

WELCOME

VISITORS

The presence of Jesus in the gathering of His people is the sweetest blessing we enjoy when we meet. We pray that you will find peace, comfort, and power for living today.

A visitor's card is provided in the book rack, to give us a record of your visit.

SUNDAY		ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY	
Bible Study	10:00 AM	Morning Worship	37
Worship	11:00 AM	Evening Worship	
Evening	6:00 PM	Wednesday	10
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY	6:30 PM	Contribution	\$902.00
Fellowship Meal	12:30 PM		
(Every 1 st Sunday)			
Men's Meeting	5:00 PM		
Last Sunday of every month)			

Visit our website at www.brunswickcoc.com

Rick Massey, Minister
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TO OUR FRIENDS:

MESSENGER FOR CHRIST



BRUNSWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 10, 2012

The Power of Forgiveness...

By Bryan Kirby

Since I have been working as a minister, I have by necessity become a student of human nature. During this time, I have been amazed by the amount of time and energy people put into staying mad at others for extended periods of time. This grudge holding marathon that some will pursue, however, has a very nasty habit of pursuing them in the end. The problems that this course of life ends up causing with the relationships in their lives can hardly be overstated.

So what do grudges actually do to those that hold them? First and foremost, holding a grudge and nursing anger opens up a place for the devil in our lives. Ephesians 4:26-27 says, —"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil." When we allow anger to fester for any period of time, we are giving the devil an opportunity to come into our hearts and set up shop. As we know from 1 Peter 5:8, Satan is that roaring lion that is seeking someone to devour and anger is an easy way to accomplish that task.

We also see that carrying anger (or holding a grudge) does a lot of damage to the relationships around us. When our lives are dictated by a grudge, we lose sight of others. We fail to treat them with the dignity and respect that all other people deserve. In particular, the person with whom we are angry suffers the most. We are also apt to direct our frustration and anger at that person in ways that are unbecoming and inappropriate for a Christian.

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I am ashamed at the number of times I have witnessed Christians "letting each other have "it" in the most unchristian like fashion in the middle of the church building! This is something that should never, ever happen, but when we carry our grudges, we fail to put our mouths and hands under the LORD's control.

All of these things clearly violate the commands of the New Testament. Jesus Himself pointed out that the second greatest command in the Law was for one to love their neighbor as his or herself. Paul tells us in Romans 13:8-11 that loving our neighbor is required for us to fulfill the law of Christ. Blasting one another or holding grudges for long past offenses is a far cry from fulfilling the law of loving our neighbor. However bad and pervasive anger may seem, it does not have to be the end of our relationships with one another or with God. There is something that is more powerful than anger, but a little harder to come by. That thing is forgiveness. Forgiveness is something that we all desire – we don't want people to stay mad when we mess up. Forgiveness is something that Jesus Himself said is required from us – we don't gain God's forgiveness without giving it ourselves (Matthew 6:14-15). Forgiveness is something that we find ourselves so very unwilling to give – it is hard to let go of the offenses that others have committed against us.

"...The Churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

God's Plan for Man
Hear God's Word
Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17
Believe in Jesus
Jn. 8:24
Repent of Sins
Lk. 13:3; 2 Cor. 7:10
Confess Jesus' Name
Mt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10; Mt. 16:15-16
Be Baptized
Mk. 16:15-16; Mt. 28:18-19; Acts 2:38, 41; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4
Live Faithful until Death
Mt. 10:22; Rev. 2:10

The Bible study topic for Wednesday night: A Chronological Study of the Life of Jesus
Bible study starts at 6:30 PM.



Once we do forgive, we will find that our lives will be filled with fewer burdens, less stress and more fulfilling relationships. Forgiveness opens communication and helps us all grow stronger. That way, we can fight together to overcome problems instead of fighting with one another. With forgiveness in our hearts, we can lift one another up and help each other make it to heaven.

via Bulletin Gold

Opportunities to Serve

	Today	06/17/12
Welcome	Willie Gore	Albert Sturdivant
Song Leader	John Bowling	John Bowling
Opening Prayer	Albert Sturdivant	Leslie Bell
Communion	*Charlie Gamble	*Albert Sturdivant
	Lynn Means	Lynn Means
	Bill Bartlow	Bill Bartlow
Scripture Reading	Albert Sturdivant	Leslie Bell
Speaker	Rick Massey	Rick Massey
Closing Prayer	John Bowling	Ed Williams
Nursery	Barbara Bartlow	Carolyn Bowling
Evening	Charlie Gamble	Leslie Bell

Please remember to pray for the sick, lonely, and especially anyone outside Christ.

HEALTH
Nancy Spencer
Trinity (acquaintance of Sharon's sister)
Tom Florkiowicz

TRAVELING
Willie and Lelia (Tues-Thur)

DEATHS
McCoy family

The complete prayer list is on the bulletin board.



The ladies bible study will be held Tuesday, at 10:00 am in the fellowship room. Our new series will be "Parables of Jesus".
Our time together will include prayer and songs of praise.
You are welcome to join us after class for lunch and fellowship at a local restaurant.

Darién Hewett
Congratulations to our Graduate

Darién has worked two jobs (30 hours a week), maintained an unweighted 3.5 GPA for all 4 years of high school, was varsity cheer for 4 years, captain of the team for 2 years, a member of SBHS's Student government association, nominated for NC Governor's school, placed third in state for the arts. We are proud of our faithful Christian sister in the Lord.