

KANSAS CITY

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“Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently. O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments.”

Psalm 119:1-6

It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. Psalm 118:8

**GOD’S HOLY DAYS
2008**

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April 19th
Lord’s Supper
(observed evening before at
Sundown)

April 20th-26th
Feast of Unleavened Bread*

June 8th
Pentecost*

September 30th
Feast of Trumpets*

October 9th
Day of Atonement*

October 14th-20th
Feast of Tabernacles*

October 21st
Last Great Day*
*begins evening before

“We will go where the Spirit of God leads, and teach the Good News of the coming Kingdom of God.”

“And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM:** and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, **I AM** hath sent me unto you. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, **The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.**”

Exodus 3:14-15 KJV

THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work. But the seventh day is the Sabbath to the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor’s.

Exodus 20:3-17

MINISTRIES

Kansas City Church of God Ministries

Schedule MARCH / APRIL 2008

MARCH

Due to a recent back injury, I will be unable to travel to do any Sabbath Services until I get through with my surgery on the 11th. I am taking everything day by day right now and each week, as I am able I will do a live audio service from my home beginning at 1:30 PM each Sabbath, using the conference number for the Friday Bible studies listed on Page 6. If I can travel I will be at the locations shown to hold services. On days that I am unable to do the study or service, Mr. Tom Shadoin will be hosting Open Forum Bible Studies in Topeka, and over the phone. I will send out a notice to everyone after the surgery once I know more. Thanks for your love & prayers and let's keep the Work going.
Stephen

March 15th - Sabbath Service 1:30 P.M.

Live Audio Service from our home,
Or a hosted Bible Study.
Use Bible Study Phone number on Page 6.

March 22nd - Sabbath Service, 1 P.M.

Optimist Club Building
109 N. Lexington St.
Harrisonville, Missouri 64701
For Directions: 816-380-7821

March 29th - Sabbath Service, 1 P.M.

Optimist Club Building
109 N. Lexington St.
Harrisonville, Missouri 64701
For Directions: 816-380-7821

April 5th - Sabbath Service, 1:30 P.M.

Topeka - Shawnee County Public Library
1515 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, Kansas 66604
Phone: 785-580-4495
Service will be held on the 2nd floor on West side of bldg.

Directions to Library:

From the East: take I-70 to Topeka. Take Exit 362C - 10th Ave./ Madison St.
Turn left and follow 10th Ave. for several blocks until you come to Library.

From the West: take I-70 to Topeka. Take Exit 359 - Macvicar Ave.
Turn right and follow Macvicar to 10th Ave. Turn left on 10th and follow to Library.

*****Begin preparations for *****
Feast of Unleavened Bread by using up products containing leaven.

For directions to any of these locations call the numbers listed, call 816-380-7821, or if you have internet access you can get directions at:
www.mapquest.com

"OUR COMMISSION"- "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28: 19,20

GOD'S CREATION ALL AROUND US.

By Stephen Hicks

A few weeks ago my family and I witnessed the oddest thing going on at one of our bird feeders. The weather had gotten warm that day so there was all kinds of activity outside.

I was low on black sunflower seed so I filled one feeder with chicken scratch, which is a mix of cracked corn, milo, and I'm not sure what else, and the other I finished off with sunflower seed.

As I was sitting in the living room, I looked out the window and caught a glimpse of one of the birds hovering in the air above the feeder and it seemed a bit disturbed. As I got closer to check it out, I noticed several bees flying in and out of the feeder holes. At one time there had to be over fifty bees coming in and out. I was amazed and called to Samantha to come and see it.



We watched for some time as some of the bees worked from inside the feeder (photo on left), each one grabbing a piece of milo, or corn and dragging it out of the wholes dropping it down into the tray below. Then from there other bees would wrestle with the seed that had been dropped, rolling over onto their backs sometimes because of the weight of the seed. (See bee laying on his back holding milo in the picture below.) It was one of the funniest things I had seen in quite a while.

I wasn't sure whether they thought all of these seeds were chunks of pollen, or what, but they sure stayed busy with it. I know that corn has a sweet smell to it, so this besides the bright colors may have been what drew them to the feeder in the first place. I decided to take the camera out and get a few

close ups. As you can see from the photos, I was able to get within a couple of inches of them and they just went on doing what they were doing as if I wasn't there.

Now I know what some of you might be thinking, that I was silly to try this, but I know from experience that worker bees won't normally sting unless you try to hurt them. It's the soldier bees that protect the hive you have to be careful of. It was a beautiful sound, listening to the buzzing in my ears as they'd fly all around my head.

I've never found a moment when something about God's creation hasn't left me saying, "Wow!" Oh, and by the way, they cleaned out the feeder in two days and didn't leave one piece of seed.





Stephen & Teresa Hicks
(816) 380-7821

E-mail Address:
goodnewsminister@earthlink.net

*As for
me
and
my
house,
we will
serve
the
Lord.*

Greetings to all our Brethren!

January and February have been very trying months for our family, and I know that many of you have been going through trials of your own for some-time also.

In these times it is such a comfort to know that God is with us and that He has given us all a family that we can depend on to be there for us when we need to hear words of encouragement, when we need help in certain situations, and when we just need a shoulder to cry on.

Not only has God blessed me by giving me a wife and daughters that I truly love, but through them He just continues to bless me. I've also been blessed so much by my brethren, that quite often the pouring out of their love brings me to tears.

The reason I am writing this is because I've been getting many calls and emails from those who have been concerned about me and who have been trying to find out why the newsletter is late, and why I haven't been doing much traveling. I hope this will answer some of those questions.

Many of you may not have been made aware, but on January 22nd, I foolishly tried to move a refrigerator down our front steps, all by myself.

Everything was going good until the doors on the refrigerator swung open on me, and caused it to twist on me. Instead of letting it go, I held on to try and steady it, and in doing so, I tore some muscle and tissue in my back, and moved some of my discs out of alignment.

As I held on to the refrigerator it fell towards me hitting me on my head and driving me to my knees.

Once I got my senses, I realized that I was in a whole lot of pain, but with the fridge resting on my head, I went ahead and stood up standing the refrigerator upright on the concrete slab. That is when I realized that I couldn't move my left arm or my neck without a lot of pain and it felt as though someone was shoving a spear into my back.

Instead of going to an emergency room, I had Teresa take me to my Chiropractor. When she was done, I felt better, but wasn't completely out of pain.

I went back for a couple more sessions, but on the last one the pain increased in my back, and down my left arm again. I then decided it was time to go to the ER.

When we got there I told the doctor where I was hurting and he decided that I had probably torn my Aorta. I was a bit confused by his statement, but I went along with him, and they did a catscan of my heart. We, along with doctor, found out that I had a good looking heart and Aorta.

He then sent me home with prescriptions for pain management, but never asked about, or looked at my back again.

I don't like taking prescription medications, but nothing that I was trying was easing the pain, so I gave in. They took the edge off, but I was still very uncomfortable, and I couldn't type or write without pain, and that was frustrating me, knowing that I had things to prepare, Bibles studies to work on, and things to write.

Finally, I went to our family doctor and she sent me for an MRI of my thoracic spine, which is the middle of your back for those like me that didn't know that. This didn't show anything bad enough to cause the pain I was in.

It had been several weeks and I still didn't know what was causing the pain I was feeling and the numbness in my arm and fingers.

After calling my doctor back, she decided to have me admitted for more pain management, which is where they keep you so doped up that even though you hurt, you don't care as much.

Since that hospital didn't have a Neuro Surgeon, they transported me to another hospital in K.C. They did two more MRI's on me, one of the cervical (upper back) and one of the lumbar (lower back). They knew that my problem was in the cervical area of my back. They gave me an epidural in my back and sent me home again and still no one had told us what was going on, nor had they fixed the cause of the pain.

A few days later our Family doctor sent me to a pain management clinic and set me an appointment for another neuro-surgeon. (Continued on Page 10)

Young Disciples in Training

(The Young Disciples in Training Page will be back Soon.)

Commentary by Tom Shadoin

Generally speaking I don't like to speculate when it comes to any subject in the Bible. However I'm going to break that rule just this once to comment on an issue I've heard raised more than once.

In the book of Job we are told that Job's children were eating and drinking in their older brother's house when a wind, perhaps a tornado, made the house cave in and kill all the occupants. (Job 1:18-19).

We see previously from verses 11 and 12 that this came about when Satan had challenged God to remove the hedge God had put around Job and all he had. By the time we get to the end of the saga, we are told in Job 42:13 that Job was given MORE sons and daughters, ten to be exact. The lament I have heard over the years is twofold. One is that how could Job ever truly be happy since he had lost the first set of children, which is certainly an understandable thing to say.

Second and sometimes said in a round about way, how unfair God was to allow the death of the children in the first place. That is the issue I want to comment on, or, perhaps speculate about a bit. What I'd like to point out first of all is that we don't know what the behavior and character of the children was. In verse 5 of the first chapter we are told that, after several days of feasting, Job would send and "sanctify them," and offer burnt offerings for them. As the scriptures say, Job was concerned that his sons may have sinned and cursed God in their hearts. Did Job have a particular reason to think this? I think that it's interesting that he felt this was a possibility. One might think that a parent would indeed know what his children might and might not do.

We find in God's word however that He is no respecter of persons. (Acts 10:34). In the end we must all answer for our own sins. Otherwise all we would have to do was be born into the "right" family with the "right" parents and our forgiveness of sins and salvation would be assured. I do not mean to imply that we should not pray for others including our own children. James 5:16 tells us that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man does indeed count for a lot with God. But nowhere are we told that someone else's prayers can protect us in all cases at all times.

And as to fairness we are told that God's ways and purposes are high above what we can imagine and the things He purposes and speaks WILL come about. (Isaiah 55:8-11). God tells us in Ezekiel 18:25, 29 that in fact it is WE who are unjust and not God Almighty.

Interestingly Job is mentioned in Ezekiel 14:12-13, when God tells us the fate of a persistently unfaithful nation, and no surprise, it is Israel.

Ezekiel 14:20; "...as surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, even if Noah, Daniel and Job were in it, they could save neither son nor daughter. They would save only themselves by their righteousness." (Continued on Page 9)



FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE BIBLE STUDY

Study begins at 7 p.m.

Join us by calling: 1-304-848-6940

When the recording begins enter:

1699932

(The study is approximately 30 minutes long and is a toll call unless you have unlimited long distance, or call from your cell phone.)

CHURCH FORMING IN TOPEKA, KANSAS AREA.

Anyone interested in being a part of this church group please contact the local hosts.

Judy Hermann (785)-554-9089

OR

Tom Shadoin (785)-233-5905

*“But go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.
And as ye go, preach, saying,
The kingdom of heaven is at hand.
Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the
dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received,
freely give. Provide neither gold, nor silver,
nor brass in your purses, nor scrip for your
journey, neither two coats, neither shoes,
nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of
his meat.” Matthew 10:6-10 KJV*

CLINTON CHURCH OF GOD

For information on other weekly services during the month contact the local hosts:

John & Jeana Booth: 1-660-890-2512

or

Marlene Brown: 1-660-492-0423

Heber Springs, AR Church of God

Local Services

Saturday, March 8th, 1PM

Saturday, March 15th, 1PM

Saturday, March 22nd, 1PM

Saturday, March 29th, 1PM



Hosts: Don & Charlene Mayfield
(501) 362-3672

The Searcy Church has now moved to Heber Springs. Call for directions.

Thank you for the prayers!

For those of you who know me, I am not the one who usually takes the time to write anything in our newsletter. However, I feel the need to convey to all of you my thanks for your prayers concerning my job at Sprint. It is pretty amazing that out of the blue today (3/5/2008), our director just informed us, that our department is being taken out of the layoffs. This is pretty unheard of in the corporate world. Usually once a decision is made, they forge ahead regardless of the impact. I know that my job was spared by the grace of God. Also, I want to thank you for your continued prayer for Steve.

Teresa

JUST FOR FUN!

The following trivia questions will be a mix of easy, fairly easy, hard, and bonus question which may or may not be challenging. Please don't be discouraged if you don't know some of the answers, just challenge yourself to learn. All answers will be published in the next newsletter.

1. True. (John 9:1)
2. C. a beggar (John 9:8)
3. False. (John 9:2)
4. C. Neither (John 9:3)
5. True. (John 9:3)
6. Light (John 9:5)
7. D. spit, clay, and water from the pool of Siloam. (John (:6-7)
8. True
9. Pharisees. (John 9:13)
10. True. (John 9:22-23)
11. Blind. (John 9:25)
12. True (John 9:33)
13. C. put out of the synagogue. (John 9:34)
14. True. (John 9:35-38)
15. Believe. (John 9:38)

1. How many men did Nebuchadnezzar see walking in the fiery furnace?
2. "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before _____."
3. Someone came to Pilate and begged for the body of the crucified Jesus. Who was He?
4. How old was Joseph when Pharaoh made him a ruler?
5. How many times did the boy who Elisha raised from the dead sneeze?
6. Some angels came to speak to Lot. How many were there?
7. Who asked for the head of John the Baptist and got it?
8. Who wrote the book of Lamentations?
9. What three young men had a father who was 500 years old?
10. When Philip met the Ethiopian eunuch, he was reading from what book in the Old Testament?
11. What was the name of the wilderness in which John the Baptist preached?
12. "At midnight _____ and _____ prayed, and sang praises to God; and the prisoners heard them."
13. What was the name of Timothy's mother?
14. Who was hung on a gallows fifty cubits (about seventy-five feet) high?
15. What were the names of the first and last judges of Israel?
16. What was the name of the sorcerer who was struck blind by Paul the Apostle?
17. Which of Joseph's brothers was left behind as a hostage when the other nine returned to bring Benjamin to Egypt?
18. Hannah was the mother of Samuel. What was the name of Hannah's husband?
19. What is the name of the Bible character who saw a roll flying in the sky?
20. What tribe had 700 left-handed men who could sling stones at a hair breadth and not miss?

Shepherd's Pie

- 1 - Lg. Onion, quartered and sliced
- 2 - tbsp. butter or margarine
- 2 - Cups diced roast beef
- 2 - Cups brown or beef gravy
- 1/2 - Cup sliced or diced cooked carrots
- 1 - Cup of canned peas
- Salt and pepper to taste.
- 1 Egg Yolk
- 2 - Cups Mashed Potatoes

Melt butter in a heavy skillet over medium heat; add onions. Saute onions until tender; add diced beef, gravy, carrots and peas. Heat through; season with salt and pepper, to taste. Transfer to baking dish. Beat the egg into potatoes and spoon potatoes over meat and vegetables. Bake at 400 degrees until potatoes are brown and gravy is bubbling.



Kansas City Church of God Ministries Website

AARON McCLAIN
WEBHOST

1-573-759-6925

www.kansascitychurchofgod.org



The Live Friday Night Bible Studies are now available to download, or listen to online. We will continue to add new ones as we complete them, so keep checking the site. You can find them at the KC website by clicking on the link to the KC page, then click the link to the audio bible studies.

**LISTEN TO AND DOWNLOAD
AUDIO SERMONS**

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

We will begin listing all requests for one month unless there is a reason to keep them on longer. Please write down the prayer requests each month, or cut this page out to use as a reference. It is very important that we are kept informed of the progress of the people put on this list. If we have removed someone's name by mistake, please let us know and we will put them back on the list.

1. Pray that God will continue to bless His flocks.
2. Pray for all of God's ministers.
3. Aiden Alder. Leukemia. Last report said that Aiden's immune system was none existent and he was having trouble with infections.
4. Marlene Brown. Still having back problems.
5. Sherman Robertson. Had another surgery on his hip and is walking with a cane now.
6. Alan & Cathy Perry & family. Need strength & guidance. Cathy has been having trouble with ear infections.
7. Bailee Woods: Young girl with Leukemia is doing lots better, but still isn't out of the woods yet.
8. Lori Harvey. Is having surgery on her toe, and has been diagnosed with tumors on her ovaries. They are waiting on a date to remove them.
9. Mary Starbuck. Having problems with her feet and legs.
10. Carol Rojas. She is recovering from surgery. The doctors thought that they might have to remove her leg, but decided it wasn't necessary.
11. Jeana Booth. Health problems. Pray for healing and physical strength.
12. Mike Koesters, friend of Christine McClain, just had surgery on his saliva glands. Pray for quick recovery.
13. Mary Lewis. Pray for strength and healing for her health.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16
"Thank You for Your Prayers!"

Praises to God.

If God has answered your prayers, let us know so we can give God praise.

1. Barbara Farris: Stephen Hicks aunt is doing great after her knee replacement. She still has about 10 more days of therapy to complete.
2. Teresa Hicks will get to keep her job at Sprint. See her letter on Page 6.
3. When I last spoke with Alice & Leland Stommen, Alice told me that Leland was outside shoveling snow. Thanks for your prayers.

(Continued from Page 5).

So we see that the patience of God has limits when forbearing to punish evil EVEN when we are dealing with the offspring of the righteous and even when the righteous are praying and, in Job's case, offering sacrifices for their offspring. As I said before we don't even KNOW the character and behavior of Job's sons but in Job 1:5 we are told Job offered sacrifices continually. It leads me to wonder if he felt a driving need to do so. Again this is just my speculation.

One last point I'd like to make is that the scriptures seem to show far too often the fact that the sons of righteous men have character that is just the opposite of their parent. We probably all have heard the old slang of "preacher's kids," and how bad they can be. Cases in point in the scriptures:

1. Aaron and his sons Leviticus 10:1-6.
2. Eli and his sons, 1 Samuel 2:22.
3. David and his sons, 2 Samuel 15
4. Hezekiah and his son Manasseh, 2 Kings 18: 1-7; 2 Kings 21: 1-7.

Maybe you can think of more examples. Clearly righteous godly character is not hereditary! And no one makes it into God's favor or His kingdom by virtue of who his parent was or what his parent did. To be sure we have no way of KNOWING what Job's children were like. Perhaps they would have met the end they did anyways. Perhaps God had good reason for allowing it other than proving something to Satan. I have just not felt all the possibilities of this story and the natures of Job's children and their character have been explored. We know too that Job, just as we, had to be comforted by the fact that he and his children would be resurrected and he would see them again. Job 14:14-15. As I've said, a certain amount of speculation is included in this article. At this point I will end both the speculation AND the article. END

At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:25-30 KJV

(Continued from Page 4.) The doctor at the clinic was one of the nicest and most informative doctors I have ever been to. He was the first to actually tell me what was causing all of my pain. Apparently when the refrigerator landed on my head it crushed one of the discs in my lower neck causing it to push into my spine. None of the other doctors had seen this apparently, and he did it by reading the report that the MRI doctor had written which was in with the films. He told us right then, that he would be very surprised if we would come back to see him, and that he felt 99 percent sure that the surgeon that we were going to would recommend surgery. He also told me to be careful, because another impact could push the disc further into my spine causing paralysis. I must say that this news scared me. None of the other doctors had told us anything like this.

We did visit one of the best surgeons in K.C. I was really happy to find out he was Jewish, and he has done several of these types of surgery with great success. He did inform me that I would have to cut out some of the more physical things that I do and have done in the past, but it should not affect me otherwise.

We have prayed many times that God would remove this from me, and I still believe that He can. God has seen me and my family through so many things, and I will continue to put my trust in Him. I have been the kind of person that does not like to ask for help, because I felt I was interrupting someone else's time and I didn't want to bother them.

My friends, this came about because of my own arrogance and pride, and God has shown me this, and I feel that the pain has been left on me for a time, so that I will not forget. In the past, I have taken away the blessing of others who have offered to help me at times, and I have refused them. Through this, God has opened my eyes to many of my faults, but He is also strengthening my faith and the faith of my family through all of this and I thank Him for this because we will come out stronger.

My surgery is set for March 11th at 7:30 AM. This newsletter is late this month, so I'll be recovering when you get it. I do thank all of you again for your love, your thoughts and your prayers. I do dearly love all of you.

May God continue to bless and watch over His Church in all things. Stephen

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

HARRISONVILLE, MO. 64701-0909
P.O. BOX 906

KANSAS CITY CHURCH OF GOD MINISTRIES