

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 22, 2012



"VARONES HERMANOS, ¿QUÉ HAREMOS?"

Daniel F. Cates with Rafael Ramirez

"Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Were the question posed in Acts 2:37 asked of us, answering it would not present a problem for members of the Lord's church here at Independence. We might simply point to the next verse in which Peter told those present on Pentecost to "repent and be baptized" for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:38). If we were asked this by a growing number of our neighbors, it would not be so easy to answer. The reason is that they were they to ask the question of Acts 2:37, it would look and sounds like the words of the title above.

These neighbors speak Spanish, and, often, little or no English!

How do we answer that question if they ask? Do we bother? Maybe, we might reason, someone else will answer the question for them. Brethren, the Lord requires that we answer their question! It is imperative that we bother, because if we do not, who will? If we do not answer their question, the answer that they might receive to that question-- if they receive one at all--would almost certainly come from someone who does not know the church of the Bible.

Can we answer that question? Yes! Unfortunately, though, we cannot answer that question doing what we are doing. We must do more. We must provide an avenue through which these may be taught the Gospel in their native tongue. For this reason, the elders of the church here in Independence have determined to start a Hispanic congregation. This effort will not be free, and it will not be easy; however, if the Gospel can be preached to this growing segment of our community, then the plea of Matthew 28:19 and Mark 16:15 will be answered with regard to these, our neighbors.

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for all ages & Pew Packers on 1st & 3rd Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

In considering the need for such a work, the elders learned that there are 2,272 Hispanic homes within a 20-mile radius of our building. The nearest Hispanic congregation is at the Getwell Church of Christ in Memphis, which is 26.8 miles from here (by road) and, therefore, over 40 miles away (as the crow flies) from some whom we might reach. What we have open before is a great door of opportunity; moreover, with the Lord's aid we have the ability to go through that door. Someone wisely said that where there are opportunity and ability, there is responsibility.

Today is the day that we begin to meet this challenge! The elders have decided that anything given above \$1,000.00 today (that is roughly the amount of the weekly expense that the congregation has--taking into account salary, insurance, an MSOP student, our overseas mission works, and electricity, etc.) will be put toward the Hispanic work. What the Hispanic work needs to get off the ground is as follows:

- About \$1229.00: Direct mail of a 4.25" x 6" postcard to every Hispanic home within the 20 mile radius
- \$50.00: 50 copies of the Spanish version of the *Searching for Truth* DVD, *Buscando la Verdad*
- \$Perhaps already paid for: 24"x30" sign to make people aware of the service times for the Hispanic congregation--this sign will match the sign to the left of the front door and will be placed opposite it
- \$?: Songbooks and Bibles (we are hoping to receive a donation from the work at Getwell which would include used books and some tracts [the latter we will distribute with other information at Trade Days])
- \$?: Remuneration for a preacher who speaks Spanish; this would be tantamount to having a preacher student like Rafael Ramirez come down weekly
- \$Already paid for: Business cards promoting the Hispanic work (to be distributed at Trade Days, etc.)
- \$Already paid for: A page on our church website
- (www.independencechurchofchrist.org)

Brethren, what this means is that we need at least \$1,300.00 to begin this work--\$13,000 would be even better. While that may seem like a lot, we must not let that be an obstacle (Matthew 16:26); that is a far cry less than what Jesus has already paid for it (Acts 20:28)! The elders know, and appreciate, the sacrifices that are made by many of this number; we also know that we, as the Lord's people, must utilize every avenue we may to reach any who are lost! Please prayerfully consider this work, and do what you can to help us to get it off of the ground.

“Last month, my wife and I had the privilege of being part of a week campaign to the city of Palenque, in the state of Chiapas, southern Mexico. There was no congregation of the Lord’s church in Palenque until this year. They started in January and they have so far about ten in membership, a good number of visitors and a lot of children. There was a great need in this city for the Gospel of Christ to be preached, and there was a family who saw this need and decided to start this work in Palenque. Their names are Domingo and Gloria. **They first heard the Gospel, not in Palenque but in Mississippi, in the city of Tupelo!** (Emphasis-DFC). Although there is no Spanish-speaking congregation in Tupelo, Domingo and Gloria were reached by an English-speaking one.

“By using this example, I want to point out that there is a great need for reaching the Hispanics in the United States; their population is growing, and new generations are coming. I’m convinced that if one family was able to hear the Gospel in English, no doubt many more would be able to hear it if it is taught to them in their mother tongue. There are many honest and good hearts among them that need to be found. I am excited about this opportunity, and pray that God will bless his work among the Hispanics and that we will take every opportunity to be part of it.”

Rafael Ramirez, who wrote the above, is a second year student at the Memphis School of Preaching. He and Josue Castorena, a classmate of Rafael, are from Mexico and are extremely supportive of our efforts in beginning a Hispanic congregation of la iglesia de Cristo, the church of Christ

This Week’s Daily Bible Reading:

- Sunday: Proverbs 27 – 29
- Monday: Proverbs 30 – 31
- Tuesday: Ecclesiastes 1 – 4
- Wednesday: Ecclesiastes 5 – 8
- Thursday: Ecclesiastes 9 – 12
- Friday: Song of Solomon
- Saturday: Isaiah 1 – 4

Sermon Review

"One Thing"

(outline by E.P. Myers)

- I. The One Thing of David
- II. The One Thing of the Rich Young Ruler
- III. The One Thing of the formerly Blind Man
- IV. The One Thing of Mary
- V. The One Thing of Paul

The Lions' Den

(Daniel 6)

- I. Daniel's Face
- II. Daniel's Faith
- III. Daniel's Fate

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Tim Wilkes, Sr. as he travels.

Tim Wilkes, II has returned to the States after a very spiritually prosperous trip in Guyana.

Billy Bland experiencing trouble with his back.

Layla & Abby were sick Wednesday.

Inez just welcomed a newborn great grandchild!

Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Wiley has been experiencing iron complications with his blood, among other health problems.

Herbert & Helen Bowman;

OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Lauren Jackson, the 2nd look concerning possible cancer is looking to be a possible positive. **Gemma Winchester** has stage 4 stomach cancer and is not doing well. **Carla Carlson**, the doctor has told her that her cancer has returned. **Matthew Canada** (5), has down syndrome, but was also diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. **Franklin Taylor**, friend of Daniel's, has cancer. **Eli Williams**, and his battle with cancer. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler; **Joy Angel**; **Jimmy Holden family**; **Sigman Family**; **Hilton Jefferies**; **Ray Maples**; **Wayne Collinsworth**; **Andrew Hagewood**; **Janie Brister**; **Chuck Tharp**; **Renee Loya**; **Aubree Harris**; **Virginia Mayfield**; **Peyton Harville**; **Bob Spurlin**; **David Bragg**.

July Birthdays

7/3 Ruth Brister	7/7 Bill Easley
7/4 Inez Neyman	7/13 Seth Daniel
7/4 Jimmy Sowell	7/14 Jason Bayless
7/5 Layla Johnson	7/19 Carson Kinney
7/6 Cali Bayless	7/22 Maira Davis
7/7 Aemon Ratliff	7/24 Jayce Brown

Get Involved!

Daily Bible Reading Calendar 2012

Let's continue to read and study together!!

POWER Lectureship -- July 22--26

See flyer on bulletin board in foyer

Coldwater Wednesday Night Singing

July 25 -- 7:00 PM

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- Aug 5

Following PM service

Providence Place Devo -- Aug 12 -- 2PM

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, July 22

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jim Jackson
Announcements	Jason Bayless
Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Joe Owen
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Assist	Ron Johnson
	Daniel Owen
Opening Prayer	Jerry Davis
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Andy Ratliff

Evening

Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Opening Prayer	Wiley Tuggle
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Ron Johnson
	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Jared Brown
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, July 25

Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Prayer	Seth Daniel
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Billy Bland