

The church of Christ at Luverne

67 North Woodford Ave.
Luverne, AL 36049
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Assembly Assignments for July, 2009

The Lord's Supper

Ronald Hilburn / Jim Johnson / Bob Williams / Steven Frost

Announcements

Frankie Sims

Building Duties

Darrin Sanders

Greeters

J. W. Furr
Noel Orozco

Nursing Home Duties

Keith Hermeling
Dale Sanders

Lord's Supper Preparation

Patsy Owens

Scripture Reading

Isaac Sanders

Privileged to Serve on July 19th

Morning Prayer

Ross Sanders (opening)
Robb Sanders (closing)

Evening Prayer

Andrew Moorer (opening)
Rodney McCartha (closing)

Song Leader

Frankie Sims

A/V Equipment

Jace Sanders

If you are unable to serve, please contact Danny Rolling – 429-0055/335-3030
All announcements need to be written and turned in before each assembly!

The Messenger



From

The church of Christ at Luverne

67 North Woodford Avenue
Luverne, Al. 36049
(334) 335-5089
office@lcoc.net
www.lcoc.net

Services

Every Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 5:00 PM

Every Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

STARVING STRAYS

David A. Sargent

Copied from *Banner of Truth via The Reminder, Cleveland, TN (Bulletin Date: 4-10-05)*

One of our readers, a kind woman named Nellie, tells of a time when she was driving to the store to pick up a few groceries when she saw two stray dogs – a mother and her very thin puppy – in a field. Desiring to help the strays, she got out of her car and pursued them for over an hour, trying to lure them to her without intimidating. Unable to draw them to her, she drove to the store and bought some tasty meat for the starving animals. The starving strays still declined her offer.

In frustration, she cried out, "I'm trying to save you! You're going to starve to death out here – or be killed!" She later thought to herself, "They had no idea that they actually needed me, and they refused to come to me so that I could help them. I was so hurt and frustrated, knowing their bleak future as strays."

As she continued to reflect upon her experience with the strays, a spiritual application became clear. "I thought of the Lord – how He lovingly works and works to get people to come to Him to save them, yet so many refuse. Many do not even believe they need Him at all. They do not realize that their souls are starving!"

That was a powerful reminder to me as to how God sees us in our true, pitiful condition: lost, starving, headed for danger, and in need of His help and comfort. "*All we like sheep have gone 'astray'; we have turned everyone, to his own way*" (Isaiah 53:6). And God reaches out to rescue us through the saving message of the Gospel. Yet, far too many reject His offer, unaware of their perilous condition.

On one occasion, Jesus looked upon the city of Jerusalem and wept over it, saying, "*O, Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but, . . . you were not willing*" (Matthew 23:37; Luke 19:41-44)

Jesus went to the cross to make our salvation possible! He took your sins and mine upon Himself and paid the price for our redemption (I Peter 2:24). He invites all to come to Him for salvation: "*Come to me all ye who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light*" (Matthew 11:28-30). He has set forth the conditions of acceptance: faith (Hebrews 11:6), repentance (Acts 17:30, 31), confession (Romans 10:9, 10), baptism (immersion) for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38, 22:16), and a life lived in dedication to following His will (I John 1:7).

Jesus sees us in our true, pitiful condition: lost, staving, headed for danger, and in need of His help and comfort. He invites each of us to come to Him for salvation. Please do not reject Him for another moment!



In Our Prayers

- Lynn Beasley – no cancer found in lymph nodes!
- Pat Blackerby – open-heart surgery
- Joe Griffin – general health
- Bobbie Sue Henderson – cancer
- Sarah Hoffman – health problems
- Cecil Kelley – COPD; general health
- Chris Kyser – serious health problems
- Susan Martin – health problems
- James Mitchell – recurring cancer
- J. T. Owens – lung cancer
- Annie Senn – cancer in mouth and stomach
- Lindsay Turner – continuing recovery
- Gerri Wise – scheduled for surgery on other eye

In Luverne Nursing Facility:

- Margaret Hall
 - Allene Mount
 - Edwina Rolling
- Pray for all those who have lost loved ones.*
- Pray for soldiers overseas:* Kevin Singleton
- Pray for missionaries, for leaders, for our congregation, and for our efforts to carry out God's will.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pick up your **Shoebboxes for Panama**. Spanish material is already in the boxes. Approximately 115 boxes remain.

Our **Vacation Bible School** will be on Saturday, August 1, 2009 from 2:00 until 5:00 and there will be a congregational fellowship following with hamburger, hotdogs, and homemade ice cream. Please sign up for what you can bring.

AREA HAPPENINGS

Gospel Meeting – County Line church of Christ – July 19-22, 2009. Speaker: Jimmy Mathews. Singing Sunday at 2:30 and p.m. worship at 4:00 p.m. Monday through Wednesday evenings @ 7:30 p.m.

Gospel Meeting and Homecoming – Cedar Grove church of Christ – July 19-23, 2009. Speaker: Art Williams. Sunday: 9:30, 10:30, & 1:30. Monday through Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.

Homecoming & Gospel Meeting - Salem church of Christ – **July 26-30, 2009**. Speaker – Jimmy Matthews. Singing @ 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Monday – Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.

The soldiers of Q-West recovery team, shift 1 would like to express their gratitude to the members of the Luverne Church of Christ for the care packages recently received. We just wanted you to know how the packages you sent touched the hearts and lives of all our soldiers. The obvious care and love you put into the packages was apparent the second the boxes were opened. All of our soldiers felt as if they had received the packages from a dear family member and we were sincerely impressed at your patriotism and pride you put into each and every item. The homemade cookies, cakes, and brownies you sent made each and every soldier think of Alabama, and of home and how loyal and patriotic you all are. We gladly serve our country in this time of war far away from our families but we could not survive without the support and love from true hometown heroes such as yourselves. There is no way to express our eternal gratitude and heartfelt thanks with words alone but we extend this letter of appreciation in hopes that you will know just how thankful we are. Keep us in your prayers and we will see you soon, and once again, thank you very very much for all you have done. **Signed by the individual soldiers including Kevin Singleton**