



# Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ  
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Volume 19    Number 45

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November 18, 2007

**Merrell Shoptaw**  
Devo, October 3, 2007  
Dover Church of Christ  
Dover, Arkansas

I know you are all familiar with our logo "Share in the Love." And if you go to our website you'll find these quoted verses on the homepage as a basis for that logo: "**Jesus said unto him, 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all the soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.'**" (Matthew 22:37-39)

Another gospel account of this same event says, "**... and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'** There is no commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:30-31)

*When I have learnt to love God better than my earthly dearest, I shall love my earthly dearest better than I do now. Insofar as I learn to love my earthly dearest at the expense of God and instead of God, I shall be moving toward the state in which I shall not love my earthly dearest at all. When first things*

*are put first, second things are not suppressed but increased."*

*C. S. Lewis*

I read the other day a story about a fellow in another congregation who used to continually encourage the members to incorporate a simple prayer into their daily routine. You can word it however you wish, but it's a prayer that comes from the passage where Jesus answers the question about the greatest command. You might put it this way: "*Father, help me to love you more than anyone or anything, and help me to love my neighbor as I love myself.*"

The story went that since praying this daily prayer, two things have happened to him. First, he is discovering that his love for God and others is actually growing. Second, loving God and others has become something he thinks about every day.

My contention is that it is impossible for those two things to be bad. Jesus thought so highly of these two commands, that he told his disciples two things. First, the whole law and the prophets depended on these two commands. Second, there is no command greater than these. Every other command is a subhead of these two, and all commands of God find their ultimate fulfillment in these two. If you're trying to do the will of

God, these two commands must be the heart and soul of all your efforts to please Him.

The world is a troubled place. On our lifetime, the cold-war and the iron curtain has been replaced by Islamic terrorists. Crime, drugs, gangs and more that years ago were associated only with big cities are now a concern of small-towns just like Dover across America. Rampant immorality that tears apart families and communities is no longer limited to movie theatre screens. It's played out in our own neighborhoods. Everybody keeps looking for answers. Social workers, politicians, educators and others are trying their best to stem a flood that sometimes just seems to be unstoppable.

The command to love God and others needs fleshing out by putting it to work in the very real world of daily living. To love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love others as we love ourselves, is not only life-changing for us, it is potentially world changing.

It is a radical message the church needs to preach and practice.

I think the fellow in the story is on to something.

Start praying that little prayer. It will change you and that's a first step toward changing the world.

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## Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

### THANKSGIVING

As a nation we are entering into a day of thanksgiving. No one should forget the One to whom we owe all of our blessings. Too often we take these blessings for granted.

Most of us will have a great feast this day. We will enjoy the food, our family get-togethers and friends. It will be a day to thank God, remembering all the good He does for us and those all around us.

We will probably go overboard in the preparation of the meal. It takes me about three days to prepare it now. Most of the time I feel like Martha. I get carried away with little things that don't matter much.

This Thanksgiving Day should be more than about food. It should be about our freedom. It should be about the hope we look forward to. It should be about the peace we enjoy through Jesus Christ. We should thank God for giving His Son as our sacrifice. **"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"** (II Corinthians 9:15)

This song of praise says it perfectly:

Thank you Lord, for loving me,  
Thank you Lord, for blessing me,  
Thank you Lord, for making me  
whole and saving my soul.

We may be aware of God's love and grace but, more often than not, we forget to give thanks. We accept His love, even expect it, but fail to give Him the praise and thanks He deserves.

**"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him. For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His truth endures all generations."** (Psalm 100:4-5)

Paul tells us to give thanks as we petition God for our wants and needs.

**"Be anxious about nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."** (Philippians 4:6)

Let's make every day a day of thanksgiving!

## Remember Our Sick

**Yvonne Adkisson** – home recovering, still needs our prayers

**Bob Bennett** – serious health problems, more tests scheduled.

**Lois Boley** – will take time to get her strength back, still needs your prayers.

**William Boley** – aneurysm - test, results pending. Another appointment scheduled.

**Bernice Brown** – in hospital, LR, pace maker surgery.

**James Chadwick** – The redo surgery, Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, went well.

**Jessalyn Davis** – cancer, undergoing treatment, home.

**Charles Hickey** – home, Hospice.

**Ray King** – serious health problems.

**Pat McAlister** – starting therapy, no surgery scheduled for now.

**Jannie Myers** – referred to a cardiologist in L R, Thurs., Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, results pending.

**Don Sheeran** – home, recovering from gall-bladder surgery. Appreciates all your prayers.

**Janie West** – of Center Valley, seriously injured in an auto wreck.

**Lloyd Whitted** – another heart attack, had stint surgery. Still having serious problems

**Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:**

Dover Area:

**Bernice Brown**

**Evelyn Burton**

**Mae Vanzandt**

Russellville Nursing and Rehab Center:

**Evelyn Driver**

**Melba Hodges**

Stella Manor:

**Louise Killer**

**Others Who Need Our Prayers:**

Daisy Hogins Anderson, Amie Barkley, Carolyn Bennett, Bill Besterfeldt, Lloyd Boley, Susie Boley, Jeff Davis, Leota Hickey, Charles Ensey, Hoyt and Sarah Ensey, Sue Griffin, David Guthrie, Dorothy King, Jim Lackey, Robert and Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Linda Melton, Charles Proctor, Summer Russell, Reddie Smith, and Tanya Smith.

**Special Children:** Elysia Lee, Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

**Military:** Greg Davis, Johnny Ragsdale, Cole Wetzell and Rudy Will.

## "There Is Peace"

Give thought to the following words:

*In a world that is wracked by sin and sorrow, there is peace.*

*When you find no hope for your tomorrow, there is peace.*

*When it seems your heavy burden is much too much, there is peace.*

*In Jesus, there is perfect peace.*

*If you're tired of all life's rush and hurry, there is peace*

*If your mind is filled with fear and worry, there is peace.*

*When your problems overwhelm you and fill you with despair,*

*In Jesus there is perfect peace.*

*There is peace, there is peace,  
In the midst of every storm of life,  
there's peace:*

*If you'll put your life in Jesus  
And let Him have His way,  
You'll find peace, perfect peace today.*

Author Unknown

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**Prayer for our Military and their families this Thanksgiving Season:**

**"Lord hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the acts they perform for us in our time of need."**

Amen."

Carroll Sikes

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### Prayers and Sympathy

For the family and friends of **Frances Davis** who passed away Thursday, October 25, 2007.

Memorial services were Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Events

### Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday  
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8  
Bible Story and  
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3  
Nursery Class

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### AREA WIDE YOUTH DEVO

Sunday, *November 18*

Dardanelle Church  
of Christ

Hosting at CCSC,  
Arkansas Tech Campus

The Life Lines' staff  
wishes everyone a happy  
and fulfilled time spent  
with friends and family  
during your Thanksgiving  
Holiday!

The church office will be  
closed November 22nd and  
23<sup>rd</sup>, (Thursday and  
Friday).

## Mark Your Calendars

### *The One Thousandth Psalm*

O God, we thank thee for  
everything.

For the sea and its waves,  
blue, green and gray and  
always wonder-ful;

For the beach and the  
breakers and the  
spray and the white  
foam on the rocks;

For the blue arch of  
heaven; for the clouds  
in the sky, white and  
gray and purple;

For the green of the grass;  
for the forests in their  
spring beauty;

For the wheat and corn and  
rye and barley.

We thank Thee for all  
Thou hast made and  
that Thou hast called  
it good;

For all the glory and  
beauty and wonder of  
the world.

We thank Thee that Thou  
hast placed us in the  
world to subdue all  
things to Thy glory,  
And to use all things for  
the good of Thy  
children.

By: *Edward Everette Hale*  
1822-1909

## November Birthdays

- 06 Roxanna Shoptaw
- 07 Charlene Clark
- 08 Gwen Hale
- 09 Kim Walters
- 10 Diane Shinn  
Andy Jackson
- 12 Dana Bates
- 14 Daniel Loper
- 15 Adam Pointer  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Michael Williams
- 18 Clara Hefley  
Kevin Miller
- 20 Marion Helton
- 21 Carla Oaks
- 24 Ted Shinn
- 29 Charles Hickey  
Taylor Thomas

If we missed your birthday,  
*please* let us know so it won't  
happen again.

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### “In Search of the Lord's Way” Now 24/7

**The Search Program can  
now be accessed any time  
website:**

[www.searchtv.org](http://www.searchtv.org)  
Mack Lyon's weekly  
lesson can be heard and  
seen on KARK, Channel 4,  
Sunday, 7:30 AM.

# ***THOSE TO SERVE***

***November 18, 2007***

## **Sunday A.M.**

**Announcer:** Randall Walters  
**Song Leader:** Merrell Shoptaw

### **Prayers**

Alan Boatright  
Allen Veasman

### **Communion**

**Podium:** Marion Helton  
**Serve:** Jim Killer  
Rex McDaniel  
Rick Hollis  
Robert Bird

### **Scripture Reading**

William Boley

## **Sunday P.M. Prayers**

Tommy Oakes  
William Boley

# **SPEAKER**

**Sunday A.M.**  
Micah Williams

**Sunday P.M.**  
Micah Williams

## **Prepare Table for Communion**

Billy and Diane Walters

## **Communion to Shut-Ins**

Dennis Whiteside  
Chris Ramirez

### **Greeters**

Troy and Rachel Curtis

## **Wednesday Night Devotional**

**November 21, 2007**

Allen Veasman

### **Meeting Times**

**Sunday Morning Bible Classes**  
9:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Morning Worship**  
10:45 A.M.  
**Sunday Evening Worship**  
6:00 P.M.  
**Ladies Tuesday Bible Class**  
10:00 A.M.  
**Wednesday Bible Classes**  
7:00 P.M.

**Minister:** Micah Williams  
**Church Office:** 479-331-3428  
**Or Cell:** 479-264-9244

### **Elders:**

William Boley 858-7131  
Jim Killer 331-2802  
Allen Veasman 331-2156  
Sid Womack 967-2367

### **Deacons:**

Chris Besterfeldt  
Donny Forehand  
Brent Hottinger  
Chris Loper  
Rex McDaniel  
Joe Miller  
Chris Moss

### **Nursery Attendants:**

**Sunday Class:** JoAnn Killer  
**Sunday Church:** Pat McAlister  
Kaeli Miller

*Life Lines is a Publication of the Dover Church of Christ*

Editor: Pat McAlister, Layout and Design: Joan Vance, Technical Assistance: M. Shoptaw

Dover Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 299  
Dover, AR 72837  
Return Service Requested

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