

The PRISM



Sunshine Church of Christ

7330 State Route 335

Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Phone (740) 820-3415 Fax (740) 820-5450

www.sunshine-church.org

June 27, 2004

Vol. 39 — Issue 25

What Is The Purpose of Baptism?

What is a microwave oven for? Everyone knows that, silly. It's for washing your clothes. Peanut butter is for brushing your teeth. And baptism is "an outward sign of an inward grace." It is what you do because you are saved. Every single one of the above examples is equally false. The first two we know are false because of experience and common sense. The last one we should know is false because of what the scriptures say.

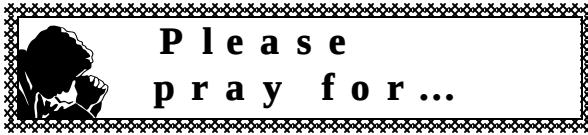
God's Word is not at all ambiguous as to the purpose of baptism. Baptism is "for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). Baptism is to "wash away sins" (Acts 22:16). Baptism is where we get "into Jesus Christ...into His death" and are "buried with Him" (Romans 6:3,4; Colossians 2:12). Baptism "saves us...by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21). Understand that there is no merit on our part whatsoever in baptism. It is simply the instant that God has chosen to apply the merit of Jesus' blood.

Now, let's consider the most common objection given against the belief that baptism is necessary for salvation: "Baptism is a work and the Bible teaches that you can't be saved by works." Faith is a work, too. Jesus said so (John 6:29). But Paul wrote in Ephesians 2:9 that we are saved, "not as a result of works, that no man should boast." The word that Jesus uses in John 6:29 is the exact same word Paul uses in Ephesians 2:9. But most every evangelical understands faith to be essential. There is no contradiction. Paul is making the point that we can't earn our way to heaven. Neither faith nor baptism earns us anything before God. Only Jesus does that. But faith and baptism are God's required response in order to accept His free gift (Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:26,27). It can be illustrated like this. Suppose someone gives you, as a gift, a check for one million dollars. Better yet it will clear the bank. When you sign your name on the back of that check and deposit it in your account, have you done anything worthy of merit? Do you boast to your friends of how you worked for that money by writing your name? Of course not. You simply met the condition required.

There is no power in the water. The power, like the song says, is in the blood of Jesus. The above scriptures teach where that blood is applied. Yet many believe baptism is unnecessary. Are you willing to bet your soul on it?

Brad Fry

North Oak Church of Christ
Mineral Wells, Tx



Our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

Our troops in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.

The lost in our families and community.

The ban on partial birth abortion to stand as law.

Marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

Jeremiah Gayheart (8 yrs old) has an inoperable brain tumor.

Gabriel Gammon (premature newborn grandson of Bill Gammon in North Carolina) is still in the incubator and is making some small improvement.

Carol Lynn Gammon (mother of the twins mentioned above) is in need of our prayers for physical and spiritual strength and healing.

Richard Barnaby (Rhonda Berry's father in Columbus) had to be rushed to the hospital Friday evening with bleeding ulcers. He is doing much better now and will probably come home Monday or Tuesday.

Mary Glynn (Marta Brown's mother) is undergoing rehab at SOMC to regain the use of her legs.

Kim McCray had to be taken to ER on Tuesday evening with abdominal pain.

Marie Mower (Bud Coriell's mother) has been treated and released from Bellefounte Hospital this week.

Edna McLaughlin is in SOMC recuperating from her fall this past Sunday.

Margaret Ann Reed was in SOMC earlier this week with irregular heartbeat.

Ray Belcher (friend of Chuck Allison) had chest pains this week and ended up in Columbus where stents were installed.

Teen Devo

No devo this week due to Vacation Bible School.

Sympathy Extended

To the family of **Wilma Lee Gampp** (mother to Mike Gampp and grandmother to Melissa Lauder) who passed away Saturday around 2 pm. Visitation is Monday evening at Erwin-Dodson-Allen from 4-8 pm and the funeral service will be 11 am Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial is at Batterson. A meal will be served by Sunshine at Mike and Sharon's home on Gampp Lane immediately after the burial. (Approximately 1 pm). If you are willing and able to prepare food for this meal, please find the sign-up sheet in the foyer and indicate what you will bring.

Camp Applications Available

In the foyer on the bulletin board is a manila folder full of Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp applications. Our week is coming up soon, July 11-17 and is for ages 10-18 (although if a parent comes as chaperon or counselor we'll take your children regardless of age). Please go ahead and get your paperwork and deposit taken care of. If you are a camper but are short on funds, see Shaun McCray; there is some money set aside for camper scholarships. If you would be willing to work as a counselor or cook or night watchman. etc., see Shaun or Lisa McCray. Of course, if this week doesn't work for your family schedule, check out the other weeks of camp.

Sunday PM Services

This evening we will have a brief period of worship and then have a congregational discussion of some of the things being planned for the fall. We value your input and participation in meetings like this. Please come and stay for the meeting.

GYAT Class

Next Sunday morning (July 4) 7:30-8:30 am. Read Chapter 18 on Anger and do the questions. Be there.

Looking Ahead at Sunshine

Jun. 28 - Jul. 2 - Vacation Bible School

Jul. 11-16 - **Sunshine @ Fort Hill Camp**

Scheduled Bible Study Texts

Sunday		Wednesday	
6/27	Mk 1:21-45	6/30	VBS
7/4	Mk 2:1-22	7/7	Neh 1-5
7/11	Jn 5:1-47	7/14	Neh 6-12
7/18	Mk 2:23-3:12	7/21	Neh 13 & Malachi
7/25	Mk 3:13-19	7/28	Esther

Scheduled texts and teachers through the end of the year are posted on the church web page.

Rejoice!

Amy Graff confessed her faith in Christ and was baptized yesterday evening as she returned with the group from Impact. Several were here to witness this life-changing event. Amy is Andy Graff's wife and they now live in Kentucky near the campus of Alice Lloyd College where Amy works. We rejoice with the whole family that Amy now belongs to the family of God.

Matthew Hoskins was also baptized yesterday evening by his father. We rejoice also with Matt and his family. May God bless, both of you in your Christian walk with Him.

Area Events and Activities

Future Preacher Training Camp 7/11-18

Alkire Road church, Grove City, OH

VBS Shepherds Meet Today

This morning after services, Steve Miller needs to meet with all of our VBS Shepherds for about 5 minutes in the fellowship hall. This is a very important meeting. There are some new duties for our Shepherds this year.

Pots, Pans, Dishes

We have a superabundance of pots, pans, dishes, etc., on the counter in the fellowship hall. Please go by and pick up your things.

New Arrival

Jessica Luree Berry was born on Tuesday, June 22, in Columbus to parents, Josh and Laura Berry. Jessica weighed 6 lbs, 9 oz, and measured 19 inches. Congratulations, John and Rhonda, on your new grandchild.

VBS is Here!

Our VBS starts tomorrow evening, 6:30-8:30 pm. We are set for ages 3 months to 12 years. Flyers and Registration Cards are available on the table in the foyer to invite people outside the congregation.

VBS Sign Up

Please sign up your child for their class. If you are bringing children from outside the congregation, please take a VBS Registration card to the parents and have them fill out one for their family. Return the cards to the box on the table or bring them the first night of VBS.

VBS Cookies

If you can provide cookies for VBS, please sign up for a specific night or nights to supply them. The sign up sheet is on the table with the other VBS materials. Questions see Estelle Coriell or Teresa Hayward.

VBS Cream Pies

Thursday night at the end of VBS, the girl and boy who have brought the most visitors to VBS will have the thrill of pushing a cream pie in Steve Miller's face. Anyone who brings a visitor for the Grade 4, 5 or 6 class will get double points for each visitor. The 4th, 5th and 6th grader (boy and girl) that brings the most visitors, will have the indescribably delicious experience of pushing a cream pie in the face of Jamie Riley on Thursday night at the end of VBS. It is conceivable that some really lucky 4th, 5th or 6th grader could get both Steve and Jamie. Be still, my beating heart.

Those Who Serve

Scheduled Services

Sunday

Bible Study - 9:45 am
Worship - 10:30 am
Eve. Worship - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

The Prism is a publication of the Sunshine Church of Christ. To learn more about the Church of Christ you may contact us at the telephone number or address on the front cover.

Deadline for each issue is 5 p.m. Friday. News items may be called to Steve Miller or Al Graff or e-mailed to:

bulletin@sunshine-church.org

© 2004 Sunshine Church of Christ

Sunday Morning

Bible Class Text
Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Lord's Supper - Wine
Bread
Assist
Assist
Assist
Assist
Message
Closing Prayer

June 27

Mark 1:21-45
Wayne Gampp
Ralph Gampp
Steve Williams
Don Coriell
Mark Gampp
Jeff Hayward
Steve Miller
Kevin Stimpert
Hayes Wilcox
Mark Risner
Jamie Riley
Troy Gahm

July 4

Mk 2:1-22
Tom Kelley
Taylor Hoskins
Alan Graff
Gabe Coriell
Jamie Riley
Rich Book
Dewey Cordle
Greg Coriell
Jerry Gampp
Chuck Allison
Steve Miller
Aaron Kallner

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Opening Prayer
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Aaron McCray
John Berry
Greg Coriell
Jason Coriell

Eric McLaughlin
Troy Gahm
Tim Coriell
Bud Coriell

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Vacation Bible
School

Zach Coriell
Caleb Miller
Nehemiah 1-5

Advance listings for Those Who Serve posted on our website has been updated.

Elders

Don Coriell	776-6346	dcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Jon Coriell	776-3248	jcoriell@sunshine-church.org
Wayne Gampp	820-3444	wgampp@sunshine-church.org
Tom Kelley	259-2258	tkelley@sunshine-church.org
<i>Harry Woodworth</i>		

Evangelists

Steve Miller	820-4379	smiller@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0156	
Jamie Riley	820-3348	jriley@sunshine-church.org
Pager	290-0158	

Building	820-3415
Building Fax	820-5450
Campus Ministry	355-3186

Office Hours: 8-12 M-F
sunshinecofc@peoplepc.com

Deacons & Areas of Ministry

Rich Book	820-3213	Education, Elbrooke Services, Library
Bud Coriell	776-3452	Building Remodeling
Mike Coriell	820-3415	Local Benevolence
Jason Coriell	820-4739	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Scott Gampp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advert., Front sign, Computers
Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maint., Supplies
Taylor Hoskins	820-4645	Worship, Insurance, Budget
Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hosp. Visit., Attendance
Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
Willis Shumway	820-2833	Bldg. Use & Security, Baptistery
Terry Sullivan	776-7056	Youth Ministry

Visit us online at www.sunshine-church.org