

**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 5:00

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00

Preacher

Michael Gilbert
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DeKalb, TX 75559
903-701-6700
gilbertfamily2000@
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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 (1-13-07)

B.C. – 39
A.M. – 55
P.M. – 37
Wed. - 26
Offering – \$1,497
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; Joey Almaraz;
Kellie Fletcher

Prayer List

- ***Marty Jones** [still in ICU, but off ventilator (LSU hospital in Shreveport); Mary Willis' sister]
- ***Sandy Smith Crawford** (baby girl doing well, gaining weight, but still in hospital, Sandy is home; Frances Ramsey's niece)
- ***Layler Morgan** (series of strokes, slow improvement; Bill Hawkins' aunt)
- ***Bill Hawkins** (cancer surgery on Feb. 26th)
- ***Jo Hawkins** (back trouble, has been down all week)
- ***Jane Turner** (feeble)
- ***Bill Bible** (did not do biopsy - spots on his lungs are gone; Michael's uncle)
- ***Pat Davis** (taken to ER last night with extreme pain)

Announcements

- ***Birthdays:** Sarahi (Sara) Alvarado (1-22)!
- ***Anniversary:** Buddy & Sherri Ray (1-26)!
- ***Schedule Change** - our Sunday PM service will be held @ 5pm, until Daylight Saving Time resumes on Sunday, March 9. On March 9, our PM service will resort back to 6pm.
- ***Devotional @ Sunny Acres** today @ 3pm.
- ***Ladies' Bible Class** today @ 4pm.
- ***Ladies' Night Out** - this Tuesday @ MVP Pizza (7pm); names will be drawn for the Prayer Sisters.
- *Our **Bible Bowl team** placed 6th last Monday night - congratulations! The next competition will be on February 11th @ 7pm. We will be hosting this one and more details are to follow.

Brotherhood Events (see bulletin board for flyers)

- *We have a **Gospel Meeting** planned for Feb. 24-27 with David Williams of Nashville, AR!
- ***Teacher's Workshop** (for ladies' only) @ N. Jefferson congregation, Jan. 28th (9am - 3pm, lunch will be served).
- ***Bible Bowl of Northeast Texas** - Feb. 11th @ 7pm. (Matt. 17-20).
- ***Holding to the Traditions** meeting @ Murfreesboro, AR, Sat., Feb. 23rd, 9am

DeKalb Digest

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January 20, 2008

Privileged To Serve...

January 20th

Announcements & 1st Prayer.... Buddy Ray

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

Lord's Table.... Doyle Sikes, Dickie Dalby, Charles Lee

Scripture Reading (Communion): Michael Gilbert
Scripture Reading (Sermon): Charles Lee (Gen. 7:12-16)

Prayers -- AM & PM
2nd prayer.....Alex Evans
Closing..... Giles Feazel

AM Sermon: When God Shuts The Door

PM Sermon: The Love of God

Welcome!

The DeKalb Church of Christ is committed to the 'old paths' (Jer. 6:16). 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**

*"Salute one another with an holy kiss.
The churches of Christ salute you"
(Rom. 16:16)*

Simplicity has always been a hallmark of Divine Truth - especially in regard to church organization. The church of the New Testament is made up of local, **autonomous** congregations. No passage of Scripture ever refers to a "diocese" or "district", or even an "association" of religious groups, as we see in America (i.e., the 'Southern Baptist Association' or a Catholic 'diocese', etc.). Let's study the concept of congregational "autonomy".

This word derives of two roots, auto ("self"), and nomos ("law"). The term can have either a negative or positive connotation. (a) Man is not autonomous, i.e., he is not empowered to rule himself (cf. Jer. 10:23). He is a creature of God, and the Lord has a "right" over him (Rom. 9:21). (b) Each local congregation of the church of Christ is independent, thus, autonomous. There is no pope, cardinal, or conference that exercises autocratic authority over a local church with Divine approval. While "bishops" (1 Tm. 3:1ff; Heb. 13:7, 17) have authority in the area of expedience, only Christ has full authority over his church in issues of teaching and practice. In modern cases where churches are incorporated for legal protection, the "board members" or "trustees" function only as legal representatives on behalf of the church membership; they do not exercise any sort of autonomous authority. (Jackson)

Why America Deserves Britney and Jamie Lynn Spears

by Richard Mansel

Britney and Jamie Lynn Spears are burning up the internet. The public is insatiable for information on their tumultuous lives. Lies, smears, innuendos, payoffs, and whispers spew forth from media outlets like sewage. Daily updates on their behavior contain so many contradictory story lines that it is almost impossible to know the truth. However, America just wants more, more, more.

The United States does not have royals to harass, so Hollywood stars become their surrogates. The spotlight on them never goes dark. On the fictional show, "Hannah Montana," Miley Cyrus plays a teenager who lives a dual life as a regular girl and singing superstar. The premise is hysterical considering today's reality. Stars are hunted, harassed and their every public move and utterance is filmed. They sell their privacy for fame and fortune and then complain about their lack of privacy.

Britney and Jamie Lynn are responsible for their actions. Nevertheless, they are mirrors of the declining American culture. By showing America for what it is, these women find the resentment of a nation for being the embodiment of a guilty national conscience.

The American culture is dying. The time for niceties is past. Depravity is corroding the culture we inhabit and it damages everything it touches. Nothing is safe. Music, movies, clothing, television, the internet, and the language of the day are all robbing children of their purity. Satan steals their most cherished possession and rips it to shreds. Sadly, parents are most often the flesh and blood hands of Satan, destroying the souls of their own children through their lack of parenting. God's hatred of such behavior is some of the most sobering in Scripture (Matthew 18:6).

Sixteen-year-old Jaime Lynn Spears is pregnant by her nineteen-year-old boyfriend. Her announcement spread in "OK! Magazine" caused an outrage. Roundly condemned by almost everyone, magazine editors pulled her from their covers. /1 The national condemnation is still loud and clear. At the same time, though, it is terribly ironic.

A society that sells thongs with "hottie" emblazoned on them and Bratz dolls dressed as whores to five-year-olds is outraged that a sixteen-year-old is pregnant. Fashion editors who parade condom ads, sex advice, and nearly naked models to teen girls rebuke a teenager for her pregnancy. Producers who make movies filled with sex acts and raunchy jokes for children are shocked that a teenager becomes pregnant. Websites who hungrily post nude photos of actresses and encourage kids to engage in fornication, condemn a

child for her pregnancy. The hypocrisy is staggering!

We ask where the outrage is for the man who made Jamie Lynn pregnant. Should a society that treats girls as sex objects and winks at the males who take advantage of them have any moral authority? When we glorify rappers who treat women as trash and condemn the women, we relegate women to second-class citizens.

Britney abuses drugs and alcohol, parties obsessively, prances around town without underwear, shoplifts, spends nights with cameramen in hotel rooms, crashes her car, runs over people, divorces twice, loses custody of her children, holds her children in a standoff with the police while stoned and becomes a national disgrace.

A culture that turns actors and singers into idols to be worshiped in a 24-hour news cycle should not be shocked when their behavior becomes increasingly bizarre so the camera will remain hot. Wholesome behavior and charity work is a blip on the radar screen while debauchery brings in millions of dollars. When America builds a monster, they should not be shocked when it attacks.

God said, "Righteousness exalts a nation" (Proverbs 14:34). What does unrighteousness bring? Look around.

References

1. <http://tinyurl.com/2hbn3b>

They Should Probably Worship More Often!

A little child in church for the first time watched as the offering was collected.

When they neared his pew, the youngster piped up so that everyone could hear,

“Don’t pay for me, Daddy; I’m under five.”

“A merry heart doeth good . . .” —Proverbs 17:22

(Serious question: How often are your children in worship? See Hebrews 10:25.)