

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

**October 6, 2013**

**Remember in your prayers:**

- **Fred Kelly** will begin radiation treatment on Monday. He will receive radiation to the lung to try to kill the rest of the cancer there, and he will receive radiation to his brain as a preventive treatment. Please continue to remember him & Alice in your prayers.
- Continue to remember **Laura Andrews** in your prayers.
- **Jennifer Knowles** continues her therapy.
- **Marguerite Thompson** (nursing home) **Faye Wilkinson Goodwin- Stroke, Sarabeth Upton, Rhonda Knowles, and especially** those spiritually ill, continue to need our prayers.
- **Jennifer Knowles, Kate Miller, Owen Calvert, Beverly Craven, Lamona Easterwood, Tim Craven, Steve Kline, Bessie Sides, Chris Alexander, and Billy Tindle**
- **Sawyer Jones, Jeremiah Hughes, Robert Langley & 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. **Walter Aldridge and Terry Tatum** (new Christians' at Donaldson).

**BLACK CREEK UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- **Bible Class** at Donaldson- Every Wednesday @ 10:00
- **Ladies and Men's Bibles Classes, Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00**

**Area Gospel Meetings:**

Harpersville church of Christ.....Murphy Priestly.....M-W @ 7:00  
 North Gardendale church of Christ.....Bill Hall.....M-W @ 7:00  
 Cahaba Heights church of Christ.....Ed Harrell.....M-F @ 7:00  
 Perry Hill Road church of Christ.....L. A. Stauffer.....M-F @ 10:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.



***Do You Know Everything? ....***

This is a question I am often asked when I raise questions concerning some doctrine or practice. The implication of this question is that one must know everything to be certain about anything.

Each time I hear this view expressed I think of the story of the blind man healed by Jesus. The story is recorded in the ninth chapter of the book of John. The Jews were intent upon condemning Jesus and did all they could to discredit the miracle performed by Jesus. Seeing the blind man now able to see they first questioned as to whether he was the same man. After his parents confirmed his identity and the fact that he was born blind they again question the man and tried to pressure him by saying, "Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner" (John 9:24). The man replied "Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see" (John 9:25).

This man recognized that even though he may not know everything this did not keep him from knowing and being certain about some things. No, I do not know everything but I can say with the apostle Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2Timothy 1:12). - **by James Hahn**

# 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  
9:30 A.M. Bible Classes  
10:25 A.M. Worship

Wednesday  
7:00 P.M.

5:00 P.M. Worship (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month @ 3:00 P.M)

Elders

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

Deacons

Keith Chaney 491-1596  
 Roger Key 491-3723

Evangelist

Sammy Bynum 368-3511

**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](http://WWW.blackcreekchurch.com) )

## THE GOSPEL OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

This is not the Apostolic gospel but another (cf. Gal. 1:6-9). Jesus' Great Commission was not to go into all the world and perform "community service." It was to preach the gospel to every creature. The New Testament church never met, nor was commanded to meet for the purpose of volunteering for social community service. New Testament congregations met to praise and thank God in worship and to build each other up in the faith. Members of these congregations pooled their funds into a congregational treasury to defray the expenses of corporate worship, preaching the gospel (including edifying the church), and supplying the basic needs of destitute saints with no other means of support. Like their Lord,

individual Saints made it their work to "seek and save the lost." They were taught that they would have the poor with them always and as they had opportunity to do them good. It was not their mission to go into the world to "seek and feed" the hungry, or "seek and clothe the naked." In the course of their lives as Christians they would come across such unfortunate people and would have such come to them. They were to be compassionate and supply the needs of such people as they had opportunity and ability – but this was not their mission in life as Christians, it was to seek out the lost and offer them salvation through the gospel. Yes, Jesus had compassion on the hungry and fed 5,000 and 4,000 on different occasions. But, his purpose was much deeper than using these feedings as a "drawing card" to bring people to Him. Like, his other miracles, this was done to furnish objective evidence (signs) that he was who he claimed to be – the Son of God. In fact, shortly after feeding the 5,000 (John 6:5-14) he made it clear that it made a difference to him as to

why they came to follow him. He rebukes them:

*"Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled."* (John 6:26 KJV).

They had missed the point of the feeding. It was not "the way to a man's heart is through his stomach" approach. In this case it was through his miracles that furnished additional evidence of his deity. Later in the chapter *"many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him"* (verse 66). If it makes a difference as to why one comes to Jesus, then it makes a difference as to what we use to draw people in. It is through a heart filled with evidence of the deity of Jesus and his work of redemption and not a belly filled with "meat that perishes."

But, aren't we to let our light shine so that men will be drawn to Christ by our good works? Jesus did say, *"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."*

(Matthew 5:16 KJV) But, is this the same as using our good works as the drawing power to bring people to Christ? Or, is it that men seeing our good works and knowing we are "God-fearing" will glorify God by recognizing his power to make us into the persons we are. It may even cause them to be more willing to consider the gospel message after seeing what it has done for us. But, that is a far cry from using good works (community service) as a tool to draw lost souls to the Lord. It might draw them to a group of "good people," but it will not draw them to the Christ. Only being taught of God through the gospel will draw people to Christ.

*"No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me."* (John 6:44-45)

....by **Ed Bragwell**