

January 11, 2015



DeGaulle Drive

CHURCH OF CHRIST

4700 GENERAL DEGAULLE DRIVE

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70131

www.degaulledrivecoc.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Morning Bible Class	9:00 AM
Morning Worship	10:00 AM
Pew Packers	5:30 PM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM

MID-WEEK

Tuesday Ladies Class (September—May)	10:00 AM
Wednesday Bible Class	7:00 PM

ELDERS

Wes Arabie	504-858-2881
Bill Burchett	504-393-2409
Howard Goodale	504-272-0502

DEACONS

Steve Tucker	504-812-2617
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EVANGELISTS

Scott Cain	504-392-4110
Wes Arabie	504-858-2881

EMAIL: office@degaulledrivecoc.com

WORKS SUPPORTED:

Benevolence:

Childhaven of Cullman, Alabama

Media:

Gospel Broadcasting Network
In Search of the Lord's Way
The Old Landmarks
The Truth in Love

MISSIONS:

Budapest, Hungary: Curry Montague,
curry.monta@gmail.com

India: Ron & Karen Clayton
RCIndia@sonet.net

Padova, Italy: Jeff & Tia Brauer Family,
brauer@padovateam.org

Marshall, Texas: Azael & Dinora Alvarez

PREACHER TRAINING:

Memphis School of Preaching

CHEAP CROSSES

Robert Hatfield

I recently read about a man who was traveling in Brazil and happened upon a Brazilian religious festival. He perused all of the festivities surrounding the festival and came to an area with vendors in their different booths. He noticed a booth that was selling religious-themed goods at low prices. The sign over that particular booth read, "Cheap crosses."

That's what we're looking for sometimes, isn't it? We look for the cheap crosses. We try to find ways to squeak into heaven, turning Christianity into a checklist religion rather than an obedient faith that responds to God's amazing grace, mercy, and love. We try to find ways to water down the gospel so that we can justify our shortcomings and transgressions. We look for the easy way out, that path of least resistance, that will not call upon us to go outside of our comfort zones and that will not force us to go against the grain of our culture.

All the while, Jesus says this:

If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost? (Luke 9:23-25).

Just as Jesus bore a cross for us, so we are called to bear a cross for Him. This is a Christian's daily activity.

Jesus' cross wasn't cheap, was it? Peter says that we were bought with "the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:19). That's the blood of the "only begotten Son" of God (John 3:16). That's no cheap cross.

Why would we expect our crosses to be cheap? Jesus gave His life for us, and He calls us to give our lives to Him. Why would we expect anything different? The Christian is called to fully surrender to the Lord. He surrenders his life, his will, his interests, his pleasures, his thoughts, and his speech to Jesus. "It is no longer I who live," Paul wrote, "but Christ lives in me" (Galatians 2:20).

PAUL'S RESOLUTION

Robert Hatfield

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14).

Are you interested in taking steps toward spiritual improvement in 2015? I've been making some personal plans over the past several days. In Philippians chapter three, we see a wonderful pattern for spiritual goal setting.

Here are five observations from Paul's resolution statement in Philippians 3:13-14.

1. PRIORITIZATION

Some things are more important than others. Paul had his priorities right. He says, "one thing I do" (Philippians 3:13). He was focused on the spiritual things first. Will your 2015 (Lord willing) reflect that same focus?

2. PROGRESSION

Paul said that he was forgetting the past and reaching forward to the future. There were some things in Paul's past that I'm sure brought shame to his mind. Conversely, there were perhaps some parts of Paul's more recent past that may have made him proud (in a good kind of way). However, those things were behind him. The fact that he had a past meant that he had made progress, right? Be sure that you are making progress – and that you're making it in the right direction (Matthew 7:13-14).

3. PRESSURE

"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus," Paul said (Philippians 3:14). The word "press" means to put in rapid motion; to pursue. There was a time when Paul put pressure on the cause of Christ (Acts 9:4-5; 22:4). Following his conversion to Jesus, Paul pressed toward the finish line of a life well lived. In what direction are you pressing?

4. PRIZE

Paul was pressing toward the prize. There's a reward, a rest, that awaits those who faithfully run the Christian race and cross that great finish line. John was instructed to write,

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on."

"Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them" (Revelation 14:13).

It's important to remember why you do what you do. There was a heavenly home upon which Paul was focused. But it was about more than just the prize. The prize's value was found in Who resides in heaven. Back up to Philippians 3:8-11 and you see that Paul was fully focused on heaven because of his focus on Christ. Notice that, in those verses, Paul expresses his desire to...

- * ... Gain Christ (Philippian. 3:8).
- * ... Be found in Christ (Philippians 3:9).
- * ... Know Christ and the power of His resurrection (Philippians 3:10).
- * ... Attain to the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:11).

It's important that we maintain our motivation in living for Jesus.

5. PLANNING

Paul had clear goals. He lived with the end in mind, focusing always upon his promised prize and on the One who had given Him that promised hope. This doesn't happen by accident, does it? And it won't happen by accident for you or me, either. We won't grow by osmosis through hearing sermons on Sundays and sitting through Bible classes on Wednesdays. We will have to focus our hearts and employ our hearts on studying and practicing the truth.

Prioritization, progression, pressure, prize, and planning: these are all elements that accompanied Paul's resolution statement. These five elements will undoubtedly be included as you and I make plans for spiritual improvements.

NEWS & NOTES

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1. GENERAL TEACHER'S MEETING:** Is today at 4:30. We encourage all teachers to be present as we discuss plans for 2015.
- 2. FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** January 18th after AM worship. Those with last names M-Z are asked to set-up & clean-up
- 3. PICTURES:** Members, we will be taking photographs for our member board & directory each Sunday in January. Please plan to have a picture taken of you & your family. Past photographs will not be used.
- 4. WORK NIGHT FOR THE MASTER:** January's work night will be on the 28th. Please plan to join us for this time of laboring together & fellowship. We will celebrate January birthdays following work night.

BIBLE CALL: Bible Call in December received 50 calls for 4 hours & 16 minutes of listening time.

LAST WEEK'S RECORD

Attendance

Bible Study	67
Sunday AM	108
Sunday PM	71
Wednesday	40

NEEDING CARE & PRAYERS

Our Members & Visitors

Roger Ferrell: Had his drainage tube removed on Thursday following his recent surgery in December. Docs say everything looks good.

Dan Joseph: After Whipple surgery, extensive chemotherapy, & constant prayers, Dan is "cancer free." We thank God for Dan's progress & pray for him during his continued treatments, which include radiation & a different chemo drug.

Wilma Blaché

Mary Cullum

James Lieteau

Troy Singleton

Louise & Toni Sylve

Bill & Barbara Burchett

Sandy Jones

Mae McKinney

Debbie Starr

LaTonia Brooks-Washington

Our Shut-Ins

Virginia Self

Elwanda Piskorik

Our Family & Friends

Family of Deena Baldasaro: Wes Arabie's aunt who recently passed away.

Mariano Gonzales Pauline Ferrell's ex-husband. Had an apparent stroke Friday night while hospitalized. Doctors found his brain unresponsive.

Family of Joyce Harrington: Betty Moss's sister. Joyce's husband Bob is also in fragile health. Joyce & Bob lost their only son last spring.

Family of Wendy Johnson: Roger Ferrell's niece; passed away Dec 25th in Houston.

Mary Hardee: Recently lost her teaching position & all of her symptoms from Chiari malformation have returned.

Virginia Self: Virginia is confined to bed & expects to go home to her reward in a matter of months.

Nyanza: Sister of Voncile Lieteau; asks for prayers concerning her son Darrin's safety.

Maegan Brimm

Sharon Martin

Lillie Smith

Morné & Amanda Stephanus

Lance Ezell

Sean Schaff

The Snell Family

Ronald Woodruff

Deployed Servicemen

Nathan Gillespie: Dawn, Tempe, & Dalton are serving in Japan.

Please submit all prayer requests in writing to Scott or Melissa Cain. Please supply regular updates on each individual in order to keep our prayer list up-to-date. For the sake of space, any name (except for shut-ins) will be removed after four weeks unless a new update is received. Thank you for helping us all to stay informed of the spiritual & physical needs of our members, friends, & family.

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

THIS WEEK

JANUARY 11

Sunday AM

Welcome:

Howard Goodale

Prayer:

Wes Arabie

Song Lead:

Dick Grantham

Communion Scripture:

Steve Tucker

Romans 5:1-11

Lord's Table:

Paul Macaluso (2)

Sermon:

Scott Cain

Dismissal:

Ron Landis

Sunday PM

Welcome:

Howard Goodale

Prayer:

Jerome Riddick

Song Lead:

Howard Goodale

Lord's Table:

Paul Macaluso (2)

Sermon:

Scott Cain

Dismissal:

John Cullum

NEXT WEEK

JANUARY 18

Sunday AM

Welcome:

Steve Tucker

Prayer:

Dick Grantham

Song Lead:

Howard Goodale

Communion Scripture:

Dick Grantham

Psalm 2:1-2

Lord's Table:

Paul Macaluso (2)

Sermon:

Scott Cain

Dismissal:

Wes Arabie

Sunday PM

Welcome:

Steve Tucker

Prayer:

Paul Macaluso

Song Lead:

Dick Grantham

Lord's Table:

Paul Macaluso (2)

Sermon:

Wes Arabie

Dismissal:

Glenn Bates

January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																				
28	29	30	31	1	2	3																				
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																				
 First Day Of Pictures	11 Teacher's Meeting 	12	14	15	16	17																				
18 A.M. Fellowship 	19	20	21	22	23	24																				
25 Last Picture Day 	26	27	28	29	30	31																				
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<p>BIRTHDAYS</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>01/01</td> <td>Debbie Starr</td> <td>01/16</td> <td>Sandy Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01/02</td> <td>Louise Sylve</td> <td>01/22</td> <td>Holly Landis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01/09</td> <td>James Lieteau</td> <td>01/22</td> <td>Janice Carter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01/12</td> <td>Don Robinson</td> <td>01/23</td> <td>Ronny, Jr. Landis</td> </tr> <tr> <td>01/14</td> <td>Marlene Carter</td> <td>01/29</td> <td>William Goodale</td> </tr> </table> <p>ANNIVERSARY  01/23 Wes & Cheryl Arabie</p>							01/01	Debbie Starr	01/16	Sandy Jones	01/02	Louise Sylve	01/22	Holly Landis	01/09	James Lieteau	01/22	Janice Carter	01/12	Don Robinson	01/23	Ronny, Jr. Landis	01/14	Marlene Carter	01/29	William Goodale
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