

Melbourne Church of Christ

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

Finding the Ancient Paths

by Stephen Scaggs

Twenty-five hundred years ago, God said to the southern kingdom of Judah, "Stand by the ways and see and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; and you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk *in it*.'" (Jer. 6:16).

God has never left his people without guidance. In the Hebrew Scriptures through Moses, God gave the Israelites the Law (or Torah; the first five books of the Old Testament or known as the 613 laws). Throughout Israel's history, the prophets repeatedly tried to turn God's people back to the heart of God. In the New Testament, Jesus fulfilled both the Law and the Prophets and accomplished what Israel could not do for herself (Matt. 5:17-20). In a Moses-like persona, Jesus went up the Mount and gave his disciples a new type of Law (or Torah; Matt. 5-7). This Law wasn't carved into tablets of stone, but etched into minds and hearts (Heb. 8:10-12).

In our world of religious confusion, people take many paths to find the good way, but God said we could only find the good way in the ancient paths. God pled to Judah to find the ancient paths and to love him and follow his heart, but they refused the Lord and it led to their destruction. Today, Jesus is the Way to the Father (John 14:6) and we are to be followers of the Way (Acts 19:2).

That is, to fall in love with Jesus and do what he says because we love him and the father. Although people forsake the ancient paths today, their destination is destruction, and their god is their own appetites (Php 3:19). While some mind only earthly things, we should remember that we are citizens of heaven (Php. 3:20a). When our god is our own appetites, we leave the ancient paths of God's heart desires, choosing to walk perverse paths in the darkness and rebellion of our own hearts thus, choosing destruction.

Dates to Remember

★ Ladies will meet 2th Monday in Dec. @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food

Sermons and bulletins available @
Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Sunday Bible Class 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening 6:00 p.m.



Melbourne
Church of Christ
A Place to Belong

Elders

Danny Brightwell
291-3439

Shelby Qualls
346-5255

Deacons

Bryan Phillips 373-0546
David Brightwell 291-1122

Alan Love 243-4608
Joe Cooper 291-4653

Minister

Ryan Lloyd 368-7886
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR 72556

Family News

➤ Gary Gifford, Pam Gifford's husband, passed away last Monday morning. Please keep Pam and her family in your prayers.

Pam's address is: Pam Gifford
300 McCreary Rd. Apt. 411
Wylie, TX 75098

* Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY
SONG LEADER	TBA	TBA
OPENING PRAYER	TBA	TBA
CLOSING PRAYER	TBA	TBA



Self-Served

Without Restraint

by Eddie Parrish

Near the end of the book of Hosea, the prophet delivers a message from God that relates to the time of the Messiah's kingdom. That means it is a message for members of the church.

That's you and me.

Here's the message: "I will heal their apostasy. I will love them freely" (14:4). Did you catch that last part? I will love them "freely," a word that means "without restraint." A God infinite in power imparting love without restraint?

That boggles my mind. How about yours?



Prayer List

Military: Derek Love, Tyler Talkington, A.J. Talkington

Officers: Steven & Sherry Davidson, Josh Morehead, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Health:

Joyce Newbrey	Donnie Vest	Joanna Smith
Joe Guiltner	Dan Clark	Wayne Crosby
Tracy Thomas	Brooke Partin	James Nicholson
Bill Roland	Hayden Phillips	Joanne Weston
Bill Wiseman	Debbie Nicholson	Phil Haagenson
Mary Kosmitis	Tommy Washington	Shirley Lewis
Diane Owens	Ivy Jo Slade	Andrew Weaver
Johnny Guthrie	Charlotte Cooper	Sue Campbell
Bob & Arlene Davidson	Chip & Regina Master	Earl Stephens
Dorothy Teague	Ted & Sanyia Austin	Ted Kidd
J.B. & Wanda Dill	Justin Teague	Gary & Pam Gifford

Nursing Home: Debbie Hoskinds, Holly Stroud, Emma Jean Cooper

December Birthdays

Danny Brightwell 3 rd	Acy Beebe 4 th	Danny Runion 6 th
David Clark 8 th	Peggy Beebe 8 th	Roger Humphrey 10 th
Katelyn Moser 12 th	Shelby Qualls 14 th	Paulette Jubela 14 th
Rachel Claxton 14 th	Kaden Williams 16 th	Tamra Brightwell 20 th
Shirley Guiltner 22 nd	Rose Irvin 24 th	Darla Weaver 24 th
Deedra Adkisson 28 th	Abby Everett 28 th	Lavonia Roland 28 th
Brandy Kelly 29 th	Bob Davidson 31 st	

December Anniversaries

Bill & Lavonia Roland	2 nd
Bob & Arlene Davidson	31 st

John 5:43-47, " I have come in My Father's name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, you will receive him. How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and you do not seek the glory that is from the *one and only* God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; the one who accuses you is Moses, in whom you have set your hope. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"