

View

August 12, 2007

This Week's Agenda

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM: Singing, Prayer, Lord's Supper, Sermon: David Posey

5 PM – Singing, **Prayer**, Lord's Supper, Sermon

Classes Offered This Week

Today at 5:30

Classes for all ages 18 months and up.

Auditorium: Studies in Authority

Room 11-12: Seed Sowers Workshop

Tuesday at 7 PM

John's Gospel (Location TBA)

Wednesday

7:30 PM – Summer Program - Everyone 6th grade and up will be in the auditorium. Classes for younger ages.

News & Prayer Concerns

"First of all, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men..."

Prayer Concerns

Continue to pray for Bill Cain, Trey's father.

Pray for Debbie Ramsey (sister of Andy Cantrell). She has been diagnosed with cancer.

Continue your prayers for Belle Smith, Naomi Fannin, Tom Royston, Dylan Franklin, Patsy Main (David's mother), Herman Ward, David Ramsey, Julie Bumgarten, Kathy Wilson and Sharon Jones. Keep Myrtle Farrell, Gwen's mother, in mind.

Continue to pray for Jackson Agee, Logan and Julie's child.

Continue to pray for Carl and Arlene Hanson.

Pray for those who are expecting: Nicole Grinnell, Jamie Gardner, Sarah Cain, April Franklin, Dawn Brooks, Karen Cain, Whitney Schrimsher, Heather Rico and for the couples that would like to have children, but have not been able.

Continue your prayers for those who serve our country. Beau Martindale, Norma Smith's grandson is in Afghanistan for 16 months. Jeremy Allen, Art and Peggy's son, is serving in the Baghdad area.

Out of Town

Out of town, the Horak family is in Southern California and will return late this evening. Mike Wilson is preaching in Davis this morning.

Florida College

Today is Tyler Brown's last Sunday with us for a while. He will be leaving for Florida College on Monday. Please pray for him and Forrest as they drive back to Florida this week. Kaitlin Reagan will be leaving this Friday (Aug. 17th) for Florida college. Please remember her in your prayers.

Quarterly Singing

Our next quarterly singing will be held on September 30th, the last Sunday of the quarter.

Gospel Meetings

Reminder: Mark your calendar for October 8-10, 2007 for a meeting with Ed Harrell. We have also booked gospel meetings with Bob Owen in the Fall of 2008, Paul Earnhart in 2009 and Dee Bowman in 2011.



**Read your Bible
each day, and
spread the word!**

Jamaica Report

So many of you have asked us how the trip to Jamaica went, but my standard answer of "Really good!" hardly gives enough information about the country or what we did there. So this is an attempt to let you know exactly how our trip to Jamaica went. I hope you find it encouraging reading about how the brethren are doing and the Lord's work that is being done overseas. And I know I speak not only for Amanda and myself but for the entire group when I say that we appreciate the prayers and encouragement of all of you! It was so wonderful to know that we had so much support in the United States.

I suppose the best place to start is to give some general information about the island. Jamaica is a third world country that is rampant with drug abuse, fornication, corruption, and all kinds of immorality. The Rastafarian religion, the most popular and famous movement to come out of Jamaica, accepts Haile Selassie I, the former Emperor of Ethiopia, as God incarnate, and, among other things, encourages the "spiritual use of cannabis." The hardest part about living there, though, is that their lives are an endless vicious cycle. The men abandon their pregnant girlfriends because their fathers abandoned them. The girls get pregnant at 16 because their mothers were pregnant at 16. Sexual immorality and irresponsibility are so common, it has become a part of their culture.

Yet, in a country so corrupt, you will find some of the kindest, most enthusiastic people you will ever meet. There are members of the church who work all week to have enough money to pay for a taxi ride to services Sunday morning. If you walk through the markets with your Bible in hand, women will literally grab you and plead for a Bible study. The singing there, while untrained, is so full of passion that you can sometimes see the tears of joy. And the singing never stops. When I was riding around with Maxwell James, the preacher at the congregation in Montego Bay, in his taxi, he was always singing. You could tell it just fills the people up, and they can't contain their joy.

A typical day for us in Jamaica started out with Vacation Bible School. Some of the group would ride the vans into the neighboring areas and pick up

the kids while the rest stayed behind and got ready for the day. This gave us the chance to see how the people really live. The streets are a mess and the some of the houses are just made from whatever they could find. But at VBS, first everyone would gather together and sing. Those kids have the most powerful lungs of anyone I know. They get so into it! Then we would split up into nursery, primary, junior high, high school, and ladies Bible classes. The past two years and some of this year I got to teach nursery, which was infant-4 year olds. And while most of our group calls it "glorified babysitting," some of the kids got down the story of Noah pretty well. Just ask and I would be glad to show you my adorable videos. I would ask, "What's an ark?" and the reply from about half the class was "A big boat!" But you have to imagine it in the sweetest Jamaican accent ever. SO CUTE! But I digress.

After VBS we would play games and just hang around, getting to know the kids. Afternoons were different in the two locations. Savanna la Mar is more rural so it's hard to just walk down the streets and find people to study with, but in Montego Bay, we would go down to one of the craft markets and just walk around, studying with whomever showed interest (which was most people). So many missionary groups go through there so most of the people know the story of Jesus. Most commonly, we run into Seventh Day Adventists but other denominations are very active there as well. Because we go to the same places every year, we really form relationships not only with the members of the local congregations, but also with those people we study with every year in these afternoon excursions. Unfortunately, the most frequent response to our studies is "Soon. Be baptized soon." But "soon" means something different in Jamaica, because they have been studying with some of these people for far longer than I've been going, and yet still they reply, "Soon." However, one uplifting story is of a young man named Charlie Salmon. He was baptized last year as a result of one of these random street-side studies, and I think (shame on us) many of us were surprised to see him still attending and serving the Lord's Supper. Like I said, so many just succumb to the cycle, but Charlie's story really amazed and humbled me.

In the evenings, we had the Jamaican equivalent

of a gospel meeting— the first week with the larger Sav congregation and the second week at the YWCA on Church St. where the Mo Bay congregation meets. The service would start with “lively choruses,” their favorite songs that they know by memory and just love to sing. Then the singing moves to the book, followed by one or two lessons from one of the guys on the trip. With all of the Americans, plus all of the people we brought through the street studies, we had to sit outside. Like our overcrowding issue here, it’s a wonderful problem to have. The day would end with our own little devotional, often attended by a few of our Jamaican friends, at the place we were staying, and then an exhausted night’s sleep.

Reading this over, I feel so limited in my ability to describe what an incredible experience this has been in my life. I just wish everyone could go down there and meet Jodi, Maxwell, Eroll, Jackie, Marlon and Oretta! Oh I have to tell you quickly about this couple. Marlon is a quadriplegic and Oretta is his wife. They were engaged to be married when Marlon had his accident, and instead of abandoning him, she went ahead and married him. She now takes care of him and her two children from a previous marriage. But Marlon, with his electric wheel chair we brought for him a couple of years ago, makes his way around to the neighbors inviting them to church services. We always go up to their house and have a singing/devotional with them. We always conclude with Marlon’s favorite song “Victory in Jesus,” and when you are sitting next to him, hearing him sing about how Jesus “made the lame to walk again,” you really feel the power of what you are singing.

Sorry this turned out so long, but I just love to talk about Jamaica! Like I said, to see the people there overcome the poverty and corruptness to serve God, is the most uplifting experience I have had as a Christian. Our family down there may be small, but they are strong, and they always bring me far more encouragement than I feel I leave them with. And again, thank you all for supporting us with such love. Thank you for the prayers and the interest you’ve shown. The congregations in Montego Bay and Savanna la Mar send their love!

Kaitlin Reagan

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Services

Sunday Morning Assembly
9:30AM

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



QUOTE:

I find the great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving. To reach the port of heaven, we must sail sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it, but we must sail, and not drift, nor lie at anchor.

--Oliver Wendell Holmes

Mark Your Calendar

September 30th, Quarterly Singing

October 8-10, 2007 - Meeting with Ed Harrell

Preachers We Help Support



John Scholtz - South Africa, Zimbabwe
Robert Nichols - Japan
Barney Mejia - Nicaragua
Dale Pennock - Vermont
Gary Stouffer - Vista, CA
Jim Lee - Englewood, Ohio
Jeff Carr - Mandeville, LA
Roberto Tondelli, Rome, Italy

Philippines

Armando C. Pastor - Sto. Domingo & Dumabel
Pepe G. Ando - Davao City
Amado M. Estoy - Iriga City
Ecclesiastes C. Licayan - Monkayo
Abe S. Aguete - Pagudpud
Rex M. Bayaca - Laoag City
James Amangan - Bangued
Quirino Tien - Cagayan Valley
Rosilito F. Nardo in Koronadal City.
Johnny Buguis in General Santos City.
Romel Dazon in General Santos City.

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 and encourage those activities that provide an opportunity to be built up in the faith and provide an opportunity for you to be a more involved and active member of the body at Folsom Point.

ABOUT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AT FOLSOM

We are a church of Christ patterned after the New Testament example of local churches. We believe in the authoritative word of God and will provide you with a Bible answer for everything we do in our doctrine and practice. We exalt Jesus Christ and seek to glorify Him, not ourselves (Ephesians 3:21). Therefore, our efforts are directed toward promoting commitment to Christ, not to any man or institution (I Corinthians 2:5).

Our assemblies are simple. We sing without use of an instrument (see Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; we will be happy to show you why we use no instrument, if you desire further study on this issue). We pray (I Timothy 2:1), partake of the Lord's Supper each first day of the week (I Corinthians 11:23-29; Acts 20:7) and teach from God's word. All preaching comes from the Bible.

The financial support of this congregations comes entirely from the free-will offerings of its members made on the first day of the week (I Corinthians 16:1-2; II Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-7). We never solicit funds from non-members. Contributions are used for the spiritual growth of this church and for the support of a few men in other areas, such as the Philippines, who are preaching the gospel. We do not use money collected here for social programs or the support of any human institution. We believe the church itself can do all the work God has given it to do. And we aim to do *only* the work God has given it to do — teach the gospel, build up the members, and help needy Christians. All other "good work" is the responsibility of individual Christians (Titus 2:11-14; James 1:27; Galatians 6:9-10).

We offer personal Bible studies at your convenience. We are here to help you with your spiritual needs: please favor us with a request for a Bible study or correspondence course that you can complete at your pace.