

**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
69 CR 3204

DeKalb, TX 75559
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 (9-30-07)

B.C. – 35
A.M. – 52
P.M. – 27
Wed. - 32
Offering – \$1,498
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; Homer Batchelor; DeWayne Garner; Kelly Fletcher

Prayer List (b/c of space, names appear only once)

Bobby Hodgson (having cataract surgery in Shreveport on Oct. 16)

Joey Almaraz (completed basic training, will be leaving for Washington State)

Dot Swint (requests our prayers on behalf of her grandson, Shawn. He has become entangled with the wrong crowd)

John Loe (still recovering from outpatient surgery last Monday)

The Dalby's (remember them as they travel to Dallas over the next few weeks)

Homer & Linda Batchelor (continue to remember them in your prayers)

Carlos & Bonnie Rodgers (continue to remember them in your prayers)

Announcements

***Birthdays:** Dickie Dalby (3rd), Linda Batchelor (7th), Paula Hodgson (7th),
Travis McCauley (9th)

***Anniversaries:** Ricky & Patti Wilson (4th)

***Singing Practice Today @ 5PM**

***Ladies Bible Class Wednesday @ 10 AM.**

***Youth Devo**, Oct. 14, after Sunday evening services @ Gilberts'. Boys bring drinks, girls bring desserts.

***Bible Bowl** - study Matthew (chapters 1 - 4) for the Oct. 15 competition. The Bible bowl is open to all school age young people in grades 1-12.

***Birthday Party @ Sunny Acres** next Wednesday. Sign up to bring a cake.

*For those interested in helping Medina Children's Home with "staple pantry items", they can be placed in the church library. Items will be picked up the first week in November.

Brotherhood Events(see bulletin board for flyers)

*Fall Lectureship @ **Blodgett**, Oct. 7-10, 7:00pm. Theme: *"Fruit of the Spirit"*

*Ladies' Day at Night @ **Hope** church of Christ, Oct. 16, 6:30pm - 8:45pm.
(please RSVP by Oct. 5 - see flyer for details)

*Ladies' Day @ **Dotson St.**, Oct. 20. Theme: Life and Death are in the Power of the Tongue, Registration from 8-9am.

*Ladies' Day @ **Mt. Vernon**, Oct. 20. Theme: *"Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World"*

*Gospel Meeting @ **N. Jefferson**, Nov. 4-7, Marvin Weir preaching.

DeKalb Digest

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October 7, 2007

Privileged To Serve...

October 7th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Buddy Ray

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

Lord's Table.... Craig Loe, Phillip Raney, Mitchell Weeks

Scripture Reading (Communion): Michael Gilbert

Scripture Reading (Sermon): Charles Lee (Heb. 10:25)

Prayers -- AM & PM

2nd prayer.....Pat Davis

Closing.....Giles Feazel

AM Sermon: Attendance

PM Sermon: Gentleness and Goodness

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 two elders: Dickie Dalby 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**

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart....." (Ps. 24:3-4)

According to our Old Testament text, God demanded purity among His people. It is no different under Christ's new covenant, for the apostle John wrote, "And every man that hath this hope in him (i.e., of being like Jesus at His second coming, v. 1-2) purifieth himself, even as he is pure" (1 Jn. 3:3). But how can God's people today maintain purity in a sin-contaminated world?

Families should seek after purity in the news they receive. Rather than watching the world report on itself every night from 5-6pm, why not seek after the good news of salvation in Christ? How so?

Families would do well to plan daily devotionals - singing, praying, and reading God's Word out loud. Receiving the purity of the good news of Christ would instill purity in our hearts.

Children would learn about God, parents could watch their children grow up to be faithful Christians, and our beloved nation would be morally stronger.

Fathers, what could be better than taking time to train our children "...in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4)? Seeking after money? It is uncertain (1 Tim. 6:17). Pursuing fleshly pleasures? They are only for a season (Heb. 11:25).

Again, what could be better than instilling purity in our hearts!

Sacred Worship

by David McCain (Mt. Pleasant, TX)

Sacred worship deserves our very best efforts at promoting an atmosphere of reverence, respect, and honor to Almighty God. Logic dictates that God deserves "at least" as much honor and respect as we would show at a funeral, a wedding, a symphony concert, or a speech by an important political figure. In fact, a careful study of the Scriptures clearly shows us that God deserves, and in fact demands much more reverence than any earthly figure or event, and that our worship should be carried out in the most decent, orderly, and reverential manner that we are capable of offering to Him.

Consider the following Scriptural admonitions. "Be still and know that I am God" (Ps. 46:10). "Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord" (Lev. 19:30). "God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all..." (Ps. 89:7). "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace..., Let all things be done decently and in order" (I Cor. 14:33, 40). "Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?" (Heb. 12:9).

Both Old and New Testaments are filled with examples and instructions which teach that worship is a most sacred and serious matter, and is to be entered into only with great reverence. In I Corinthians 11:17 - 14:40, we find 102 consecutive verses of Holy Writ on the subject of public worship. The Corinthians had cheapened holy worship by not giving God the respect He deserved. In writing to correct their abuse, Paul noted that worship must be conducted in an atmosphere of decency and order, if it is to be acceptable to God.

How can we make our worship pleasing in God's sight? First, we should remember that we have come together for the primary purpose of offering acceptable praise, adoration, and worship to Almighty God (Jn. 4:24). A secondary purpose of public worship is to edify and exhort one another in faithful Christian living (Col. 3:16, Heb. 10:25). This will eliminate distractions in the assembly, if we will concentrate on why we have assembled to worship and Whom we have assembled to worship—God.

Secondly, we should remember that every part of our assembly is worship to God, and is to be participated in reverently by all present. Children, ushers, greeters, those who serve at the table, those who choose to sit in the foyer, and every member should remember that our worship is not concluded until the closing prayer has been said. We should all be just as respectful and reverent during the sermon, the singing, the collection, the closing song, and the closing prayer, as we are during the Lord's Supper. There may be times when the elderly or infirm need to make their way towards the exits before the service concludes for obvious health considerations, but those who rush out the door before the service is even over, because they have a "more pressing appointment" elsewhere, need to reevaluate their priorities and reconsider their commitment to put God first (Mt. 6:33).

Finally, remember that your attitude will to a great degree determine whether or not you will get anything of value out of worship. If worship is important to you, and if you believe God cares about how you participate in it, then you will strive to offer God the very best you are capable of producing. You will come decently and appropriately attired for spiritual worship, not sloppily dressed like you were going to the beach (consider Mt. 22:11-13). You will come rested and prepared for spiritual worship. You will be a participant, not a spectator, to the ultimate glory of God, and to your own personal benefit. Let us worship God acceptably with reverence and with godly fear, for indeed our God is a consuming fire (Heb. 12:28-29).

A Preacher's Prospective....

by Michael Gilbert

Why should I serve God?

This is a very personal question with an answer that has very public consequences.

Whether I decide to serve God or not, my decision will effect the lives of an untold number of individuals. The following things are just some reasons, among many, for serving our Creator.

To show my love for my Savior who died for me. (Jn. 3:16; Jn. 14:15). My words cannot begin to describe the adoration that should be shown to Jesus for dying on the cross for me. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16). If I am grateful for this wonderful gift, then I will do what He says in His word. "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (Jn. 14:15).

My family is depending on me. (I Cor. 7:16). Paul wrote, "For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife" (I Cor. 7:16). Most, if not all, of us have family members who are not Christians. How do we know that they are not on the verge of obeying the Gospel because of our influence? We have a great influence on others, especially our family.

My friends depend on me (Mark 5:19). After casting a demon out of the man from

the country of the Gadarenes, Jesus told him, "Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee" (Mark 5:19). We might be the only Christian our friends ever come in contact with. Would it not be a shame if we never did as Jesus told this man to do? We must talk to our friends about what Christ has done for us.

The church is depending on me (Rom. 16:3-5). What if Priscilla and Aquila had never taken such an interest in the church of Christ? Paul mentioned more than once this faithful Christian couple, thereby showing their effort to carry on the work of the church. There is a strong possibility that the early church would not have experienced the proper growth were it not for this couple. The church depends upon every single member to take as much interest as did Priscilla and Aquila.

I am depending on me. (I Tim. 4:16) Timothy was encouraged to live a godly life for two reasons: to save himself and those that heard him. The Christian must first keep his own life in order before he can effectively teach others. Any Christian who does not bring himself under Christ's control will lose his soul in a fiery hell, separated from God for all eternity. I am the only one that can live my Christian life. No one else will be responsible for my actions in the Judgment.

Christ is coming back (I Thess. 4:13-18)! How great it will be to see Christ returning to take the church home! We should serve Maker because as sure as Christ's tomb is empty, He will return to take us home!