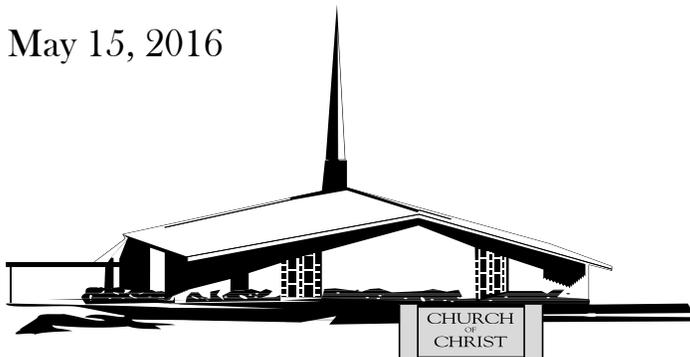


May 15, 2016



# 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	10:00 AM
(September—May)	
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

## LET GO OF THE PEW

Scott Cain

It is Sunday morning. The sermon is almost over. You know this, not because the preacher has already filled twenty-eight of his average thirty minutes in the pulpit, but because something is different this morning. You have been questioning and regretting past actions that you know to be sinful, and as a result you have paid closer attention to this sermon. You have heard scriptures from God's inspired Word that seem to be hand-selected and directly applied to an aspect of your life that you know you must change. You wonder, "Is he intentionally preaching at me; have I missed other messages like this when I was not paying attention?"

The preacher is now extending the Lord's invitation. He calls for all who have never submitted to the gospel to obey Christ's plan of salvation. He pleads with erring children of God to return to the One Who gave Himself to save us all. The congregation begins to sing a song of encouragement for those who would respond to the invitation. "I should go up there," you think to yourself, but your hands clench the pew in front of you. Your mind is so focused on "should I, or should I not" that you do not realize that you are staring the preacher in the eye, but he has noticed. You avert your eyes downward, fearful that your face will reveal your thoughts. As you look down, you see your whitened knuckles as your hands grasp the waist-high wooden pew in front of you. "Wood," your mind says, "the only thing keeping me here is my grip on this wood." Why is your grip so tight? Why are you gripping the pew at all? Is it fear? Do you fear the Distance that your feet must carry you? Do you fear the Doubters that may observe your repentance with skepticism? Do you fear the Destination, worried about whether or not you can make the necessary changes in your life? You have two choices: will you overcome your fears and let go of the pew, or will you succumb to your fears and clench that piece of wood until the song is over and the moment is passed?

Another man once clenched another piece of wood. He did not grip the timber in order to remain in one place, but hoisted the approximately 110-lb. beam in order to carry it amid the scornful crowd and the scoffing Roman soldiers. Jesus bore His cross (Hebrews 12:2). All those who would become faithful children of God must likewise bear their own crosses (Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34). Jesus saw every soul as worth the world (Matthew 16:25), and He came to save every soul, including yours (John 3:16; I Timothy 2:4-5). Because of His love for us and His concern for our souls, Jesus was not hindered by the Distance, the Doubters, or the Destination. Are you? What keeps you from releasing the pew and taking up your cross?

Are you hindered by the Distance? How many paces lay between you and that front pew? Twenty? Eighty? Are you too far away to respond to the gospel? It is estimated that the path beginning at the Roman Praetorium and ending atop Golgotha spanned a total distance of at least one mile, and Jesus bore His cross. Yes, Simon the Cyrenian was compelled to assist (Matthew 27:32), not because Jesus resisted bearing the load to Calvary, but because His

physical body had been beaten to the point that it was not possible for Him to haul that cross by Himself. Jesus bore His cross for a mile: can you bear yours a few feet?

Are you hindered by the Doubters? Too many pew-grippers refuse to respond to the Lord's invitation because of the doubts of those who want to question the sincerity of every person who responds to the gospel. Even though He was surrounded by a crowd of doubters, scoffers, and mockers, Jesus did not allow their skepticism to reduce His resolve to do the will of the Father (Philippians 2:5-9). If a person can be prevented from obeying the gospel by the potential doubts of someone else, then he obviously loves something more than he loves Jesus. Why should the ungodly doubts of anyone else matter to the penitent sinner who seeks salvation in Christ? Every faithful Christian rejoices to see a soul converted to Jesus (James 5:19-20; Luke 15:7, 10).

Are you hindered by the Destination? Jesus was not. He knew that He would be crucified, yet He pressed forward to the cruel hill called Calvary. Just as Jesus carried His cross to crucifixion, so also must all those who would obey His gospel carry their crosses to the same destination. Paul recognized that faithful Christians are "crucified with Christ" (Galatians 2:20). Paul repeatedly emphasized that a person must die to sin in order to live in Christ as a child of God (Romans 6:1-7, 11-19). Jesus gave all that He could give in order to make salvation available (Philippians 2:5-7; Titus 2:14), and all that He expects us to abandon are those things which are sinful in our lives (John 8:11; Titus 2:11-13). Like Jesus, when we carry our crosses, we must leave them at Calvary. A cross is an instrument intended to bring inevitable death. Our destination is Calvary; we carry our spiritual crosses there and we crucify our sin-filled lives (Romans 6:6). We then walk with Him in "newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

Why are you gripping that wooden pew? Are you hindered by the Distance, the Doubters, or the Destination? You grip that piece of furniture in order to avoid receiving salvation, whereas Jesus bore the load of a cruel and rough Roman cross in order to make salvation available. Receive the spiritual blessings which are in Christ Jesus by obeying His gospel (Ephesians 1:3). Did Jesus love you more than you love Him? Did Jesus love you more than you love yourself?

Let go of the pew, pick up your cross, and follow Jesus.

# WE'RE IN FOR A RETREAT

## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL DEGAULLE DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY RETREAT!

AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup>-6<sup>TH</sup>  
Fontainebleau State Park.

This Family Retreat is free of charge & is open to all members of the DeGaulle Drive Church of Christ.

Please plan to be part of this wonderful weekend of fellowship.

## 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL DEGAULLE DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST MEN'S LEADERSHIP RETREAT!

OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>-15<sup>TH</sup>  
Tickfaw State Park

This retreat is **FREE OF CHARGE** & is for all men of the DeGaulle Drive Church of Christ.

### **The Earlier, the Better!**

**Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**, will be a day of fellowship, preparation, & enjoying Tickfaw State Park. Come out early & have some fun!

We encourage everyone to arrive *AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE* on **Friday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**, as the men of DeGaulle Drive congregation will look at how each of us can become the leader God wants us to be!

Don't miss out on this weekend  
of fellowship & leadership.

# NEWS & NOTES

## LAST WEEK'S RECORD

### Attendance

Service	2016	Last
Time	Goal	Week
Bible Study	70	74
Sunday AM	100	99
Sunday PM	60	48
Wednesday	60	47

### Bible Reading

Reading Plan	2016	Last
	Goal	Week
Daily Readers	45	38
Bible in 2016	45	31
NT in 2016	60	38

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- SONG LEADING CLASS:** Will meet today at 4:30.
- YOUTH LOCK-IN:** Today!!!, May 15, for ages 3-12. After AM worship service we will have a short devotional for the children followed by a fun afternoon! Parents, please send changes of clothes for your children & plan to enjoy a quiet Sunday afternoon. See Scott & Melissa for details.
- FELLOWSHIP MEAL/SHOWER:** May 22<sup>nd</sup> after AM worship. We will shower Eugene & Kindy Carter as we celebrate their recent marriage!
- VBS REGISTRATION:** Parents, please register your children now! VBS will be June 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 9A.M to 11 A.M. for ages 2-6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL DEGAULLE DRIVE CHURCH OF CHRIST FAMILY RETREAT:** August 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> at Fontainebleau State Park; free of charge & open to all members at DeGaulle Drive.
- MEN'S LEADERSHIP RETREAT:** October 13-15 at Tickfaw State Park; free of charge & open to all men of the congregation. Check back in the coming weeks for more information.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!:** Marlene Carter & Vaughn DeArmas are celebrating another new grandchild! Renada & her husband Marcel welcomed their daughter Lea into the world Friday.

## NEEDING CARE & PRAYERS

### Our Members & Visitors

**Carol Byes:** Her daughter Stacey was able to return home; doctors are still trying to determine the cause of her symptoms.

**Bill & Barbara Burchett**  
**Kenny Cullum**  
**James Lieteau**  
**Deanna Royal**  
**Family of Debbie Starr**

**John & Mary Cullum**  
**William Fitzgerald**  
**Meijah Lieteau**  
**Lillie Smith**

### Our Shut-In

**Elwanda Piskorik**

### Our Family & Friends

**Bobby Biddle:** While on a cruise that disembarked from New Orleans with her son, she suffered a massive heart attack. Efforts were being made for him to be with her.

**Lea Birden:** New granddaughter of Marlene Carter & Vaughn DeArmas; was put into NICU for her O2 levels, but she has since stabilized & was to go home Friday.

**Roger Ferrell:** Hernia repair surgery on May 4<sup>th</sup> with serious complications. He has since greatly improved & was able to go home.

**Barbara Riddick:** Sister of Jerome Riddick; hospitalized last week with kidney stones

**Joby Smith, Jr.:** Grandson of Wes & Cheryl Arabie; needs prayers & encouragement. His mailing address is on the News & Notes boards. Please send him kind thoughts.

**Danny Stephen:** Brother of Trish Goodale; will have shoulder surgery on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Teresa Stephen:** Sister-in-law of Trish Goodale; health problems from Hepatitis C.

**Kaiyah Alexander**  
**Lisa Cormier**  
**Carol & EJ Fisher**  
**Mary Macaluso**  
**Patricia Patterson**  
**Carolyn Shelvin**

**Nancy Cash**  
**Family of Bonnie Daniels**  
**Family of Allen Morris**  
**Blanca Otterpohl**  
**Joe Peek**

### Deployed Servicemen

**Nathan Gillespie:** Nathan, 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

**MAY 15**

**Sunday AM**

**Welcome:**

Steve Tucker

**Prayer:**

Don Robinson

**Song Lead:**

Howard Goodale

**Communion Scripture:**

Roland Keith

Luke 23:32-38

**Lord's Table:**

Paul Macaluso (2)

**Sermon:**

Scott Cain

**Dismissal:**

Jerome Riddick

**Sunday PM**

**Welcome:**

Steve Tucker

**Prayer:**

Roland Keith

**Song Lead:**

Ron Landis

**Lord's Table:**

Paul Macaluso (2)

**Sermon:**

Scott Cain

**Dismissal:**

Howard Goodale

### NEXT WEEK

**MAY 22**

**Sunday AM**

**Welcome:**

Howard Goodale

**Prayer:**

Wes Arabie

**Song Lead:**

Howard Goodale

**Communion Scripture:**

Jerome Riddick

Luke 23:44-47

**Lord's Table:**

Paul Macaluso (2)

**Sermon:**

Scott Cain

**Dismissal:**

Keith Cooper

**Sunday PM**

**Welcome:**

Howard Goodale

**Prayer:**

Paul Macaluso (2)

**Song Lead:**

Howard Goodale

**Lord's Table:**

Paul Macaluso (2)

**Sermon:**

Readings

**Dismissal:**

Ron Landis

# May 2016

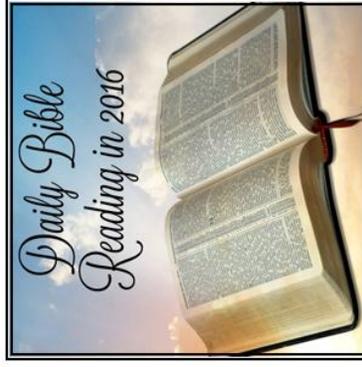
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 VBS Workshop
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Shower for Will Goodale 
15 Youth Lock-In	16	17	18	19	20	21
22  Fellowship/ Shower	23	24	25  Work Night	26	27	28
29	30	31				
			<b>BIRTHDAYS</b>			<b>ANNIVERSARY</b>
5	Pat Lee	17	Steve Tucker		 1	Jeff & Michelle LaCaze
12	Dayton McKinney	23	Trish Goodale		4	Randy & Melissa Lepine
12	Sharon Brock	24	Jennifer Barthelerny		11	Don & Margaret Robinson
12	Robert Kaigler	26	Lillie Smith		25	Mack & Chris Meek
14	Latoya Kaigler	27	Howard Goodale		28	Bill & Barbara Burchett
17	Caleb Hensley	28	Keisha Rogers			

**VBS WORKSHOP:** Will be May 7th from 9:30–11:30 AM

**FELLOWSHIP/SHOWER:** Will be May 22nd after AM worship in honor of Eugene & Kindy Carter.

**WORK NIGHT:** Will be May 25th.

**SHOWER:** In honor of Will Goodale & his future bride, Marissa, will be May 14th. Invitations to be given.



**READING THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2016?** May begins with Ezra 1 & goes through Job 42. Please see additional schedules on the table.