

BUILDING CLEANING

We will clean the building on June 12, 2009 following the afternoon singing. All who can stay and assist with this chore are welcome to do so.

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

Ladies' Bible class will be conducted on June 15, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the building. All the ladies are welcome to attend.

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
06/01/09 Monday.....	1 Kings.....01-02	Psalm.....72-74
06/02/09 Tuesday.....	1 Kings.....03-04	Psalm.....75-76
06/03/09 Wednesday.....	1 Kings.....05-06	Psalm.....77-78
06/04/09 Thursday.....	1 Kings.....07-08	Psalm.....79-80
06/05/09 Friday.....	1 Kings.....09-10	Psalm.....81-82
06/06/09 Saturday.....	1 Kings.....11-12	Psalm.....83-84
06/07/09 Sunday.....	1 Kings.....13-14	Psalm.....85-86

The Informer is a weekly publication that is published and overseen by the Belle church of Christ located at the corner of 8th and Oak in Belle, Missouri 65013. Our Mailing address is "P.O. Box 381, Belle, Missouri 65013. The church phone number is (573) 859-6616. Jerry McDonald is the pulpit preacher. His email address is jerry@challenge2.org. His cell number is (573) 578-5931. Thomas McDonald is the associate preacher. His email address is thmcdonald10@hotmail.com. His cell phone number is (573) 308-9126. We support U. John in Prakasam, India. We will also be supporting Jeremy Desjarlais in Sydney, Australia. We also support Ruben Williams as he studies to preach at the Memphis School of Preaching. Our church website is <http://www.bellecoc.com>. The email address is bellecoc@bellecoc.com. Our services are as follows:

TIMES OF SERVICE

Sunday Morning Bible Study.....	9:30
Sunday Morning Worship.....	10:30
Sunday Evening Worship.....	6:00
Wednesday Evening Bible Study.....	7:00
Ladies Bible Class 3 rd Monday Evening of Each Month.....	7:00

OUR PLEA:

BACK-TO-THE-BIBLE

Belle church of Christ
P.O. Box 381
Belle, MO 65013

The Informer

Belle church of Christ

Volume 18

May 31, 2009

Number 22

MISSION OF THE LOCAL CHURCH—EVANGELISM

Jerry D. McDonald

The word "church" is used in two senses in the New Testament: (1) it is used in a universal sense as when Jesus said "*upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*" (Mt. 16:18), and (2) it is used in a local sense as when Paul wrote "*unto the church of God which is at Corinth*" (1 Cor. 1:2). Local churches make up the universal church and the work of local churches is how the work of the Lord gets done. The universal church does not work per se; the work is done by local churches, and when local churches do their work then the universal church is seen to do its work. The New Testament shows the work of the local church broken down into three areas: (1) evangelism; (2) benevolence; and (3) edification, and in this study we will look at evangelism.

The New Testament teaches that the local church is to evangelize, that is that it is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul wrote: "*the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men that they may be able to teach others also*" (2 Tim. 2:2). In giving the great commission Jesus commanded to go "*into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature*" (Mk. 16:15). Now God's example was to start out at home and spread out as he set the pattern with Jerusalem and when the church was "*scattered abroad*" (Acts 8:1) those persecuted Christians "*went everywhere preaching the word*" (Acts 8:4). It never was God's will that the church stay stagnant in one place, but to spread out and take the good news to everyone out in the darkness.

In order to grow properly the local church must be involved in two kinds of evangelism. It must be involved in evangelism at home and it must be involved in evangelism abroad. There are always extremes with every position. The extremes here are that most don't want to do any evangelism at home, they just want to be involved in the evangelism abroad because of the unusually large numbers of baptisms that they can put on their bulletin boards in their foyers and in their bulletins. They can talk about how they are supporting so many missionaries and what good those missionaries are doing in those foreign countries. Well, it is all well and good that mission work is going good in foreign countries but what about right here? If we don't stop and think about what we are doing we will some day become the mission field. Then there is the other extreme where all the work is done here and none is done abroad. We say let's keep all our resources here, we don't know those people over there and we'll likely never meet them. Neither position is satisfactory to God. God used the persecution of the church in Jerusalem to get the gospel to be spread out to the world, thus showing us that the church is to go into all the world. The church in Philippi, though it had its own local work to consider, supported the apostle Paul to preach the gospel in this mission to Macedonia, and even when he was in Thessalonica (Phil. 4:15,16). So in order to keep New Testament Pattern we have to do both, evangelize both at home and abroad.

Churches who only evangelize at home will not grow properly because they don't have the proper love for the lost that they should have; they only care for what is around them. They cannot see the lost in the farthest regions of the world. Churches who only evangelize abroad have the same problem, on at the opposite end of the pole. All they are interested in is large numbers. In order to be the kind of evangelistic church that Christ desires us to be we are going to have to have an interest in both kinds of evangelism. We are going to have to care for both those in our immediate vicinity as well as those abroad. When we learn to do this then we will become the kind of evangelists that Christ desires.

CHURCH NEWS

PRAYER LIST

We need to remember all those who are sick and afflicted in our daily prayers. We need to remember those who are in the nursing homes, and in the military. We also need to keep Doris Pendleton, Ruby Backus, Tex Kinman, Bill and Verna Butler, Lynna Shanks, Verma Long, Connie Gass, Nelta Brock, Cheryl Harris, Janet Patrick, Evonelle Calkins, Vera Dreyse, Elnora Shanks, Dawn Tivoli, Richard Massey, the Bill Habermehl family, Savannah Shanks, Adrian and Jean Swindler, Sandy Sarchette, and Olivia Shanks. Let us also continue to remember Andy Shanks, Nettie B. Shirley, Dixie Stacy, and Darrell Conley in our daily prayers. Logan Shanks went back for testing and they have been unable to find the cause of

his problem. They think it may have been a virus he picked up. Olivia is on a stronger dose of her medication, let us keep them in our prayers. Chesley is in Frene Valley Nursing Home. We need to remember Delmar Backeus and Marvin Howard and his wife. Scott Thomas had back surgery, and we need to keep him in our daily prayers. Leslie Schwegler passed from this life. The visitation will be at Null & Sons Funeral Home in Rolla today between 2 & 5 p.m. and the funeral will be at Null & Sons Funeral Home in Rolla tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. He will be interred at Skagg's Chapel. Let us keep the Schwegler family in our prayers.

THOSE TO SERVE May 31, 2009 A.M.	THOSE TO SERVE June 7, 2009 A.M.
Greeters.....Tex & Lois Kinman	Greeters.....David Shanks & Jerry McDonald
Announcements.....Gary Wallace	Announcements.....David Shanks
Song Leader.....Andy Shanks	Song Leader.....Danny Keeney
Opening Prayer.....Thomas McDonald	Opening Prayer.....Gary Wallace
Lord's Supper.....David & Taylor Shanks	Lord's Supper.....Elwood Runge & Leroy Thomas
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney	Closing Prayer.....Jerry McDonald
P.M.	P.M.
Song Leader.....Andy Shanks	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge	Opening Prayer.....Danny Keeney
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Gary Wallace	Closing Prayer.....Gary Wallace
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Song Leader.....Andy Shanks	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Jerry McDonald	Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge
Devotional.....Thomas McDonald	Devotional.....Jerry McDonald
Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge	Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney

FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME

The items for Fair Haven Children's Home this week are "Honey," "Microwave Popcorn," and "Vinegar."

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING

The next men's business meeting will be on Tuesday June 2, 2009. All the men of the congregation are encouraged to attend and help made the decisions for the church here in Belle.

Sermons For The Next Two Weeks

May 31, 2009: A.M. lesson: "So Great Salvation (Part 1)," P.M. Lesson: "So Great Salvation (Part 1)." June 7, 2009: A.M. lesson: "So Great Salvation (Part 2)," P.M. Lesson: "So Great Salvation (Part 2)."

FELLOWSHIP MEAL & SINGING

The next fellowship meal will be on Sunday June 14, 2009 with a singing to follow. All are invited to participate in this event.