

**DeKalb Church  
of Christ**

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

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**Schedule of  
Services**

**Sunday**

Bible Study 9:30  
Worship 10:25  
Worship 6:00

**Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:00

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**Preacher**

Michael Gilbert  
69 CR 3204  
DeKalb, TX 75559  
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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)*

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**Record (4-13-08)**

B.C. – 40  
A.M. – 61  
P.M. – 31  
Wed. - 34  
Offering – \$2,048  
Wkly Bdg. - \$1,702

**News & Notes**

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**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; Jean Jagers; Homer Batchelor; DeWayne Garner; Joey  
Almaraz; Kellie Fletcher

**Prayer List**

- \***Jean Jagers** (needs our visits & encouragement)
- \***Letha Robbins** (continues to need our prayers regarding her health)
- \***Jack Williams** (recovering in St. Michael's from another back surgery that he had on Friday)
- \***Juantez Calley** (has had health problems recently; Sherry Ray's mother)
- \***Linda Batchelor** (recovering from very serious cancer surgery...they continue to request our fervent prayers. Homer and Linda are leaving today for MD Anderson for chemo treatments)
- \***Lois Burns** (she has many health problems, but the latest is the removal of colon polyps that may be cancerous; Doyle Sikes' aunt)

**Announcements**

- \***Birthday:** Beverly Sikes (4-22) and Ernie Villasenor (4-22)!
- \***Devotional** today at Sunny Acres at 3 PM.
- \***Ladies' Bible Class** will meet today @ 5pm.
- \*The last **Bible Bowl** event for the 2007-2008 season was last Monday - our teens placed 5th in the overall competition. We are proud of Mitchell, Charles, and Jennifer for their efforts in the Bible Bowl - now, we have the Summer Youth Series to look forward to! We host the SYBSNET (Summer Youth Bible Series of North East Texas) on Monday July 7. Please be praying for this year's SYBSNET, especially for when we host the event.

**Brotherhood Events***(see bulletin board for flyers)*

- \***Gospel Meeting @** Mt. Vernon - April 20-23- 7 PM. David Baker will be speaking.
- \***Gospel Meeting @** New Boston - April 20-23 - 7PM. Mike Hisaw will be speaking.
- \*2nd Annual **Young Men's Retreat @** Beaver's Bend Youth Camp #2, sponsored by the Broken Bow church of Christ, May 16th - May 18th.

**DeKalb Digest**

Volume 3, Issue 16

visit us @ [dekalbcoc.wordpress.com](http://dekalbcoc.wordpress.com)

April 20, 2008

**Privileged To Serve...**

**April 20th**

*Announcements & 1<sup>st</sup> Prayer.... Dickie Dalby*

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

*Lord's Table.... Dwayne Jeffery, Charles Lee, Giles Feazel*

**Scripture Readings**

*Communion.....Buddy Ray (Luke 22:19-20)*

*Sermon..... Charlie Gonzalez (2 Tim. 4:2)*

**Prayers -- AM & PM**

*2<sup>nd</sup> prayer.....Jim Reaves*

*Closing.....Alex Evans*

*AM Sermon: Why Teach & Preach the Bible (1)*

*PM Sermon: Why Teach & Preach the Bible (2)*

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**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**

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*"For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb. 11:10)*

The desire for "a better place" is a universal desire. Humankind is forever revealing a longing for "peace" or "rest" in the "afterlife". Death is understood to be the "crossing over point" into another type of world, and "...as it is appointed unto men once to die; but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27)

Abraham's longing for this "city" must have been strong, for inspiration revealed his actions which were prompted by his strong faith in Jehovah. Let's notice some of Abraham's actions that teach us about his strong faith.

First, he left his idolatrous family behind (Gen. 12:1-3). God promised Abraham & his family "a land" - Abraham traveled this land, not knowing when God would fulfill his promise.

Second, Abraham conceived a son in his old age, and called him Isaac. Abraham and Sarah, believing their bodies well past the "childbearing" years, still trusted God to fulfill His promise (Rom. 4:18-20)

Lastly, Abraham offered Isaac (Gen. 22:1ff). He did this because he "looked for a city".

Do our actions revealed a strong faith in heaven & a desire to go there?

## ***Gospel Meetings Are Still Effective!***

by Michael Gilbert

As a Christian, we must keep in mind the good things that happen when we serve God. Many great and wonderful things happen when we serve God that often go unnoticed by ourselves and others. Several great and wonderful things happened during the past week's gospel meeting that I preached in East Tennessee because the congregation worked hard to promote the gospel of Christ...

***Lost souls heard the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16).*** Some time ago, I spoke with a teacher at Greeneville High School who stated that "Jesus is appearing to Iraqi men and women just as He appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus." If that is the case, then why preach the Gospel to the lost? Why have gospel meetings? If Jesus is personally appearing to people and saving them, why not spend money designated for missionaries on some country where Jesus is not appearing? The truth of the matter is this—Paul was right when he taught that the gospel message saves people from sin (Rom. 1:16). The gospel message convicts people of sin and teaches them how to contact Christ's saving blood in baptism (Mark 16:16; Romans 6:1-6).

***Christians were edified (Acts 14:22).*** We had many people in attendance each night, including many who were not members of Christ's church, and everyone was edified and built up in the faith of Jesus Christ. In fact, I was very encouraged because an 18-year old young man traveled nearly an hour to see me...I had taught him a few years back in Bible class. I was very edified by his presence. We all received some great encouragement from being able to gather with other Christians. We never know who we touch with our lives! No one responded publicly to the invitation, but rest assured that our efforts were not in vain.

***Christian acquaintances were renewed (I Tim. 3:14).*** Isn't it good to see the smiling faces of our brothers and sisters in Christ! It is just a small taste of the grand reunion in heaven! I truly feel sorry for brethren who don't enjoy their Christian family.

***Sermons were heard (I Cor. 1:21).*** God had one Son, and He was a preacher. Gospel preachers truly are special people. During a gospel meeting, God reaches down into our hearts and brings us face to face with Himself, teaching us what He expects of us - and He does this through gospel preachers. This is how God chose to

save people. The world considers preaching the gospel "out of date," but I was privileged to preach the gospel of Christ last week!

***God and Christ were exalted (Eph. 3:21).*** Truly, this is our only purpose in life, and in gospel meetings! Christians have no other purpose in life than to glorify God. Many things fall under this category such as regular worship, good deeds, preaching the gospel, serving our brethren and fellow man. We can only exalt Christ as members of the church of Christ (Eph. 3:21). Yes, God and Christ were exalted last week by the assembling of God's people! As we think about upcoming gospel meetings here at DeKalb, let's remember that these meetings exalt God & Christ!

***The local church was built up (I Cor. 14:19).*** Oh, how good it is to gather for an extended time with brethren! During a gospel meeting, brothers and sisters in Christ are greatly encouraged as they work together in the local congregation! God wants us to settle in a local congregation and build it up...this "building up" is accomplished by gospel meetings!

***God was glorified, and indeed He alone deserves the glory (Is. 6:1ff)!*** God alone deserves the glory that was offered to Him last week. The gospel meeting was not held in order to build up any particular person, but to glorify God by bringing lost souls to Him. As we consider future gospel meetings here at DeKalb, let's be sure to view it as a time to glorify God!

***The visiting preacher was built up in the most Holy Faith (I Tim. 4:16).*** Gospel preachers are human—they need to be encouraged just like the next person. Gospel meetings "charge their batteries". I have a renewed zeal for the work here in DeKalb because of the edification I received during the meeting.

***The community saw that the local church was active for Christ (I Peter 2:9).*** Indeed, our reputation is important in the community. Everyone who received an invitation, or passed by during our services knew that God's people were gathered to worship Him. That makes a great impression on their mind. It plants a seed!

Many of you support our gospel meetings...and for you, we are grateful. Please pray for our future work in this community, especially that we have good gospel meetings in the future!