

The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!

Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.
Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.



**Melbourne
Church of Christ**
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell 307-5714	Alan Love 243-4608
Shelby Qualls 291-7424	David Brightwell 307-5714

Deacons

Joe Cooper
291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
217-1109
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

- Hadleigh Grigg's surgery went well on Tuesday and is now home. Please keep her in your prayers as she continues to heal.
- Sharon Watson is scheduled for knee surgery on March 26. Please keep her in your prayers for a successful surgery and speedy recovery.
- Please bring Kleenex for the Pioneer Nursing Home. See Betty or Ramona for further details.
- RoxAnn Horton's funeral was on Thursday. Please keep Jessica, Shawn, and their family in your continued prayers.
- Christie Haney's surgery went well on Friday. She is in very little pain and came home last night. Please keep her and Randy in your continued prayers as she continues to heal.
- Two memorial contributions were given for Jim Fowler.
- Sermons and bulletins available at Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

Jesus Wants to Be Your Friend

by Edd Sterchi

Abraham Lincoln is credited with saying, "The better part of one's life consists of his friendships." We all like to have friends, but having close friends is a great blessing.

The reason for this is that in close friendships, we have companionship, sympathy, encouragement, support, acceptance, love, trust—the positive list goes on and on.

It's good to have good friends and it's great to have great friends. Truly great friends are rare and precious, indeed.

Jesus was one who was a friend to those that most would not befriend. He was a friend to the downtrodden of society: the handicapped, the diseased, the poor (Matt. 11:4-5), He was friends to every gender and race (John 4:1-10).

Jesus was even accused of being a friend of tax collectors and sinners (Luke 7:34). Yes, Jesus was a friend to all, for He gave Himself for all of mankind (1 John 2:1-2).

But there is a passage in John 15 that makes Jesus' friendship very personal to us all. We do have to remember that Jesus was speaking specifically to His apostles in this passage, but these words still generally apply to all of His followers (even today).

Let's look now at John 15:13-15 and note a few things about Jesus as our friend and us as friends of Him.

Continued on next page...

OPENING PRAYER Shelby Qualls
CLOSING PRAYER Danny Runion



MARCH

ANTHONY WESTON **DALTON GRIGG**
SANDERS LEE WYATT **BRENT QUALLS**

APRIL

KELLY DON WEBB **DANNY RUNION**
DANNY BRIGHTWELL **DAYLEE BRIGHTWELL**

Continued...

“Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends.” Jesus died for each of us because He wants to be our friend. He was thinking of a personal relationship with each of us while being cruelly crucified. Jesus is faithful and will never let us down as a friend.

“You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.” If we want to be friends of Jesus, then we must obey His word – all of it. In doing so, we are pledging our faithfulness to Him. However, we need to remember the opposite is true, as well – if we disobey His will, then we are not being a good friend to Him.

“No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends...” In this we see that Jesus does not want us to serve Him out of compulsion, but as willing, loving friends. Jesus desires us to be friends with Him!

It is as we sing, “What a friend we have in Jesus.” He is the best friend we could ever have. True friends are loyal to one another, spend a lot of time together, and do good things for each other. Are you really “friends to the end” with Jesus?

Prayer List

Military: Derek Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson **Nursing Home:** Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman

Ted Kidd	Wilma Cooper	Peggy Hall	Dorothy Teague
Bill Roland	Treva Voyles	Hayden Phillips	Debbie Crow
Cornelia Summers	Christie Haney	Joanna Smith	Wayne Crosby
Brooke Partin	Gary Brown	Sanyia Austin	Charlotte Cooper
John Young	Regenia Gillihan	Robby Qualls	Regina Master
Shawna Teegarden	Jeanette Crosby Youngblood		John Ward
Boyde Martin	Gage Barns		

March Birthdays

Tyler Webb 1 st	Jamie Grigg 1 st	Joyce Clark 2 nd
Justin Teague 5 th	Dorothy Teague 9 th	Jay Chaney 13 th
Tommy Taylor 21 st	Joe Guiltner 22 nd	Mandy Haney Ward 28 th
Bill Roland 28 th	Chip Master 30 th	

March Anniversaries

David & Rita Hoskinds 3rd
 Jeff & Sarena Young 5th
 Dale & Anna Parish 9th

Dates to Remember

Ladies meet the 4th Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.
 Men meet the 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.
 Family game night every 4th Sunday from 5-7 p.m.
 Potluck every 5th Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

1 John 4:20-21, “If someone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.”