

### Door Knocking Campaign

Let's not forget about our door knocking campaign here in Belle in May. On May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> we will knock doors and then will continue the meeting through the 5<sup>th</sup> and maybe later depending on how things progress in the five days we have slated. Every one of us needs to have a job of some kind in this in order to pull this off and make it a success. In April we will be going through classes of meeting the public for those who will be knocking doors.

### Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Date	Morning	Evening
03/16/09 Monday.....	Numbers.....31-32	John.....09
03/17/09 Tuesday.....	Numbers.....33-34	John.....10
03/18/09 Wednesday.....	Numbers.....36-36	John.....11
03/19/09 Thursday.....	Deuteronomy.....01-02	John.....12
03/20/09 Friday.....	Deuteronomy.....03-04	John.....13
03/21/09 Saturday.....	Deuteronomy.....05-06	John.....14
03/22/09 Sunday.....	Deuteronomy.....07-08	John.....15

The Informer is a weekly publication that is published and overseen by the Belle church of Christ located at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:jerry@challenge2.org). His cell number is (573) 578-5931. Thomas McDonald is the associate preacher. His email address is [thmcdonald10@hotmail.com](mailto:thmcdonald10@hotmail.com). His cell phone number is (573) 201-6093. 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](mailto: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<sup>rd</sup> 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

March 15, 2009

Number 11

### WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OUR WORLD?

Jerry D. McDonald

**G**rowing up I guess about the worst thing that teenagers had to worry about was an out of marriage pregnancy, getting caught with alcohol or some drugs (that by today's standards would be like taking an aspirin). Yes we had our peer pressure, and there were a few rebels, but all in all young people were mostly good. Most of them were still hard workers, and still had respect for their parents and for the law of the land. It has been a long time since this writer has been a teenager, but he remembers the pressures of being a teenager. However, the pressures that are on our young people today are unbelievable. The pressures on the teens in this writer's day were nothing compared to the pressure on our teens today. Kids are buying and selling drugs openly these days, and very little is being done about it. In the last 40 years a lot of things have happened that have dramatically changed our lives. The Beetles, the hippies, the draft dodgers, the riots over the Viet-Nam war, the so-called "free love," have drastically altered mankind. It used to be that people left the keys in the ignition, now you have to lock your doors while you are at home; and according to the news, you obviously aren't even safe inside your church building during worship services without having someone come and start shooting your preacher. So, what in the world is going on?

The world has always faced unGodliness, and I don't want to go on sounding negative to the point that you would think that there are no good young people in our world today. This writer does not feel this way, there are plenty of good young people; and maybe they don't get as much attention as those who are causing the trouble, but they are there. However, there are those who are out there and they are bound and determined to bring down anyone who has any idea of leading a good spiritual life.

The Bible has a lot to say, especially to young people, about living Godly lives. Solomon, after living an unGodly life, wrote in the end to his son "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" (Ecc 12:1). Young people need to be aware of the admonition here to remember

God and their responsibilities to God. Solomon further told his son “*Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man*” (Ecc 12:13).

It is so easy, when we are young, to think that we have our whole lives ahead of us and that we have plenty of time to sow our wild oats (so to speak) and then live for the Lord, but the truth of the matter is that even if we live to be old the things we do when we are young often come back to bite us when we are older. Those things keep us from doing the things that we should be doing, and while we may genuinely want to work for the Lord, we might not be able to because of consequences we have to face from things we did when were young.

Youth is not to be wasted on lustful pleasures and selfish desires. It is to be spent in service to God. Paul recognized Timothy as a faithful child of God when he said “*when I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also*” (2Ti 1:5). There is no higher compliment that could be paid to Timothy than the one that Paul had just paid him. He was a faithful child of God and this faith had been instilled him by his grandmother and his mother from a child (2 Tim. 3:15). Timothy didn’t spend his youth in lustful pleasures and selfish desires, he spent it in study of the scriptures (2 Tim. 2:14), and serving God.

As a young Gospel preacher, Paul warned him “*let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity*” (1Ti 4:12). Notice, if you will, the things that Timothy was to be a good example in: (1) In word, in his speech, the things that come out of his mouth. So many young people don’t even think about what they say, they just say it. Many of those things are sinful and they set a bad example of what young people are like. (2) In conversation, which has reference one’s manner of life. Paul wanted Timothy to live a Godly life so that people would see him living a good life. (3) Charity, in love, in his willingness to help others; something that few young people are willing to do. (4) Spirit or the manner or disposition in which he does things. Young people often don’t think about how they come across to the rest of the world and Paul warns Timothy to think about that. (5) Faith, to make sure that he holds a firm faith to God and his word. This harms more young people than anything. More young people lose faith because of their friends or their peers and it brings them down. No one likes to be left out and Christian young people often feel like a fish out of water, so some of them give up their faith so that they can be accepted. They need to hold on to their faith and realize that these feelings will only last a few years, and when all that is over they will be glad that they held to their faith. (6) Purity, be pure, hold on to purity, don’t allow anyone to talk you into giving up your purity. The people of the world don’t care about you, all they care about is themselves and how they feel. They pretend to be your best friend all the while enjoying themselves and indulging in their own pleasures. However, when they are through with you, they will leave you and move on. Keep your purity, and you will be rewarded in the end. As Paul told Timothy those many years ago to be a good example of the believers in these things, so we say to our youth today; be good examples of the believers in word, conversation in charity, in spirit, in faith and in purity. Don’t allow the world to change you. You need to change the world.

## News & Notes

### THOSE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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, Gary Cooper, 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, Taylor Shanks, Adrian and Jean Swindler, Chesley Shanks, Gary Wallace, Sandy Sarchette, and Olivia Shanks. Andy Shanks will have knee surgery soon. Doris Pendleton’s mother, Nettie B. Shirley, fell and broke her collar bone. Two weeks later she had a mini stroke, and is in a rehabilitation hospital. Chesley Shanks has a doctor’s appointment Thursday to have an x-ray and will probably find out when his surgery will be. Let’s keep all these in our prayers.

THOSE TO SERVE March 15, 2009 A.M.	THOSE TO SERVE March 22, 2009 A.M.
Greeters.....Tex & Lois Kinman	Greeters.....David Shanks & Gary Wallace
Announcements.....Gary Wallace	Announcements.....Andy Shanks
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas	Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas
Lord’s Supper...Danny Keeney & Elwood Runge	Lord’s Supper..Danny Keeney & Elwood Runge
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....Thomas McDonald
Closing Prayer.....David Shanks	Closing Prayer.....Gary Wallace
P.M.	P.M.
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Andy Shanks	Opening Prayer.....Danny Keeney
Sermon.....Jerry McDonald	Sermon.....To Be Announced
Closing Prayer.....Danny Keeney	Closing Prayer.....Leroy Thomas
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald	Song Leader.....David Shanks
Opening Prayer.....Gary Wallace	Opening Prayer.....Gary Wallace
Devotional.....Jerry McDonald	Devotional.....Thomas McDonald
Closing Prayer.....David Shanks	Closing Prayer.....Andy Shanks

### FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN’S HOME

The items for Fair Haven Children’s Home this week are “Tomato Sauce,” “Instant Potatoes,” and “Chocolate Chips.” The truck will be here on March 19<sup>th</sup> to pick up the things we have stored for them.

### Sermons for the Next Two Weeks

A.M. For March 15, 2009: “The Stone that Killed Goliath.” The P.M. Lesson will be “Where Are You.”

A.M. For March 22, 2009: To be announced. The P.M. Lesson will be “The Essentiality of Repentance.”

### Traveling

Jerry and Andrea McDonald will be in Lindsay, OK this next weekend. Jerry will be taking classes on teaching door knocking and Bible Study for our up and coming door knocking campaign. They should be back sometime Sunday afternoon.