

The PRISM



Sunshine Church of Christ

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My Mississippi

My Mississippi, actually the title of a Willie Morris travelogue, has echoed in my head for days now. "I've got to go help your Mississippi," exclaimed my dear sweet husband the day before he rushed a van of supplies into the heart of Mississippi. My family and their houses were relatively unharmed by Katrina, but like everyone in that area, we know of so many who were not so fortunate. His reports back to me of tremendous acts of selflessness and random acts of kindness from strangers along the way do not surprise me. Hospitality they call it. I call it who we are, what we do.

I wish all those visiting heroic men and women who are rescuing the hidden hurt and lost victims of Katrina could have seen what my Mississippi looked like before she came and left her indelible mark. Majestic magnolias... Rural charm... Happy memories of Mississippi dirt between my toes. Putting words on paper that capture that warm swell of childhood nostalgia is impossible. Before Katrina, I fear most people envisioned Mississippians still sitting on antebellum porches in Scarlet O'Hara attire overlooking plantations. Not so... Mississippi is always in contention for the "poorest state". The majority of the state is made up of tiny rural towns of hardworking regular folks just trying to pay the bills and have a little left for retirement, like the rest of us in the country.

I struggled with abandoning my Mississippi, and in a sense my family to move to Ohio and then on to Michigan for my husband's job. I have literally ached to hear "y'all". I have paced back and forth waiting to hear if Old Miss won or lost against State. I have pined for the Mississippi hot summer sun in the dead of winter up here and even secretly wished we could move further south every now and then... until now.

Now I see a tiny glimpse of God's divine plan.

My church family here in Michigan collected enough money in one night to fill the van that my husband drove down with first-to-arrive supplies and church members have comforted my children and me as we have had to fight that gut-level internal scream to run home to help. Now our congregation is blessed to welcome some of our New Orleans neighbors into our own town and is focusing on making their stay comfortable.

Oh how deeply grateful I also am for my Ohio family! They know what it's like to experience flooding, the havoc and chaos it wreaks. It takes away your brain for awhile. So when a group of men from my Ohio church family heard and saw the horrendous scenes of my Mississippi, they used their heads, planned and then immediately headed South with backhoes, a bob-cat and a gas truck, supplies and self-sufficiency. They have worked long hard days clearing roads that my family and friends have traveled for decades. That won't be the end of the help when they return to Ohio in a few days. A trailer of food is headed down next and then probably volunteers to aid in the clean up on the coast. According to their websites and bulletins, other church families in the cities where we have lived in Ohio and Michigan have contributed significantly to Church of Christ Disaster Relief who continues to reach the masses of hungry and needy in

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Prayer Requests

For those in the gulf area that are suffering through the effects of Katrina

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

For **Tim and Jennifer** in the adoption process and the health of baby **Zoe**.

Chris Holbrook (husband to Brandy Gampp's coworker) is scheduled for another surgery in the near future. Prognosis is not good for Chris.

Brian Holbrook (Nola Kelley's cousin) is facing brain surgery to alleviate extreme headache pain. Surgery is scheduled for September 20 in Columbus.

Praise Report: Shaun McCray had his hip surgery on Wednesday and was able to come home Friday.

Colin Kelly (local friend of Jim Jacobs) is battling stomach cancer.

Mary Collins had a glucose tolerance test yesterday.

Vivian Woodworth had surgery on Thursday in Nashville. She is at home with her daughter Renee.

Ola Cunningham was released from the hospital this week and is back at Riverbend.

Russell Gilliland was hospitalized this week with balance problems.

Travis Scott requests prayers for himself and his marriage.

Coriell Curry (Annette's relative in Winter Haven, FL) is hospitalized with internal bleeding.

John Curits (co-worker with Travis Scott) is having mini-strokes.

Manford Elkins (Amy Graff's father) is scheduled for further tests on Tuesday.

Jim Kielmar (co-worker with Travis Scott) is having unexplained seizures.

Name unknown (A friend of Kathy Glispie's co-worker) was severely injured in a 4 wheeler accident.

Shepherd's Prayer Session

This Thursday at 7:30 pm, the shepherds of the congregation and Jamie and Steve are meeting to pray for the members and families of the congregation. If you have a specific request you want included in that prayer, please give it to one of the bishops of the church.

Sunday PM Services

Tonight we will be covering Revelation 15 and 16.

Teen Devo

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

Sunshine Leadership Retreat

October 7 and 8 our deacons, elders and preachers will be meeting at Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp to do some planning and praying about 2006 and the direction that our congregation will take. Part of the Retreat is devoted to setting up our budget for the next year. If you have anything new that needs to be included in the 2006 budget, get with the deacon in charge of that area and start talking now. The deacons' areas of responsibility are listed on the back of the bulletin and in the new Program of Work publication.

Gary Bradley Coming

October 9-11, Gary Bradley of the Mayfair congregation in Huntsville, Alabama, will be with us for a special series of lessons: **The Two Families of God**. He will be speaking at our Leaders Planning Retreat on Friday evening (October 7) and then on Sunday through Tuesday he will be speaking to the congregation. Mark the dates, begin to pray for Brother Bradley and about who you could invite. There are many "in the box" who need to hear these messages. **Invitation Cards on the Table**.

October 1—Coriell Hayride

Every October the church is invited to Bud Coriell's place for "the hayride." Of course, this thing has gotten much bigger than "the hayride." But go ahead and mark the date and watch for more details.

Looking Ahead at Sunshine

- 10/1 Coriell Hayride
- 10/7-8 Leadership Retreat—FHCYC
- 10/9-12 Gary Bradley at Sunshine
- 10/23 Sunday PM Home Groups begin
- Nov. Sunshine's month at Elbrooke
- 11/20 Sunday PM Home Groups end

Other Area Events

Details are posted on the bulletin board.

- 9/13-15 Seniors Retreat Fort Hill CYC
- 9/21 See You at the Pole - MHS, 7 pm
- 10/7-9 Rager Rd - Columbus

Bible Study Text

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
9/11 Acts 25	9/14 Lv 1-7& 10
9/18 Acts 26	9/21 Lv 16 Nu 1-4 & 26
9/25 Acts 27	9/28 Nu 9-12

Special Contribution Today

In order to pay for the aid which has already been sent to Mississippi, we are taking a special contribution today. This contribution would be in addition to our normal collection. The total needed to cover all that's been done is around \$17,500.00. That's about \$12,000 for groceries and supplies which were delivered Saturday morning to Jackson, MS and another \$5,500 to cover the cost of fuel for the two trips to Mississippi and a few incidental expenses for the trips. After the Lord's Supper is served, we will sing one song and then our men will be passing the plates and baskets through the pews to receive this contribution. Just before our dismissal prayer, we will be announcing the amount received. **If you came unprepared to give this morning you will have a second opportunity to give this evening. Bring your contribution and give it directly to Jason Coriell. We will announce the grand total for the day just before we lead the closing prayer this evening.**

Note: Lily Chapel church of Christ (about 40 members) gave \$3000.00 last Sunday for hurricane relief. If we give as they have, our special contribution will hit \$18,000 (6 X \$3000).

My Mississippi

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the stricken parts of Alabama, Louisiana, and yes, my Mississippi.

On and on it goes. Over and over I am hearing such stories. I read them on local Southern newspaper websites and church websites. I hear them every day when I call home, more help arriving from congregations around the brotherhood. Generosity, kindness, and selfsacrifice are still present despite the media's portrayal of negative human behavior.

My family is small. My mom was the youngest child born to aging parents and now only has a few distant relatives. I grew up hearing that even if our biological family was rather small, we had many many brothers and sisters in Christ that made our family large and strong.

Now more than ever, I believe her. My sister emailed me that during a prayer/song service the Wednesday night after the hurricane our dad had prayed aloud to our Lord, "Let Your children cry and then find peace." Thanks to you, brother and sisters, we are finding peace, even as far north as Michigan. Thank you to all who have gone down, to those who will go in the coming months and to those who have contributed financially.

Thank you for saving my Mississippi.

Julie Miller

Services This Morning

The preaching part of our services this morning will be shortened so that we can have some time for a special video report of the two trips made to Mississippi. This special presentation will begin after our closing prayer. You are invited to stay and see it. Members of the group which went to Mississippi will be telling us some of the details of the trips.

Sunshine in the News

In the Thursday (9/7/05) edition of the Daily Times, Sunshine church and several of its members are mentioned in an article that appears on the front page. Copies of the article are on the table in the foyer.

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning

Bible Class Text
Welcome & Prayer
Song Director
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Lord's Supper - Server 6
Server 5
Server 4
Wine
Bread
Server 3
Server 2
Server 1
Message
Closing Prayer

September 11

Acts 25
Jon Coriell
Shaun McCray
Aaron Franke
John Berry
Troy Gahm
Eric McLaughlin
Harold Gamp
Aaron Kallner
Tim Coriell
David Gamp
Lane Raiser
Barry Gamp
Steve Miller
Jamie Riley

September 18

Acts 26
Wayne Gamp
Ralph Gamp
Matt Hoskins
Gary Glispie
Kevin Stimpert
Price Gammon
Matt Cram
Mark Risner
Dewey Cordle
Ira Coriell
Jerry Gamp
Al Graff
Steve Miller
Shawn Gragg

Sunday Evening

Song Leader
Opening Prayer
Lord's Supper
Closing Prayer

Jeff Hayward
Terry Royster
Greg Coriell
Jason Coriell

Gabe Coriell
Jon Coriell
Jacob Miller
Jamie Riley

Wednesday Evening

Song Director
Prayer
Bible Class Text

Aaron McCray
Rich Book
Lev. 1, 7 & 10

Zach Coriell
Tim Gamp
See inside bulletin

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

Visit us online at
www.sunshine-church.org

Elders

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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 Gamp	820-3545	Worship, Special Events
Gary Glispie	776-4279	Church Directory, Program of Work
Alan Graff	776-7905	Bulletin, Advertising, Front Sign, Computers
Dick Havens	456-5009	Building Maintenance, Supplies
Taylor Hoskins	820-4645	Worship, Insurance, Budget
Shaun McCray	776-7738	Treasurer, Office Supplies
Homer Miller	776-7550	Funerals, Hospital Visitation, Attendance
Eugene Risner	820-2256	Fire, Health, Seniors, Joy of Giving
Willis Shumway	820-2833	Building Use & Security, Baptistery
Terry Sullivan	776-7056	Youth Ministry