

BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Time of Services: Sunday: 10:00 A.M. class, 11:00 A.M. worship, and 6:00 P.M. worship Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. class

Preacher:

Larry Black (cell) 903-588-4253 email: lblk@peoplescom.net

Benevolence – Rick Toland: 903-220-9825 Evangelism - Heath Hines: 903-717-1423 Edification - H. L. Robertson: 903-856-5461 Building Maintenance – Mark Sharpin 903-573-3993 Grounds & Van - John D. Porter: 903-563-5945 Finance - Larry Reynolds: 903-767-0742

Wednesday Devotional Speaker: Larry Reynolds Van Driver for January: Vicki Jones



BLODGETT CHURCH of CHRIST Bulletin

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The Use of a Spoon

(by Pat Morris

What thing is it that if you looked up the definition it would say: an implement consisting of a small, shallow oval or round bowl on a long handle that is used for eating, stirring, and serving food. We've all used spoons for just such a purpose -- to eat soup, or to serve corn or scoop out ice cream from a bucket, or even to stir a cup of coffee or hot chocolate. A spoon is a very useful item to have around the house.

However, what if I asked you what was the spoon's "talent?" Would you respond the same way? A spoon is used to eat or serve potatoes or pinto beans. That is the spoon's talent. It seems to revolve around food.

Now what if I defined a spoon as a utensil? If you look up the word utensil, you would find the definition to be: a simple and useful device that is used for doing tasks.

Now doesn't that fit more of a definition of a spoon? After all we may think the "talent" of a spoon revolves around the eating or serving of food, yet some have used a spoon to dig a hole in the yard. We've seen spoons hung on the walls as decorative items and even mounted on the wall to hold towels or curtains in the kitchen. I've even used the back side of a spoon to smooth on letters you see on walls.

The point is we may think the "talent" of a spoon is food related when in actuality the "talent" of the spoon is to be "used." It is a utensil plain and simple. It is an item that is to be used. That is its talent.

Many members of the church are looking to find their "talent" in order serve God. And because they are still looking, they are not serving God. Or maybe they have discovered their talent, but they may not pitch in to do their part in another area because after all, "that's not their talent." But aren't we all utensils? Are we not to be used by God where He sees a need? While we should develop our talent to be a spoon for God, let's not neglect our talent for being a "utensil" for God -- to be used by God where He deems to

use us. If there is a need, we should be ready to jump in and serve whether we think it is our talent or not. I pray that in the New Year we are "utensils" for the Lord.

"Do You Know Who I Am?

Written by Steve Ridgell

It is a question asked by people who believe they are so important that they deserve special treatment. They expect waiters, receptionists, and — well, anyone in a position to help them — to make them the highest priority. They do not want to wait their turn, they do not want to be told "no," and they think the rules that apply to everyone else do not apply to them. They may think this because they have a position of status. They may be rich, or they may be a powerful person. They have developed a sense of entitlement that leads them to believe they are not like everyone else. They are Special ... or at least that is what they think.

So imagine how Jesus could have felt; the Son of God reigning on His throne in heaven with every creature worshipping Him. The entire world created by Him and His Father. They looked down at the earth They had created and saw what a mess it was. Man had made so many wrong choices; choices that separated us from God. So God asked His Son to come down where we were and fix it. He asked Him to show us how to live, die so our sins could be forgiven, and show the way back to God.

So He did. But He did not do it the way most of us would have. The Creator of the Universe was born in a barn among animals. He grew up in an ordinary family in a no-name village. His closest followers were ordinary, uneducated people. He washed dirty feet. He let some of the very people He came to save hang Him on a cross.

Most amazing of all is that He invites us to know Him. Even more, He invites us to become part of His family. He wants us to become His adopted brothers and sisters. He has made it possible for us to live forever in heaven with Him.

Do you know who I am? Jesus never asked that question as a way to exert power or to boost His own ego. He asked it as a promise. He asked it as a gift of love. He asked it as an invitation.

"Let us restore in 2024."

Family News

- **Keith Golden** is in Pleasant Springs Healthcare Center in Mt Pleasant to receive rehabilitation.
- **Jesi Buck** had emergency surgery to remove her appendix.
- **Dylan Bolton** had his wisdom teeth extracted plus he has a broken toe.
- **Jimmy and Vicki Jones's** daughter, Angie, began chemotherapy this week.
- **Bill Mony's** dad is out of the hospital.
- **Betty Berry** has a new great-granddaughter.
- The ladies are invited to a baby shower for Matthew and Jordan Vaughn Saturday, January 27th at 1:00 p.m. at the fellowship building.

Upcoming Events

Beginning Feb. 4, the church in Pattonville is hosting a gospel meeting with Otis Knight speaking.

I'm NOT A Fan of This Cold

The following was posted on Facebook by Carla Hines. Some of you likely read it, but I thought it was good and wanted to share it with others. Larry

I'm NOT a fan of this cold!! I've seen and heard about how many people prepared for this arctic blast. We made sure to have propane ordered, groceries bought, double batch of soup made, etc. It made me even more aware that people CAN and DO prepare for things that are important to them. I hope we're all preparing our souls for judgment day as well. Not only did we prepare for the cold, but we've continued to be vigilant--kept water dripping in the sinks, salt on the sidewalks/steps, etc. We must also CONTINUE to be ready at all times to meet the Lord in judgment. It's not a one-time only event. It's a daily process that we're commanded to do. I've seen so many people start out their Christian walk only to be choked out by the thorns of daily life as we're warned about in Mark 4:3-8. We cannot give up when the storms of life come around--or, I think, personally, when regular life goes by, and we become comfortable and complacent. Let's make sure we're preparing daily Matt 16:24. If you have questions about salvation, need a church home, or just want to talk, let me know. I'll be glad to visit with you. This time we have on Earth is too valuable to waste by not obeying our Lord and Savior. Let's do the kind of preparing that will give us a home in Heaven.