

**DeKalb Church
of Christ**

1265 E. Front St.
Hwy. 82 East
DeKalb, TX 75559
903-667-2388

**Schedule of
Services**

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30

Worship 10:25

Worship 6:00

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00

Preacher

Michael Gilbert
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903-701-6700

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**What must I do to
be saved?**

1. **Hear the Gospel.**
(Rom. 10:17; Acts. 18:8)
2. **Believe in Christ.**
(Jn. 8:24; 20:30-31)
3. **Repent of my sins.**
(Acts 17:30-31)
4. **Confess my faith in Christ.**
(Acts. 8:37; 1 Tim. 6:12)
5. **Be baptized into Christ.**
(Acts. 2:38; Mk. 16:16)
6. **Be faithful.**
(Rev. 2:10)

Record (3-18-07)

B.C. – 40
A.M. – 73
P.M. – n/a
Wed. B.C. – 35
Offering – \$1,521
Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

News & Notes

Shut-Ins/Extd illness - (Remember with calls, cards, prayers, visits, etc.)

Carlos Rodgers; Bessie Daniel; Paula Hodgson; Netia Ward; Neta Wilsford
Pat and Mary Ann Davis; Ashley Sowders; Ed Moore; DeWayne Garner

Prayer List

- ***Parker Turner's brother** is doing better than expected, but still in very serious condition.
- ***Anderson family** (involved in a car wreck; this is the family that we helped a few months ago when their house burned)
- ***Ed Mitchell** (had surgery on Friday; friend of the Booth's)
- *We extend our sympathy to **the family of Monty Montgomery** who past away last Saturday; friend of the Booth's)
- ***Homer Batchelor** (requests our prayers - he will leave on April 8 and spend about a week in Houston)

Announcements

- ***Responses:** our brother Zachary Booth requests our prayers as he faces many struggles and temptations at school.
- *We are hosting a 'burnout shower' for the Phillips' family on April 1 from 2-4pm in the Multi-purpose bldg. Their house on Runnells burned last Monday night. A list of clothing sizes is posted on the board for those who can help with clothing.
- *Remember our fellowship meal today, following the morning service.
- *Happy Birthday to: Katelyn Bynum (3-26) and Jessica Jeffery (3-29)!
- *Congregational Singing practice @ 5pm (for everyone, not just song-leaders)
- *Ladies' Class: Wednesday 10AM.
- *Youth Night: this Wednesday!

Brotherhood Events

- *Gospel Meeting @ Lynn Lane Church of Christ, March 25-28, with Ben Bailey doing the preaching, theme: "Questions That Demand Biblical Answers".
- *Memphis School of Preaching Lectureship, March 25-29. The Gilbert's are at the lectureship this week.
- *Gospel Meeting @ Atlanta Church of Christ, March 25-28, with Bob Swain doing the preaching (7pm weeknights)

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DeKalb Digest

Volume 2, Issue 12

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March 25, 2007

Privileged To Serve...

March 25th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Buddy Ray

Song Leader (AM & PM)...John Gibbert

Lord's Table.... Giles Feazel, Dickie Dalby, Mitchell Weeks

Scripture Reading: Michael Gilbert

Prayers -- AM & PM

2nd prayer.....Parker Turner

Closing.....Parker Turner

AM Sermon: Buddy Ray will be preaching

PM Sermon Series: Buddy Ray will be preaching

Welcome!

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:15). We preach Jesus Christ as the resurrected Son of God (I Cor. 15:1-4) and the Bible as His revealed will for all nations of the earth (Mk. 16:15-16).

We invite you to come worship with us at every opportunity you may have. Should you desire to study the Bible with us in your home, please let us know. We will be happy to give you a Bible answer for your Bible question.

We have three elders: Dickie Dalby, Pat Davis, and John Loe. These men oversee the congregation (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:7, 17; I Tim. 3:1ff). We also have three deacons - Giles Feazel, Dwayne Jeffery, and Jim Reaves, who serve the congregation in various ways (Acts 6:3; Phil. 1:1; 1 Tim. 3:8ff). Our preacher is Michael Gilbert (2 Tm. 4:2).

**Highlights From
Highlighted Passages**

"Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God"
(Hebrews 3:13)

When this admonition was first given, it was for Christians who were tempted to forsake Christ and fall back into Judaism. To do so would have been to "depart from the living God".

It should come as no surprise that many today are "departing from the living God", but this time lapsing into Judaism is not the problem.

Religious liberalism has swept through churches of Christ deceiving many people.

Under the guise of being "more loving" than the "traditional" churches of Christ, liberals have introduced numerous changes into the worship and practice of many churches of Christ, with the familiar slogans, "we must change to reach people with the Gospel" or "we can't save world by being narrow minded". Using these slogans (and many others), here are some of the innovations that have recently been introduced into the churches of Christ: instruments of music in worship, the Lord's Supper on Saturday night, a "non-offensive" style of preaching, open fellowship with the denominational world, hand-clapping and humming during worship, as well as many other things.

Brethren, liberalism is Satan's attempt to destroy the church that Jesus built (Matt. 16:18). Don't buy into it, for in so doing, you will "depart from the living God".

Forgiveness...by Kenny Taylor (New Hope, AL)

Anyone who realizes that they have sinned (Romans 3:23, 1 John 1:8) would also realize that forgiveness is necessary for them to be right with GOD, because “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). CHRIST makes us alive by forgiving us of our sins, and delivering us from the death that we earn through sin (Colossians 2:13). So it is clear that everyone has sinned, and only forgiveness through the blood of CHRIST can forgive man of his sin, but who can be forgiven? How can one be forgiven (i.e., how does one contact the blood of CHRIST to be forgiven)? Are there any conditions to be met for one to be forgiven? These are the questions that many people may have, and these are the questions that will be answered in this article.

Who can be forgiven? There are men and women in prisons, and in the streets of cities and towns who may think they have done such horrible things that they cannot be forgiven. Are they correct? Is there not a GOD who can forgive their sins whether those sins be mass murder, or other terrible crimes and transgressions? Listen to what the Bible says about who can be forgiven. The apostle Paul said, “This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief” (1 Timothy 1:15). Now to show why the apostle Paul (Saul of Tarsus) called himself the chief of sinners, one must examine his life before he became a Christian. When a faithful Christian was murdered (stoned to death) for standing up for the truth of CHRIST, Saul of Tarsus was there encouraging this murder (Acts 7:58, 8:1). He held the coats of those men who executed Stephen and, most likely, he (being a man of authority) was one of the leaders in bringing about the sinful action. Then in Acts 8:3 and Acts 9:1-2, the Bible says that Saul made havoc of the church, imprisoned men and women for being Christians, and spoke of slaughter (also murder) and other threats against any who would follow after CHRIST. Before the Apostle Paul was converted, he strongly opposed CHRIST and HIS Church which led him to commit many grievous sins against GOD and HIS people.

One can plainly see that Paul was as much an enemy of GOD before he was converted as any man can be. He committed murders and many other violent actions against GOD’S people, but he was forgiven of these things and he became very prosperous to GOD after his conversion (Acts 9:17-18, 22:16). Starting in Acts 13, Paul travels around the known world as a missionary in order to spread the good news of CHRIST to everyone. Now if a man like Saul of Tarsus can be forgiven and do such good things for GOD, then you also can be forgiven of anything you have done! You can do many works of obedience to glorify GOD! It is clear that everyone on earth can be forgiven, but how can one be forgiven? Well, what does GOD’S Word have to say about this?

GOD tells us that we must contact the blood of CHRIST in order to be forgiven (Colossians 1:13-14), and if contacting the blood of CHRIST forgives us and saves us (Romans 5:8-10) then being saved and forgiven are the same thing, and they are both done through contacting the blood of CHRIST! So how do we contact the blood of CHRIST to be forgiven and saved? We contact the blood of CHRIST the way Paul contacted it. Paul contacted it by “calling on the name of the LORD”! Paul tells us that everyone that calls on the name of the LORD will be saved (Romans 10:13), and tells us that we must believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths the truth of JESUS: that HE is the SON of GOD! However, many I have heard use this passage out of context. They teach a “sinner’s prayer” to be saved and will use this passage to support that doctrine, but that is not what Romans 10:9-13 teaches in its context. It does tell us to believe and confess, but then in verses 14-17 Paul tells us that belief and confession can only happen when someone is taught which provides the need for men to be sent to preach! This says nothing about a “sinner’s prayer.” Paul also said (while recounting his own conversion) that he called “on the name of the LORD to be saved”, and that it was through baptism that he called “on the name of the LORD.” Furthermore, Peter, after telling men and women to call on the name of the LORD, told them to repent and be baptized in the name of JESUS for (or, “in order to”) remission of sins (Acts 2:21-38). This shows man that calling on the name of the LORD is the condition to meet in order to be saved, and it shows how to call on the name of the LORD: through faith, repentance, confession, and baptism. Therefore, we know that anyone, no matter what their past holds, can be forgiven if they are willing to do what GOD says to do in order to call on HIS Name!

General Pace and General Washington

by Dave Miller (Montgomery, AL)

General Peter Pace, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—America’s top military figure—recently evoked a storm of angry protests from gay-rights advocates and liberal politicians (Jelinek, 2007). The reason? He made the following statement: “I believe homosexual acts between two individuals are immoral and that we should not condone immoral acts. I do not believe the United States is well served by a policy that says it is okay to be immoral in any way” (Madhani, 2007).

General Pace is in good company. After all, when serving as the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, the Father of our country was apprised of a homosexual in the army. The response of General Washington was immediate and decisive. He issued “General Orders” from Army Headquarters at Valley Forge on Saturday, March 14, 1778:

At a General Court Martial whereof Colo. Tupper was President (10th March 1778) Lieutt. Enslin of Colo. Malcom’s Regiment tried for attempting to commit sodomy, with John Monhort a soldier; Secondly, For Perjury in swearing to false Accounts, found guilty of the charges exhibited against him, being breaches of 5th. Article 18th. Section of the Articles of War and do sentence him to be dismiss’d the service with Infamy. His Excellency the Commander in Chief approves the sentence and with Abhorrence and Detestation of such Infamous Crimes orders Lieutt. Enslin to be drummed out of Camp tomorrow morning by all the Drummers and Fifers in the Army never to return; The Drummers and Fifers to attend on the Grand Parade at Guard mounting for that

Purpose (“George...,” underline in orig., emp. added).

Observe that the Father of our country viewed “sodomy” (the 18th century word for homosexual relations) “with Abhorrence and Detestation of such Infamous Crimes.” All General Pace said was that “we should not condone immoral acts”—and many want to hang him!

The nation continues its headlong plunge into the abyss of perversity, immorality, and degradation. The “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy implemented under the Clinton presidency would be viewed by the Founders of the Republic as a mockery of morality, decency, and military decorum. The Commander-in-Chief of America’s first military would be aghast if he were here today to witness the moral decline that has infiltrated the military and the nation. He was simply reflecting the nation’s commitment to the Christian moral framework on which the Republic was based. He embraced God’s own assessment of the sin of homosexuality: “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites...will inherit the kingdom of God?” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

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