

The Emerald Beach *Christian*



Your Weekly Edification

About Us

A Christian First

Barry Gilreath, III

“Who are you?” To this question, one might answer, “I am a politician,” or “I am a business-woman.” What would be your first response?

There was once a mother who pondered about the future of her four-year old daughter. “Maybe she will become a singer. She might desire to be a teacher or even a doctor.” As she thought on these things, she finally asked the child, “What do you want to be when you are grown?” To the mother’s surprise, the child did not reply with an occupation. Rather, she quickly responded, “A Christian first.” The young mother was certainly humbled by the innocence of her little child. The mother sought to define the future of her child by what she would do. The child wanted to define her future by the person that she would become.

How many members of the Lord’s church today have the mentality of this young girl? How many today uphold the spiritual aspect of life as the most descriptive quality of an individual? While there are truly a multitude of descriptive characteristics an individual might possess (librarian, husband, or parent), the name *Christian* should be the most defining aspect of the life of a child of God. While many choose to be policemen first or store managers first, ask yourself: Am I a Christian first?

Consider the life of Paul for a moment. What are some characteristics that one might give Paul? Certainly, a few come to mind: 1) a Christian, 2) an apostle of Jesus Christ, 3) a disciple of Christ, 4) a leader of men in spiritual matters, 5) a friend, 6) a brother, 7) a preacher, 8) a teacher, etc. Did you notice a correlation between all of these descriptions of Paul? They all describe the person that he was which led him to what he did. What about your life? What about your list? Are you a Christian first?

Attention, Visitors

Thank you for choosing to be with us this Lord’s Day; you are our welcomed guests! We pray that we show you our gratitude for your presence. We ask that you please return to us a completed *Visitor Information Card*. These cards are located one the back of the pews. Also, please give us the opportunity to meet and fellowship with you after services today.

Contact Information

Address

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Phone

(850) 235-7992

Email

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Website

www.emeraldbeachchurch.org

Times of Assembly

Sunday

9 AM – Bible Classes
10 AM – Worship
6 PM – Worship

Wednesday

7 PM – Bible Study

Staff

Minister

Barry Gilreath

Secretary

Duffle Chisolm



Dangerous Negotiations



A hunter raised his rifle and took careful aim at a large bear. When about to pull the trigger, the bear spoke in a soft soothing voice, "Isn't it better to talk than to shoot? What do you want? Let's negotiate the matter." Lowering his rifle, the hunter replied, "I want a fur coat." "Good," said the bear, "that is a negotiable question. I only want a full stomach, so let us negotiate a compromise."

They sat down to negotiate and after a time the bear walked away alone. The negotiations had been successful. The bear had a full stomach, and the hunter had his fur coat!

Satan says to you, "Let us negotiate." But there are some things that cannot be negotiable. We cannot compromise the church with the world. Christ and His church deserve our very best and utmost loyalty.

Emerald Beach Contacts

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Farris Brown	(850) 234-6837
Larry Nave	(850) 234-5675
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May
God
Bless
You!

The Emerald Beach church of Christ is in need of financial support; any monetary contribution would be greatly appreciated. We are small in number, and out-of-town visitors, who often outnumber us, have proven faithful to help support the work of this congregation. We would like to thank you for your support in the Gospel of Christ! We simply could not be here without you.

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Saturday, Jan. 22 – Ladies luncheon, time & location TBA.

Sunday, Jan. 30 – Fifth Sunday meal.

Prayer List

Duffle & David Chisolm; Sam & Louise Maxwell; Clint & Ann Byars; J.D. & Bea West; Charlie Hernandez; Tim Akers; Lucy Younger; William Jordan; Julie Folsom – daughter of the Byars; **Jim Murrell; Dorris Richardson; Carol McGinnis** – Ann Byars' sister; **Edna Jones** – Ann Byars' mother; **Craig Byars; Jason & Heidi Byars; Jean Nichols** – Mother of Sharon Stockton; **Alice Heath** – Mother of Betty Brown; **Wanda & Geneva Johnson; Ivan Burnett** – congestive heart failure (sister of Jean Nichols); **Mickey & Pat Young** (Cookeville, TN) – She is taking treatments in Nashville for a non-malignant brain tumor in St. Thomas; **Charlie Montgomery** – son of Pat Montgomery; **Sue Mayo; Danny Young, Tony Adkison, Joe Eidson, Jo Ann Fairbanks, Sherry Suit, Ray Cooper, Ken Jordan, and Greg Anderson**

Last Week's Records

AM Bible Study	29
AM Worship	78
PM Worship	38
Wednesday Bible Study	37
Contributions	\$1,844

Birthdays & Anniversaries



January

Sharon Stockton (15th)
Christi Gilreath (24th)
Betty Brown (25th)



January

Harry & Bernice Pendle
(17th)

Opportunities to Hear the Gospel

Know Your Bible – Mon. – Fri., 9:30 PM, on DirecTV, Ch. 377
Sun., 6:30 PM, on DirecTV, Ch. 367

Good News Today – Sun., 6:30 AM on Dish Network, Ch. 267
Sun., 6:30 AM on DirecTV, Ch. 376

In Search of the Lord's Way – Sun., 6:30 AM
(Knology, Ch. 74; Comcast, Ch. 244;
Dish-Network, Ch. 259; DirecTV, Ch. 364)

Thank you for your recent contributions. Your donations help so many in need. The pantry is still in need of various items.





Suit Up - Ephesians 6:10-17

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand” (v.14).



Serving Today
Announcements
John Sain

Song Leader
Van Hendrix

Opening Prayer
Guest

Today's Sermons
Barry Gilreath

AM - Suit Up
Eph. 6:10-17

PM - Watch and Pray
Eph. 6:18

Serving the Communion
Fred Casteel
Ralph Turner
Farris Brown
Bill Snow

Closing Prayer
Guest

Serving This Month
Preparing Communion
Gail Casteel

Locking the Building
Fred Casteel

Greeter
Carla Lee



*Exalt the LORD our
God and worship at
his footstool; he is
holy*

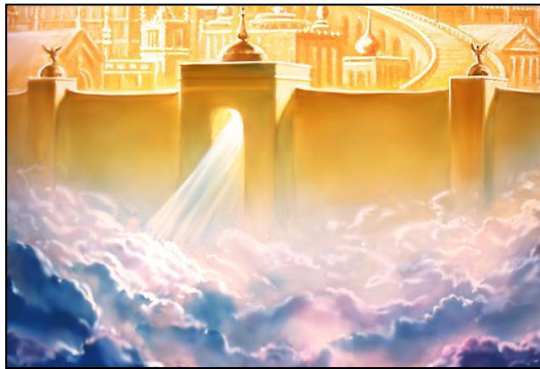
- Psalm 99:5

Things in Heaven Needed in the Church

Barry Gilreath, Jr.

What are some things in Heaven that are needed in the church?

1) Reverent Worship. The Apostle John wrote, “Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters” (Rev. 14:7). Members of the church of Christ ought to follow that same



pattern in New Testament worship. Our worship must be rooted in a “fear” for the Lord and a desire to glorify Him. We must resist the temptation to elevate the desires of men over the dictates of God. Man is not the hub of praise and adoration. God is! When we worship the Lord in the manner in which he as specified, our worship is pleasing to Him and reverent.

2) Fellowship of All Races. Isn't it sad to learn of brethren who seek to classify the saved into carnal categories? Some insist on having black churches or white churches. However, in Heaven this division is not so. God has taught His church that in Heaven, “all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest” (Rev. 15:4). The saved will be composed of all nations (Acts 10:34-35). Red, yellow, black and white, all of God's children are precious in His sight. If there are no color barriers in Heaven, why should God's church observe such on earth?

3) Christ Jesus. Peter wrote, “Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him” (1 Pet. 3:22). Jesus Christ is in Heaven, yet He ought to also be present in the church. That should go without saying, but the Lord has made it clear that if a congregation does not abide in Him, He will not abide in it (Rev. 2:5).

4) Joy over the Repentance of Sinners. Jesus said, “I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance” (Luke 15:7). Every time a sinner repents, Heaven rejoices. However, some brethren seemingly have little appreciation for responses to the invitation of Christ. They are more interested in going to Sunday lunch or getting home for the ballgame, rather than encouraging the penitent. The church of Christ must be interested in the salvation of the lost souls. When we cease to be moved to joy over the repentance of sinners, it is time we repent ourselves.

Barry Gilreath, Jr. is the pulpit minister of the Jackson Heights Church of Christ in Florence, Alabama. Lord willing, he will be directing our thoughts for our Gospel Meeting this year. The meeting will be held this year from June 5th-8th. Please set aside these dates on your calendar and plan to be with us.

TIP OF THE WEEK

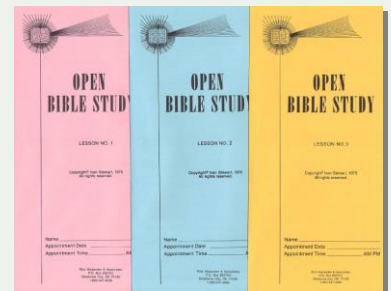
We should not change the message; the message should change us.

QUESTIONS?

Do you have questions about anything which you saw or heard today? We would love to study with you.

STUDY AT HOME

Do you want to be a participant in a free Bible correspondence course? If you would be interested in receiving this series of three lessons, please let us know.



You can also study from home by using helpful links found on our website.

www.emeraldbeachchurch.org

We would love to hear from you!

emeraldbeachchurch@yahoo.com
850-235-7992

OBEY THE GOSPEL!

- Hear the Word (Rom. 10:17)
- Believe in Christ (Mark 16:15)
- Repent of Sins (Acts 17:30)
- Confess Christ (Rom. 10:9-10)
- Be Baptized (Acts 2:38)
- Live Faithfully (2 Tim. 4:6-8)