

The Mars Hill Messenger

March 26, 2017

We All Recognize Commitment

In 1965, Sandy Koufax refused to pitch in Game One of the World Series because it was Yom Kippur, a Jewish holy day. Instead of Koufax, Don Drysdale pitched for the Los Angeles Dodgers and he gave up seven runs in 2 2/3 innings. "I bet right now you wish I was Jewish too," Drysdale said to Walter Alston when the manager came to pull him from the game. The Dodgers lost to the Minnesota Twins 8-2.

Instead of pitching that day, Koufax attended synagogue in Minneapolis. As the Dodgers' ace, Koufax still pitched games two, five and seven, throwing complete-game shutouts in games five and seven. Koufax's decision and his pitching brilliance remain a source of pride among devout American Jews, even those who aren't baseball fans. And it made a bold statement about his values.

At the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris, Eric Liddell refused to run in the heats for his favored 100 meters because they were held on a Sunday. Sunday was a day of worship and rest for Eric. He would not run even if he was his country's only hope of winning an Olympic gold medal. Instead he competed in the 400 meters held on a weekday, a race that he won.

Liddell's Olympic participation and the Biblical convictions that influenced him, are depicted in the Oscar-winning 1981 film *Chariots of Fire*. Interestingly, he went to China in 1925 to serve as a missionary and teacher. His parent's convictions, deeply imbedded in his soul, didn't prevent Eric Liddell from becoming a great athlete but they did help assure his lifelong commitment to Jesus Christ.

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2).

David

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday	
Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:15 a.m.
Evening Service	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	
Bible Class	7:00 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

P.O. Box 185
 Vilonia, Arkansas 72173
 Phone: (501) 796-2052
www.churchofchristmarshill.org

Elders

Thomas Martin	796-3741
David Riley	472-5108

Deacons

Rodger Harlan	207-2334
Rodger Moore	288-0135
Curtis Sawrie	849-2365
Steve Shock	796-8889

Evangelist

David Riley	796-2052
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Youth Minister

Dan Blair	514-3450
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Missions

- Ted & Barbara Knight (U.S.A., Romania)
- Roberto Sarmiento, Costa Rica
- Main Street Church of Christ (Stuttgart, Arkansas)
- Youth Outreach University Youthoutreachuniversity.com
- Truth For Today World Mission School
- Gospel Chariot (Africa)
- Gospel Crusade (Local)
- Camp Areopagus

At A Glance

March 26 – Contribution to the Building Fund
March 31 – Area-Wide Singing. Somers Ave C of C. 7 p.m.
March 31–April 2 – Area-Wide Youth Retreat at Camp Areopagus
April 1 – Ladies' Day. Robinson and Center C of C. 9 – 11:30. Speaker Lauren Bookout
April 8 – Ladies' Day at the Greenbrier C of C. 9:30-1 p.m. Speaker: Anna Reid McAnally
April 10 – Preacher's Meeting. 10 a.m. Greenbrier C of C.
April 21-22 – Sewing Workshop for Healing Hands International at Camp Areopagus
April 22 – Conway County Ladies' Day.
April 23-26 – Gospel Meeting at Plumerville C of C. Speaker: Randy Rankin
April 16 – Elders/Deacons Meeting. 3:30
April 23-26 – Gospel Meeting. Higden C of C. Speaker: Bob Turner
April 30 – Contribution to the Building fund
April 30 – Potluck Meal for the morning service. Evening Service immediately following the meal. No 5 p.m. service.
May 21 – Elders/Deacons Meeting. 3:30 p.m.
May 28 – Contribution to the Building Fund
May 28 – Memorial Day Cookout after the evening service
July 15-18 – Mars Hill VBS 2017

Bible Class Lessons

Sun, March 26: Lesson #347 – 2 Corinthians 5-6
 Wed., March 29: Lesson #348 – 2 Corinthians 7-9
 Sun., April 2: Lesson #349 – 2 Corinthians 10-11
 Wed., April 5: Lesson #350 – 2 Corinthians 12-13

March 26, 2017

Nursery

Ruth Duncan

SOUND ROOM

Josh Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Blair

SCRIPTURE READING

Connor Marsh

A.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Jacob Moore

LEAD PRAYER

Jade Smith

Thurman Brown

LORD'S TABLE

Connor Marsh, b.

Ralph Hunter, c.

Michael Hunter, o.

Thomas Martin

Rodger Moore

Dennis Martin

P.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Jade Smith

LEAD PRAYER

Carey Wells

Rodger Harlan

LORD'S TABLE

Aaron Harp

James Moore

Wed., March 29, 2017

LEAD SINGING

Bob Johnston

LEAD PRAYER

Stanley Gordon

Jade Smith

DEVOTIONAL

Mike Widner

April 2, 2017

Nursery

Ruth Duncan

SOUND ROOM

Josh Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Curtis Sawrie

SCRIPTURE READING

Thomas Martin

A.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Curtis Sawrie

LEAD PRAYER

Gary Lambert

Harold Moody

LORD'S TABLE

Jacob Moore, b.

Joey Moore, c.

Aaron Harp, o.

James Moore

Mark Mauney

Steve Shock

P.M. SERVICE

LEAD SINGING

Randy Riddle

LEAD PRAYER

Clay Winn

Roy Bulice

LORD'S TABLE

Mark Mauney

Steve Shock

Wed., April 5, 2017

LEAD SINGING

Eddy Jones

LEAD PRAYER

Thurman Brown

Gary Lambert

DEVOTIONAL

Mark Mauney

What's Needed Today

On February 2, 1984, President Ronald Reagan spoke at the Annual National Prayer Breakfast in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

After greeting the assembly which included many U.S. Senators and Representatives, President Reagan said: "In a world today that is so torn with strife where the divisions seem to be increasing, not people coming together, within countries, divisions within the people, themselves and all, I wonder if we have ever thought about the greatest tool that we have -- that power of prayer and God's help."

"This power of prayer," continued President Reagan, "can be illustrated by a story that goes back to the fourth century..." Then he told about a monk that lived during the 4th century by the name of Telemachus. Telemachus had been living "in a little remote village, spending most of his time in prayer or tending the garden from which he obtained his sustenance," when he, because he believed it to be God's will, went to Rome.

When Telemachus arrived in Rome, President Reagan explained:

It was at a time of a festival in Rome. They were celebrating a triumph over the Goths. And he followed a crowd into the Coliseum, and then there in the midst of this great crowd, he saw the gladiators come forth, stand before the Emperor, and say, "We who are about to die salute you." And he realized they were going to fight to the death for the entertainment of the crowds. And he cried out, "In the name of Christ, stop!" And his voice was lost in the tumult there in the great Coliseum.

And as the games began, he made his way down through the crowd and climbed over the wall and dropped to the floor of the arena. Suddenly the crowds saw this scrawny little figure making his way out to the gladiators and saying, over and over again, "In the name of Christ, stop." And they thought it was part of the entertainment, and at first they were amused. But then, when they realized it wasn't, they grew belligerent and angry. And as he was pleading with the gladiators, "In the name of Christ, stop," one of them plunged his sword into his body. And as he fell to the sand of the arena in death, his last words were, "In the name of Christ, stop."

And suddenly, a strange thing happened. The gladiators stood looking at this tiny form lying in the sand. A silence fell over the Coliseum. And then, someplace up in the upper tiers, an individual made his way to an exit and left, and others began to follow. And in the dead silence, everyone left the Coliseum. That was the last battle to the death between gladiators in the Roman Coliseum. Never again did anyone kill or did men kill each other for the entertainment of the crowd.

One tiny voice that could hardly be heard above the tumult: "In the name of Christ, stop." It is something we could be saying to each other throughout the world today.

Peace. That's what we need in the world today. Peace between countries, peace within countries, peace in our homes, peace within each of us, and even peace with God.

That's why God sent His Son into the world: that we may have peace with God (Romans 5:1-2), peace with others (cf. Ephesians 2:13-22), and peace within ourselves (Philippians 4:6-7).

It all begins with having peace with God. It is our sin that separates us from God (Isaiah 59:1-2), but Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for our sins so that we can be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:18-21).

God will forgive and give eternal life to those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7).

"In the name of Christ, stop!" Stop fighting against God and one another. Surrender and submit to the will of God, and then share His grace with everyone around you.

Won't YOU?

-- David A. Sargent

PRAYERS NEEDED

Roy Bulice has been hospitalized this past week with a blood clot in his lung.

Robbie Hoyle has been very sick for the past few weeks.

Lou Riley has been hospitalized this past week with dehydration.

Heather Partee is having problems with her heart.

John Bayless, Anita Bayless' husband, underwent a heart cath on Wednesday.

Sabrina Gray is not doing very well following her cancer treatments.

Carolyn Brown is at home under hospice care.

Doni McInturf of the Greenbrier congregation and a great supporter of Areopagus has cancer that has invaded her brain.

Pansy Smith, Tony Anthony's mother, is recovering from heart bypass surgery.

Extended Sick List: Alex Lafferty, Bob Johnston, Monteen Ward, Bill Ward, Shelia Riddle, Martha Walker, Nell Bostic, Nita Patrom, Jeane Harvey, Mark Allen, Paula Stocks, Pam Webb, Gladys Widner, Guillermina Chavez, Linda Brown, Judy Riley, Allie Sawrie, Robie Permenter, Jerry Walker, Hannah Smalley, Charlene Lasley, Tami Baker, Gordon Newsome, Ava Walker, John Riddle, Jerry Almond, Anna Kay Jones, Barbara Fowlkes, Jim Canter

FAMILY NEWS.

Building Fund: Today's contribution will go toward our building payment. Please be as generous as possible.

Area-Wide Youth Retreat: March 31 – April 2 at Camp Areopagus. See Dan for details.

Girls In God's Service: The girls of our congregation will serve a meal to ladies of our congregation Wednesday evening, April 5th, at 6:30. All ladies are invited to attend.

Ladies' Sewing Retreat: A Sewing Retreat will be held at Camp Areopagus April 21-22. Items will be made that will be distributed through Healing Hands International to needy individuals in disaster locations. Whether you sew or not there is something for you to do. Please see Treva Widner for all the details.

Baby Gifts: Dana and David Bayless are expecting a baby girl. Gifts for the child may be placed in the box in the foyer.

Yard Care: Only one month is left untaken. If you are willing to take care of the mowing and yard work at the building for a month during the summer please sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Day Camp at Areopagus: If you are interested in helping teach, decorate, or serve in any other way during the Day Camp please see David today so assignments can be provided.

Summer Camp Sessions at Areopagus: Day Camp: June 5-8; High School Session: June 11-17; Middle School Session: June 18-24; Jr. High Session: June 25- August 1. Applications are available on the table in the foyer or you can register online at www.campareopagus.org.