from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries. Ignatius, for example, was born in about 50 AD and died sometime between 98-117 AD. He was a contemporary of Polycarp (AD 69-155). Clement of Alexandria, an early Greek theologian, died around 215 AD.

### The Day of Christian Worship

**DIDACHE.** Having earlier confessed your sins so that your sacrifice may be pure, come together each Lord’s Day of the Lord, break bread, and give thanks. (14:1)

**IGNATIUS:** If therefore those who lived according to the old practices came to the new hope, no longer observing the Sabbath but living according to the Lord’s day, in which also our life arose through him and his death (which some deny), through which mystery we received faith, and on account of which we suffer in order that we may be found disciples of Jesus Christ our only teacher, how shall we be able to live apart from him for whom even the prophets were looking as their teacher since they were his disciples in the spirit? (*Magnesians* 9)

**BARNABAS:** Moreover God says to the Jews, “Your new moons and Sabbaths I cannot endure.” You see how he says, “The present Sabbaths are not acceptable to me, but the Sabbath which I have made in which, when I have rested from all things, I will make the beginning of the eighth day which is the beginning of another world.” Wherefore, we [Christians] keep the eighth day for joy, on which also Jesus arose from the dead and when he appeared ascended into heaven. (15:8f.)

**JUSTIN:** We are always together with one an-

other. And for all the things with which we are supplied we bless the Maker of all through his Son Jesus Christ and through his Holy Spirit. And on the day called Sunday there is a gathering together in the same place of all who live in a city or a rural district. [There follows an account of a Christian



worship service, which is quoted in VII.2. J We all make our assembly in common on the day of the Sun, since it is the first day, on which God changed the darkness and matter and made the world, and Jesus Christ our Savior arose from the dead on the same day. For they crucified him on the day before Saturn’s day, and on the day after (which is the day of the Sun) he appeared to his apostles and taught his disciples these things. (*Apology 1, 67:1-3, 7*)

There is no other thing for which you blame us, my friends, is there than this? That we do not live according to the Law, nor are we circumcised in the flesh as your forefathers, nor do we observe the Sabbath as you do. (*Dialogue with Trypho* 10:1. In verse 3 the Jew Trypho acknowledges that Christians “do not keep the Sabbath.”)

The commandment of circumcision, requiring them always to circumcise the children on the eighth day, was a type of the true circumcision by which we are circumcised from error and evil through the resurrection from the dead on the first day of the week of Jesus Christ our Lord. For the first day of the week, although it is the first of all days, yet according to the number of the days in a cycle is called the eighth (while still remaining the first). (*Dialogue* 41:4)

**EPISTLE OF THE APOSTLES:** I [Christ] have come into being on the eighth day which is the day of the Lord. (18)

**CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA:** Plato prophetically speaks of the Lord’s day in the tenth book of the Republic, in these words: “And when seven days have passed to each of them in the meadow, on the eighth they must go on.” (*Miscellanies* V.xiv.106.2)

[In commenting on each of the Ten Commandments and their Christian meaning:] The seventh day

is proclaimed a day of rest, preparing by abstention from evil for the Primal day, our true rest. (*Ibid.* VI. xvi. 138.1)

He does the commandment according to the Gospel and keeps the Lord's day, whenever he puts away an evil mind... glorifying the Lord's resurrection in himself. (*Ibid.* VII.xii.76.4)

TERTULLIAN: Others... suppose that the sun is the god of the Christians, because it is well-known that ... we regard Sunday as a day of joy. (*To the Nations* 1:13)

To us Sabbaths are foreign. (*On Idolatry* 14:6).

Let him who contends that the Sabbath is still to be observed as a balm of salvation, and circumcision on the eighth day because of the threat of death, teach us that in earliest times righteous men kept the Sabbath or practiced circumcision, and so were made friends of God. It follows, accordingly, that, inasmuch as the abolition of carnal circumcision and of the old law is demonstrated as having been consummated in its own times, so also the observance of the Sabbath is demonstrated to have been temporary. (*An Answer to the Jews* 2:10; 4:1)

BARDESAN: Wherever we are, we are all called after the one name of Christ—Christians. On one day, the first of the week, we assemble ourselves together.... (*On Fate*)

EUSEBIUS: [The Ebionites] were accustomed to observe the Sabbath and other Jewish customs but on the Lord's days to celebrate the same practices as we in remembrance of the resurrection of the Savior. (*Church History* III.xxvii.5)

### **Exhortations to Assemble Together**

DIDACHE. You shall seek daily the faces of the saints in order that you may rest content with their words. You shall not make a schism, but you shall make peace between those who are fighting. (4:2f.)

You shall come together more frequently and seek the things beneficial for your souls. (16:2)

BARNABAS: You are not to retire by yourself and live alone as if you were already righteous, but you are to come together in one place and seek the common good. (4:10)

Remember the day of judgment night and day, and you are to seek daily the faces of the saints, either laboring through word and going about to exhort and taking care to save your soul by word or working with your hands for the ransom of your sins. (19:10)

IGNATIUS: Let no one be deceived: Unless one is within the place of sacrifice he is deprived of the bread of God. For if the prayer of one or two has such great strength, how much more the prayer of the bishop with the whole church? Therefore, he who does not come to the assembly is already puffed up and has passed judgment on himself. (*Ephesians* 5:2)

Give diligence therefore to come together more frequently for thanksgiving and glory to God, for when you are frequently together in one place, the powers of Satan are destroyed and his destructiveness is nullified by the concord of your faith. (*Ibid* 13)

Let assemblies be held more frequently; seek all by name. (*Polycarp* 4:2)

SECOND CLEMENT. Let us not seem merely to believe and give attention now while we are being admonished by the elders, but also when we have gone home let us remember the commandments of the Lord and not be drawn away by worldly desires. Rather let us come together more frequently and try to make progress in the commandments of the Lord in order that we may all be of the same mind and may be gathered together unto life. (17:3)

HIPPOLYTUS: And let every faithful man and woman when they arise from sleep at dawn before they undertake any work wash their hands and pray to God, and so let them go to their work. But if there should be an instruction in the word let each one prefer to go thither, considering that it is God whom he hears speaking by the mouth of him who instructs. For having prayed with the Church he will be able to avoid all the evils of that day. The God-fearing man should consider it a great loss if he does not go to the place in which they give instruction, and especially if he knows how to read. If there is a teacher there, let none of you be late in arriving at the assembly at the place where they give instruction. Then indeed it shall be given to him who speaks to utter things which are profitable to all, and thou shalt be profited by the things which the Holy Spirit will give to thee by him who instructs and so thy faith will be established by what thou hearest. And further he shall tell thee there what thou oughtest to do in thine own house. And therefore let each one be careful to go to the assembly to the place where the Holy Spirit abounds. And if there is a day on which there is no instruction let each one at home take a holy book and read it sufficiently what seems profitable. (*Apostolic Tradition* xxxv).

# A Note from the Elders

## Ken Marrs

Last Sunday night Ken Marrs announced that he found it necessary to resign as an elder here at Folsom Point due to age- and health-related concerns. He was appointed, along with Randy Clark, on May 12, 1996 and has served faithfully for over 9 years.

Ken has always been a model of consistency and firm resolve. No one could ever doubt his love for the truth and his dedication to it. Compromise (of the truth) is a word not found in his vocabulary. He is not one to shy away from making difficult decisions and, as Randy told me, "his hand was always steady when faced with these decisions." My own experience with Ken, both as a preacher and fellow-elder, confirms that. There was no doubt that Ken would come down in one place: on the side of the truth.

We will miss that in this eldership. We will also miss the wisdom and the vast experience that he brought to it. I anticipate, though, that we will continue to consult with him from time-to-time and ask, "What would you do about this?"

When Ken arrived here, he had retired from many years of preaching and many men, in the same circumstance, would not have felt compelled to serve. They would spend their retirement years in more pleasurable endeavors. But Ken stepped up to the plate and agreed to serve, and the elders want to thank Ken for taking on that formidable task, even at an older age. We deeply appreciate the time and effort that he put into it and wish him all the best.

## Calendar: 2005-2006

As summer comes to a close, we are beginning to formulate our schedule of additional class offerings, besides those that are offered at the building during regular meeting hours. In the next week or two, we would like to publish a calendar for the upcoming year with all the involvement opportunities noted on a month-by-month basis. We hope that you will post the calendar in a conspicuous place and take

advantage of as many of these opportunities as possible.

Our group meetings will continue throughout the year and we would like to put those on the calendar as they are scheduled. Deacons, please let David Posey know as soon as you schedule your meeting, so he can update the calendar.

Randy is presently teaching a class on Evidences in his home and David and Dan will be teaching other home classes in the upcoming months. The subject matter of these classes will always be "visitor-friendly" so that you will feel comfortable inviting your friends and neighbors. We will also be resuming our mid-week daytime classes which will be open to anyone who can attend.

We have many young people here and we want to do everything in our power to help them grow and develop into faithful Christians. With that in mind, we will be scheduling regular monthly discussion meetings ("devotionals") for them; everyone who is 14-18 years old will be invited to attend these events. We also plan to resurrect the "Parent's-Kid's" classes that we conducted a few years ago, especially for children from 8-13. We plan to do these on a quarterly basis. All of these will be listed on a calendar for the entire year.

One of our goals is to help each of us develop the skills necessary to approach and teach our non-Christian friends and relatives. To that end, we will be providing skill-building workshops at various times throughout the year. The times of these classes will be on the calendar so that you can make plans to attend.

We have also been working on ways to provide leadership training to men of all ages. We will have more information on this and will include it on our calendar for the upcoming year. We will also include any other activity — gospel meetings, VBS, etc. — that we feel is important for you to know about and plan for.

We would like to see others get involved in the planning and implementing of these activities, classes

and workshops. For example, if you would like to host a young people's meeting in the month of March next year, we can note that on the calendar and then we will update the calendar. We would like as many people involved in this as possible. We would also like to hear from those who may wish to lead a discussion or to help facilitate a class or workshop.

Please see David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to participate or have other ideas about classes that you feel would be beneficial.

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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](http://www.folsomchurch.com)