

Galatians 6:10 *“Therefore as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith.”*

May 29, 2011

Remember in your prayers:

- **Marguerite Thompson** is doing better and hopes to be here tonight. **Roger Key** will have a third injection this Wednesday. **Jason Morgan** continues to have therapy for his blood clots at home. **Billy Norris'** (Bunny Richardson's father) condition is the same. There is no change with **Sarabeth Upton**. **Randy Kiker's** recovery continues to be very slow. His weight is down from what it should be. **Rhonda Knowles** continues to need our prayers.
- **Tacoda Goshee, Bessie Sides, Xabien Hall, Paul Odom, Conard Rice, Barbara Addington** (is not doing well), **Lea Cooper**, and **Marvin Dryer's mother**, as they battle cancer.
- **Heather Flowers**, and **Laura Russo** who are away at college. **Robert Langley, Jeremiah Hughes** & all of **our servicemen** who are defending freedom. **Our nation** and its leaders. **Those that preach and teach the gospel**; especially those who labor under hardships. Those who have **lost loved ones and belongings** due to the tornado in our area.

Gwen Lacy (Margie's sister and past member here at Black Creek) passed away Friday morning. Her arrangements are: Visitation from 12-1 PM, Tuesday at Patterson Funeral home and the funeral service will follow the visitation at 1:00 PM.

BLACK CREEK UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Last Sunday Singing tonight @ 5:00 PM**
- **Ladies and Men's Classes** will meet a week early in June. (June 6 and June 7)
- **Summer Bible School** Monday- Friday 9:30-11:00 AM; July 18-22, 2011

Area Gospel Meetings:

No announcements received this week.



NOTHING TO HIDE!

Consider this:

- If a man has some printed money but is not willing to have it examined, people think it is counterfeit.
- If a man is afraid to take a lie detector test, people think he is guilty of crime.
- If a man conducts a business but is unwilling to let anyone investigate it, folks think he is running a crooked business.
- Yet many preachers teach doctrines that under no circumstances will they test or allow to be tested by the Bible. However, millions of people will accept them as upright, honest teachers of the truth, and will risk their salvation upon them. What makes the difference? The Bible instructs us to try the teachers (1 John 4:1). The truth never fears investigation! It has nothing to hide!- by **Bill Crews**

The Banner of Truth

Black Creek church of Christ
1235 Alliance Rd; Alliance, Alabama
436-4477

“You have given a BANNER to those who fear you, that it may be displayed because of the TRUTH. “ Psalms 60:4

Editor:

Van Cooper

Schedule of Services

Lord's Day

10:25 A.M. Worship

5:00 P.M. Worship

Elders

436-3055 Philip Jacks
483-7016 Truman Wallace
491-9695 Van Cooper

Wednesday

7:00 P.M.

Deacons

491-1596 Keith Chaney
491-3723 Roger Key

Evangelist

497-9800 Sammy Bynum

Who We Are: The Black Creek Church of Christ is simply a group of Christians dedicated to serving God. We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and it is to be our sole guide. We are committed to preaching the gospel of Christ, which is man's only hope for eternal life.

We are interested in helping anyone who is searching for the way to God. We welcome the opportunity to privately study the Bible with you. If you would contact us, we would be happy to meet with you. In addition, you are invited to visit one of our public assemblies (information is above). At our public Bible studies, we have classes for adults and children of all ages. If we can help you in knowing more about God and His Word, then please visit, call, or write us.

(Visit us on-line at (WWW.blackcreekchurch.com)

Let's Make a Deal?

Perhaps you remember "Let's Make A Deal", the old television game show hosted by Monte Hall. Studio audience members would dress in zany outfits hoping to be selected to play the game. He might pick, for example, the person who had the most popsicle sticks in their purse. That person would give up their popsicle sticks as a trade to select what was behind either door number 1, door number 2, or door number 3. Monte would sometimes then try to make another deal to get the contestant to select a different door. Basically the audience members were trying to get as much as they could possibly get by giving up as little as they could.

Sometimes it seems that people try to 'make a deal' with God. You've likely seen movies in which a soldier in a foxhole in the heat of battle promises God that he will begin to faithfully 'go to church' if only God will allow him to live long enough to make it home.

You may have heard someone joke that they put extra in the collection plate to pay for the sins that they planned to commit in the coming week. They are trying to make their deal in advance. Or how about someone who asks, "how many times do I have to attend worship services" or "exactly how much do I have to give"? They seem to be asking "exactly what is the minimum amount I have to do in order to get to heaven?" They appear to be wanting as much as

they can get by 'paying' the minimum amount for it.

You may have talked with others who become frustrated and upset because God did not answer their prayers in exactly the way they wanted them to be answered. They may even get to the point of questioning if God has turned His back on them. This can approach the attitude of "I will do this, God, if You will do that for me" or "God, if You don't answer my prayer in the way that I asked, I may just stop trying to serve You." Let's make a deal.

But Lord God Almighty, who is Creator of all things, does not 'need' anything from you or me. "If I were hungry, I would not tell you; for the world is Mine, and all its fullness" (Psa 50:12). "Nor is He worshipped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things" (Acts 17:25).

He has given His only Son as a sacrifice for our sins. He has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus (Eph 1:3) and has given us every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). We have nothing with which we can barter with God. He has already provided us with everything we need in order to successfully serve Him as He has commanded. If we serve Him, He promises us a gift that is beyond compare, a reward which we do not deserve and could never earn – an eternity in heaven with Him. If we do not

serve Him, He has promised an everlasting punishment worse than anything we can imagine. To receive His reward, He requires that we give Him everything we have – not simply a few hours of 'going to church' every week or just a good, moral life. He requires our full commitment – that we serve Him with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength (Mk 12:30). The choice is up to you ...and up to me.
By **Terry Bennett**

GOD HAS SPOKEN

If a mountain rich in metallic ores were to explode how many steel swords would you expect to find in the rubble? How many gold wedding bands? How many simple lawn mowers? How many wheelbarrows? If nothing were to explode into something, would you expect order of chaos? Have you ever known of an automobile crash or a train wreck producing a fine quality simple machine? "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1). On which will you base your course of life -- purposeful creation by God or an inexplicable explosion?

Could a random series of flaws, deviations, and metamorphoses have produced the human body? A human brain? The harmony of the systems and individual members of the body stand in powerful contrast to the mangled results of random explosions.

In 1 Cor. 12, Paul uses the harmony of the human body to illustrate the harmony of the body of Christ, His church. Such perfect harmony in such intricacy is, even by human logic, a sure basis of argument for design and purpose by an awesome intelligence exceeding all human capacity. God said, "Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth" (Gen. 1:26).

How strongly do you believe in God? How strongly do you believe that the Bible is His revelation to humanity? Enough to bow in submission to Him? Enough to be fully obedient to His Son? Enough to conform your life's journey and objective to His expressed purpose for us all? God gave humans the ability to make moral and spiritual choices, desiring that we choose to be thankful, and honor and praise Him. As our Creator, He gave us promises of good things to the obedient ones, and assurance of punishment for His rebellious creatures (2 Thes. 1:1-12).

Friend, does your life demonstrate strong faith in the purpose of God, faith in Christ, and the obedience that gives your faith life? Note James 2:21-26. -----By **Gilbert Alexander**