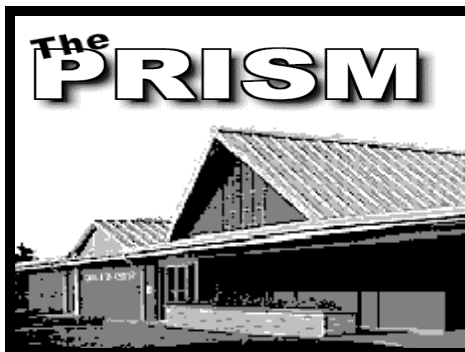




Sunshine Church of Christ

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July 18, 2004

Vol. 39 — Issue 28

Some "Fools" In Proverbs!

Proverbs 1:7

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."

Have you ever been foolish? We all have. But are you a **"fool"**? Some people live in **"folly"**. The book of Proverbs addresses the **"fool"**. It defines his character, his behavior, and his misery. But not all **"fools"** are alike. For this reason, the Proverb writer uses different words to discuss different **kinds** of fools. Let us look at a few of them.

The Teachable Fool

He is called **"the simple one."** The Hebrew word, **"phethaim"**, comes from a term that means **"to be open."** We consider open-mindedness to be admirable. But there is such a thing as being so open-minded that your brain could **"fall out"** - as Guy N. Woods used to say. Or as Shakespeare put it, we can be **"lackbrain"**. We say that some are naive, gullible, or too trusting. This individual is untrained; he cannot discern what would cause him great harm. He **"lacks sense"** (Prov. 7:7 - ESV). He is easily persuaded by a strong influence, or he is easily controlled by a domineering personality.

But the **"simple"** can be taught. If he will **"listen"**, he can be instructed in wisdom - **skill for living**. Accordingly, Solomon said that proverbs are designed **"to give prudence to the simple"** (Prov. 1:4).

The Hardened Fool

He is **"ewil"** and **"kesil"**. These are Hebrews terms for **"thick"** and **"stupid"**. He makes foolish decisions, but he is not young or naive. He is rather, a **hardened** fool. He despises wisdom and instruction. **"They [fools] treat these virtues as worthless and contemptible"** (Allen P. Ross, Proverbs, Expositors' Bible Commentary, p. 907). **"Doing wrong is like a joke to a fool"** (Prov. 10:23 - ESV). and he is not going to be persuaded by reason or collective wisdom (cf. Prov. 26:16).

The hardened fool has developed his character by a series of foolish decisions - a life of folly. He will continue in foolishness, because changing would be too difficult! He **hates** instruction, is **"quick"** to be angry and contentious, can be **explosive**, is the center of **controversy**, has **"loose lips"**, and associates with **evil** (cf. Prov. 1:22; 10:18; 13:19; 17:12; 18:6; 19:1; 20:3).

- Continued on page 3



For our national leaders and world leaders as they lead their respective nations.

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

For the lost in our families and community.

For the ban on partial birth abortion to stand as law.

For marriage to stand in our laws as God ordained it.

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri Gabriel Gammon (premature newborn grandson of Bill Gammon in North Carolina) remains hospitalized.

Mary Collins has a foot surgery on Wednesday.

Sam Miller is in the Pacific region for two weeks with his Ohio Air National Guard Unit.

Macie Shumway's eye surgery went well. She has more tests on Tuesday. Thank you for the prayers. Please keep them going.

Danny DeVecka (Rhonda Berry's uncle in New Philadelphia, Ohio) is about to start his third round of chemotherapy for treatment of cancer. Please keep him in your prayers.

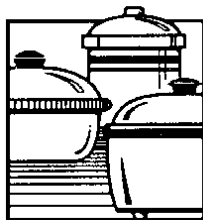
Ron Miller (former UPS driver) **and his wife** are both seriously ill with cancer.

Trey Davis (son of a friend of Stephanie Copas) is 15 mo. old and needs a heart/lung transplant.

Pete Hunter (husband of Velva Rambo Hunter) is scheduled for heart catheterization on Tuesday in North Carolina to correct a blockage.

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.



Teen Devo

Tuesday, 6:30 pm, at Terry & Debbie's.

Sunday PM Services

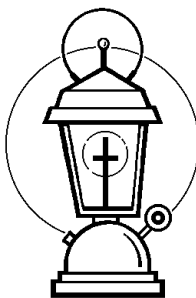
This evening we will be having a singing devotional.

Guest Speaker Next Sunday

Chris Jones, the administrator at **Midwestern Children's Home** in Cincinnati will be with us next Sunday morning (7/25) to update us on the work at Midwestern and to preach for us. He will be speaking during the Bible Class period and will be preaching in the morning assembly. Sunshine has been supporting Midwestern Children's Home for many, many years.



New Names in the Book of Life



This past week at Fort Hill Camp, two of our young people confessed Christ and were baptized in His name. (There may be others that I don't know about but this is what we know as of Friday morning.) **Juli Rase** was baptized on Monday evening at the conclusion of the devotional. Julie lives in

Texas and is first cousin with Kristi, Kendra and Kimmie. She and her sister, Jayma, visit their father, Kevin, every summer here in Minford.

Megan DeCamp was also baptized a little later Monday evening. Megan sits with Josh Coriell here at church. In a few weeks we will be publishing addresses and phone numbers for both so that you can add them to our directory. Be sure to greet both of them in the Lord this morning. God is good all the time!



- Jul. 25 Chris Jones, Midwestern
- Oct. 1-2 Annual Leaders Retreat
- Oct. 3-5 Willard Tate Meeting
- Oct. 17 Sunday PM Home Groups begin

Scheduled Bible Study Texts

Sunday	Wednesday
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
8/1 Mt 5	8/4 Job 1-2
8/8 Mt 6	8/11 Job 38-41
8/15 Mt 7	8/18 Job 42:1-17
8/22 Lk 7:1-35	8/25 Prov 1-17
8/29 Lk 7:36-8:3	

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

Woodsfield Lock-In

Several members of our youth group attended an overnight lock-in at Woodsfield Church of Christ on Friday and returned around 11 a.m. on Saturday. From what could be deciphered from their sleepy mumbling, they appeared to have had a good time.

Submit News Online

You can submit news and information for the bulletin online at our website. Just click on the link that says **"To Submit News, Click Here."** Type in your information for the bulletin and it will be automatically e-mailed to both Steve Miller and Al Graff.

Some Fools In Proverbs

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Unfortunately, one who **chooses** to be such a fool cannot have sense even beaten in him. **"A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool"** (Prov. 17:10 - ESV). **"Crush a fool in mortar with a pestle [i.e., a club-shaped instrument for grinding] along with grain, yet his folly will not depart from him"** (Prov. 27:22 - ESV). John Paterson summarizes this mentality. **"Neither through the pores of their skin nor through the avenues of their hardened hearts could one drive in wisdom; they were mentally immune to instruction"** (The Wisdom of Israel, p. 66).

As a related Hebrew term **"nabal"** illustrates, the fool is a **wicked** person. **"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God"** (Psa. 14:1). **"Insensibility to God, as well as moral insensibility, close the mind to reason"** (Louis Goldberg, "Nabal," Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, Vol. 2, p. 547). We don't want to be this kind of person, and we do not need wicked, fool-like companionships (1 Cor. 15:33).

The Arrogant Fool

He is the **"letz"** - the scoffer. **"Scoffer' is the name of the arrogant, haughty man who acts with arrogant pride"** (Prov. 21:24 - ESV). Paterson describes these people: **"They were past masters in the art of heckling and they rejoiced with malicious joy to disrupt a meeting"** (p. 67). Solomon explained: **"Scoffers set a city aflame but the wise turn away wrath"** (Prov. 29:8 - ESV). Solomon encouraged his reader to: **"Drive out a scoffer, and strife will go out, and quarreling and abuse will cease"** (Prov. 22:10 - ESV). The scoffer is not content with going his own way; he **"delights"** in the **ruin** of others.

Wisdom is living with **spiritual perspective** (Prov. 1:7). Fools **disregard** the word of God. There are many things in life over which we have no control, but we don't have to be **naive, thick, stupid, or wicked** - living as if this world is **all** that matters.

We live with **wisdom** if we **"listen"** to God's Word. Ask God for wisdom. He gives it **"abundantly"** to anyone who will listen and **diligently** pursue it (Prov. 2:1-6; Jam. 1:5).

Jason Jackson

Christian Courier Penpoints

March 18, 2002

Those Who Serve

<u>Sunday Morning</u>	<u>July 18</u>	<u>July 25</u>
Bible Class Text	Mark 2:23-3:12	Mark 3:13-19
Welcome & Prayer	Jon Coriell	Wayne Gampp
Song Director	Shaun McCray	Ralph Gampp
Scripture Reading	Jason Coriell	Steve Williams
Prayer	Troy Gahm	Josh Coriell
Lord's Supper - Wine	Jamie Riley	Rich Book
Bread	John Berry	Eldon Conkel
Assist	Tim Coriell	Jerry Gampp
Assist	Barry Gampp	John Gampp
Assist	Dale Gampp	Ike Hardin
Assist	Harold Gampp	Barry Hayward
Message	Steve Miller	Chris Jones
Closing Prayer	Terry Sullivan	Jason Coriell
<u>Sunday Evening</u>		
Song Director	Bud Coriell	Zach Coriell
Opening Prayer	Matt Cram	Matt Cram
Lord's Supper	Greg Coriell	Dewey Cordle
Closing Prayer	Rich Book	Jamie Riley
<u>Wednesday Evening</u>		
Song Director	Wayne Gampp	Jeff Hayward
Prayer	Aaron Kallner	David Graff
Bible Class Text	Neh. 13, Malachi	Esther
Advance listings for Those Who Serve are posted on our website.		

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

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Elders			Deacons & Areas of Ministry		
Don Coriell	776-6346	dcoriell@sunshine-church.org	Rich Book	820-3213	Education, Elbrooke Services, Library
Jon Coriell	776-3248	jcoriell@sunshine-church.org	Bud Coriell	776-3452	Building Remodeling
Wayne Gampp	820-3444	wgampp@sunshine-church.org	Mike Coriell	820-3415	Local Benevolence
Tom Kelley	259-2258	tkelley@sunshine-church.org	Jason Coriell	820-4739	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Evangelists			Scott Gampp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Steve Miller	820-4379	smiller@sunshine-church.org	Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Pager	290-0156		Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advert., Front sign, Computers
Jamie Riley	820-3348	jriley@sunshine-church.org	Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maint., Supplies
Pager	290-0158		Taylor Hoskins	820-4645	Worship, Insurance, Budget
Building	820-3415		Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Building Fax	820-5450		Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hosp. Visit., Attendance
Campus Ministry	355-3186		Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
		Office Hours: 8-12 M-F	Willis Shumway	820-2833	Bldg. Use & Security, Baptistery
		sunshinecofc@peoplepc.com	Terry Sullivan	776-7056	Youth Ministry

Visit us online at **www.sunshine-church.org**