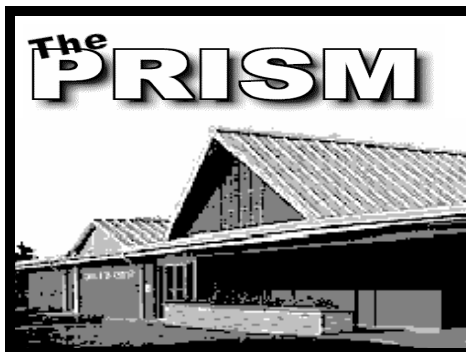




Sunshine Church of Christ

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January 23, 2005

Vol. 40 — Issue 4

Sensitive Luke

We usually think of Luke as being the least Jewish of the Gospels and geared toward the Gentiles. As I read over Luke, I am struck by the fact that in many ways, it is more Jewish than Matthew. For instance, Matthew's infancy stories include an account of the first act of worship to Jesus coming from gentile Magi. Luke mentions no Gentiles in his infancy account. Everyone is a Jew, and Luke is careful to show that they all fulfilled the law.

While Luke doesn't appear to quote as many Old Testament passages as Matthew in the infancy stories, he alludes to the Old Testament as much as if not more than Matthew.

Matthew and Mark both mention the feeding of 5,000 Jews in Jewish territory with 12 baskets left over as a sign, then 4,000 people in Gentile territory with 7 baskets left over as a sign. But Luke only mentions the feeding of 5,000 Jews. In fact, the whole context around the feeding of the 4,000 where Jesus ministers among gentiles is not mentioned in Luke. One other subtle Jewish feature of Luke's gospel is how he models the infancy stories. It appears that Luke uses the stories of the birth of Samuel as a model to tell the stories of the births of Jesus and John the Baptist. The unusual births, the Songs, and the dedication at the temple all are reminiscent of the Samuel stories. Luke is masterful in the way he arranges the material by making subtle connections to his Jewish audience by arranging the material similar to an Old Testament narrative.

But there is yet another unique feature. Not only does Luke begin like an Old Testament narrative, it also reads like secular history. Luke used the conventions of history writing used by historians of the time. The introduction and dating are both typical of secular historical works. Luke mentions Roman officials more than other New Testament writers, which places the Gospel squarely in the context of the world around it. All of this would have given some credibility to the work for unbelieving Gentile readers and show the unmistakable universality of the Gospel, especially in volume two, the book of Acts.

So, is Luke a Jewish or Gentile Gospel? The answer is, "yes." Luke was masterful in arranging his material in a way that would reach both Jew and Gentile audiences. He was sensitive to the readers and how they would hear the story.

How sensitive are we to those who hear the story of the Gospel from us? How much do we take into account how people will see, hear, and understand us? How much time do we take to make points of contact with people, to relate the Gospel to them in a way that they would see its need, practicality, and relevance? How can we do this? One good place to start is by inviting your family and friends to small group home Bible studies. Unlike worship services, they will feel freer to ask questions and see us with our "hair down" so-to-speak, and experience Christianity in action in a way they would not in a worship service. I challenge you to consider ways to make the connection with family and friends with the Gospel.

John Telgren

Leavenworth Church of Christ,
Leavenworth, KS



For the millions affected by the tsunami

For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri

For Tim and Jennifer in the adoption process

Don Lemon's last round of chemotherapy yielded mixed results. He has another test for next week, 5 or 6 weeks of radiation therapy is the tentative plan.

Dick Havens still has not received a diagnosis. More tests scheduled for this week.

Dick Barnaby (Rhonda Berry's father) had surgery Tuesday in Columbus to remove pre-cancerous polyps. He is still hospitalized but he is having a satisfactory recovery.

Ben Shumway (Carol Conkel's brother) has kidney stone surgery Monday. The surgery went well, but Ben had to make a trip to the local ER for pain on Wednesday.

Praise Report: Ruth Miller's eye surgery has produced results beyond what was expected. She praises the Lord and thanks the church for their prayers.

Arlene Knore is scheduled for knee replacement surgery on January 26. She has a serious and chronic problem with blood clots forming but must be off her "thinners" for 5 days leading up to the operation.

Sam Miller is being interviewed for a new position in his work. He is asking for wisdom and God's guidance in the matter.

Frank Scarfpin (Joanne Miller's friend) is in KDMC with serious heart problems.

Bruce Hawkins (Sharon Gampp's brother in Texas) has developed circulation problems in his leg and is having tests this week.

Alma Hayes has been having problems with balance and walking recently.

Willomena Young (friend of Chuck Allison) is having serious heart problems.

Praise Report: Brandon Hughes (multiple organ damage from an auto accident) is improving and doing much better.

Zachary Jenkins (premature baby of Stephanie and Shane Jenkins) is having severe kidney problems.

Scheduled Bible Study Texts

Sunday		Wednesday
1/23	Jn 11:55-12:19 Mt 21:1-17 Mk 11:1-33 Lk 19:28-48	1/ 26 Gen 20-23
1/30	Mt 21:28-22? Mt 25:1-46	2/2 Gen 24

Looking Ahead at Sunshine

1/23	Open House for Campus Ministry
2/5	Father-Daughter Valentine Gala
2/13	Scout Sunday
2/18-20	Winterfest in Gatlinburg
2/25	Youth Worker Appreciation Dinner
2/20-3/20	Sunday PM Home Groups
4/22-24	Youth Rally at Fort Hill Camp

Sunday Home Groups Coming

February 20, 2005 we will begin our next round of Sunday PM Home Groups. We'll be using video material by Willard Tate—How to Get What You Want and Want What You Get. Tate's ten to fifteen minute presentations will serve as the discussion starter for the sessions. Be thinking now about who you could invite to come with you to these groups. **Right now, we need 9 homes to host the nine groups that will meet away from the building. If you are willing and able to do this, sign up on the sheet on the table in the foyer. Home Groups will run from 2/20/05 to 3/20/05—five sessions in all.**

Special Prayer Request

We have received a prayer request from **Lyle Shackelford, army chaplain in Iraq** whose unit will be delivering ballots and voting machines throughout Iraq for the upcoming election. His soldiers will be prime targets for the insurgents as they deliver materials necessary for the election. He requests that Christians and churches everywhere pray for the safety of his men and success in their mission. He asks us to pray for courage and safety for the Iraqi people as they also will be targets for the insurgents as they go to the polls. He asks us to pray that the election will put in power legitimate and competent Iraqi's to lead the nation. Let the whole church say, AMEN!

2005 Budget

On the table in the foyer are copies of the proposed 2005 budget for the church. You are invited to get your own copy and if you have comments or questions, talk with one of the elders.

Youth Worker Dinner Rescheduled

The appreciation dinner has been re-scheduled for **February 25th** at 6 p.m. If you did ANYTHING to help with youth activities, you are invited to attend. This means driving, hosting a devo, clean-up, cooking, or even providing cookies. Please come so the kids can say "Thank You!"

Youth Rally at Fort Hill

Plans are already underway for this year's youth rally at Fort Hill in April. Mark April 22-24 on your calendar and consider helping us with this popular event! This year's theme will be "Back To The 60's"

Teen Devo

At Terry and Debbie's house, 6:30 pm, Tuesday.

Winterfest Sign-Up

Winterfest weekend is February 18-20 in Gatlinburg, TN. An information sheet is laid out on the table in the foyer as well as a sign up sheet. If you want to go with us, you must sign up and get your deposit (\$25/person) turned into Shaun McCray by February 1. There are 54 (?) seats on the charter bus. When they're gone, they're gone. Sign up and pay today.

Last Chance for Impact

There are sign up sheets for Impact Jr. and Sr. in the foyer. Anyone that plans to go to either session needs to sign up TODAY so we can reserve our spots. Just telling Terry you plan to go isn't enough, you MUST sign one of the sheets...**TODAY!**

Good News

Sagan Gamp was baptized into Christ Wednesday evening after our Bible Study. Many of us were there to hear her confession and see her baptism. Congratulations to you, Sagan and family. We will be praying for you.

Campus Ministry Open House

Today (Sunday, January 23) from 2-5 pm, the church and anyone who is interested are invited to come to the new campus ministry facility at 4th and Gay in Portsmouth for an Open House.

Father-Daughter Gala

The Father-Daughter Valentine Gala is set for Saturday, February 5, 2005, at the Minford High School gymnasium with the Grand March set to begin at 7 pm. Willard Wood (Willard Tate) will be our guest entertainment. In addition to volunteers to help with set-up, clean-up, serving, decorating, etc., we need people to be in the bleachers to clap and cheer for each Father-Daughter couple during the Grand March. More information to come.

Sunday PM Services

Taylor Hoskins will be leading us in a period of praise and prayer and scripture tonight.

New Address

Eric McLaughlin
xxx Spring Street
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
(802) 626-xxxx
e-mail: eric.mclaughlin@xxxxxxxxxxxx.edu

Roosters To Appear

The Yankee Roosters will be performing at Sophie's Grill in Lucasville this Friday and Saturday evening between 6 and 10. Just thought you Rooster Fans might want to know.

Farewell and Godspeed

To Rick Brown. Rick has sold his office in Portsmouth and is closing his practice within the next couple weeks. He is headed to Raleigh, NC, to join Marta and his daughter and son-in-law. They will be worshipping at the Brooks Avenue church of Christ in Raleigh, a congregation of about 700. Farewell and godspeed to you, Rick.

Skit Practice

Lord's Army will have a practice today at 5 p.m.

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

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Sunday Morning

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

January 23

(See inside bulletin)
Don Coriell
Scott Gampp
Steve Williams
Mike Gampp
Mike Coriell
Matt Cram
Ike Hardin
John Gampp
Ed McLaughlin
Chuck Allison
Jamie Riley
Mark Risner

January 30

Mt. 21 & 25?
Jon Coriell
Shaun McCray
Troy Gahm
John Berry
Aaron Kallner
Tim Coriell
Harold Gampp
David Gampp
Lane Raiser
Barry Gampp
Steve Miller
Jamie Riley

Sunday Evening

Song Director
Opening Prayer
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Zach Coriell
Gary Glispie
David Graff
Dewey Cordle

Jeff Hayward
Terry Royster
Greg Coriell
Jason Coriell

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Mark Gampp
Josh Coriell
Genesis 20-23

Aaron McCray
Rich Book
Genesis 24

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

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	Office Hours: 8-12 M-F sunshinecofc@peoplepc.com
Building Fax	820-5450	
Campus Ministry	355-3186	

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

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