

ABOUT OUR FAMILY...

OUR SICK Oba Ensley has gone home. Fred Sloan had surgery on his nose last week. Roberta Johnson had a reaction to some medication last week but she is ok now. Mark Schow's father had eye surgery last week. Judy Watts is now at home after a hospital stay as is Effie Lane. Both are doing better. Brian Selvidge has asked prayers for his friends, the Schmitt and Miner families, who both have babies on the way. Also remember Shirley Hyso, Daphne Dreher and all of our members that are homebound.

HOLIDAY BASKETS will be distributed on Thursday from 6-8 p.m. We would like for everyone to be involved with the distribution by being here, visiting with the families that pick up the baskets and sign the sheet on the bulletin board to bring goodies. Please have your refreshments here by 5 p.m. and plan to be here from 5:30-8 p.m. welcoming the families that stop by.

THE BUDGET COMMITTEE will meet again on Dec. 18 at 5 p.m.

THE ANNUAL ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY will be held this Saturday at 6:30 p.m. at Doug and Lesa Douthitt's home. Bring food and a \$10 gift for the game. There is a sign-up sheet.

THE ANNUAL LADIES CHRISTMAS PARTY will be on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m. at Sharen May's home (Bring a wrapped gift, \$6 to \$12 limit). There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sean and Megan Parks on the birth of their daughter, Claire Elaine, who was born on Dec. 1.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

K.I.C.K. ~ first Sunday of the month, 4:30 p.m.

TEEN DEVO ~ Thursdays (see Graylon for details)

HOLIDAY BASKETS ~ Thursday, Dec. 8, 5:30-8 p.m.

ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY ~ Dec. 10 at the Douthitt's home.

LADIE'S CHRISTMAS PARTY ~ Dec. 13, at Sharen May's home.

CHRISTMAS REMINDERS

May Christmas

Gifts remind you of God's greatest gift, His only begotten Son.

Candles remind you of Him who is the "Light of the world."

Trees remind you of another tree upon which He died for you.

Cheer remind you of Him who said, "Be of good cheer."

Bells remind you of the glorious proclamation of His birth.

Carols remind you of the song the angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest."

Season remind you in every way of Jesus Christ your King.

Richard's Remarks - Letting Our Voices Be Heard

Last Sunday evening, I once again addressed the fact that Biblical marriage is under attack in our country. The scriptures are very plain on the subject: Marriage was designed and instituted by God to include a man and a woman – husband and wife. Any other type of relationship is contrary to His word and therefore sinful. However, homosexual activists are fiercely attacking proper marriage and trying to get it redefined and expanded. By remaining quiet or silent on this issue, we enable the outspoken minority activist groups to have far greater influence than they should. We must stand up for what is right - we must *speak up*.

As I indicated in my lesson, the U.S. Congress adopted the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in 1996 which, for the purpose of federal law, defined marriage as a union between one man and one woman. However, the U.S. Attorney General, Eric Holder, announced earlier this year that the Department of Justice would no longer defend DOMA in federal court. Now, a Senate Judiciary Committee has decided that an attempt to repeal DOMA should be voted upon in the Senate. That vote will be taking place in the near future. Thanks to the efforts of the American Family Association (I'll share more about them in a moment), I had an easy opportunity to send an email regarding this issue to our state's senators. A response from Senator Claire McCaskill contained the following statements: "I support efforts to grant legal recognition of same-sex couples through civil unions and domestic partnerships. Current federal law denies same-sex couples the same rights, privileges and benefits that are granted to heterosexual couples. This unequal treatment is a discriminatory policy, and it goes against our country's principle that all Americans deserve equal rights under the law."

Senator McCaskill is sorely mistaken. There are certain "rights, privileges and benefits" that are reserved exclusively for heterosexual couples. Those rights, privileges and benefits have been granted by the God of Heaven and no individual, group or government has the right to change them. Nor, should they even attempt to do so. Additionally, this does not stand against our country's principles due to the fact that the principles of this country were indeed founded upon an overall respect for the goodness and authority of God. The problem is that decisions are being made independently from the inspired scriptures. Any individual with respect for the inspired word must stand firmly for God's original and continued design for marriage – a union between a man and a woman!

The title of the Bill which would repeal DOMA is deceptively called "Respect for Marriage Act of 2011." It is anything but respect for marriage. Groups who support the effort include Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; Human Rights Campaign; Freedom to Marry; The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; American Humanist Association; ACLU and many more. We need to stand up and let our elected officials hear our opposition to this blatant attack on proper, Biblical marriage. The contact information for our senators is as

follows: Ms. Claire McCaskill: Phone Number: 202-224-6154; Website: mccaskill.senate.gov/ Mr. Roy Blunt: Phone Number: 202-224-5721; Website: blunt.senate.gov.

The best way to email our senators is through their websites. Simply click the "Contact" option. Emails that are not generated through the websites may likely be blocked and never reach the senators' offices.

Unfortunately, a number of corporations have entered the equation – some of which spend millions of dollars in support of the homosexual agenda. However, high levels of feedback from consumers has proven effective in the past. For example, Ford, PepsiCo and Wal-Mart have all backed down from previous support of the homosexual agenda based upon negative feedback from consumers. However, Home Depot remains defiant. Therefore, the American Family Association is encouraging a boycott of any and all Home Depot locations. I have printed a copy of the boycott form and have placed it in the foyer if you would like to sign it. I hope you do so.

I would recommend that you go to afa.net. This is the website for the American Family Association. Click the "Activism" option toward the top of the screen and then select "AFA Action Alerts." Use the "sign-up" option at the right side of the page to enter your name, email address and zip code. You will then begin receiving periodical alerts pertaining to issues that our representatives will be voting upon. This is how I learned about the attempt to repeal DOMA and the avenue I utilized to conveniently email our state's senators. As with most scenarios, I don't agree with everything that I find at afa.net. (For example, at this time of year, they criticize corporations for using "Happy Holidays" rather than "Merry Christmas." They feel that "Happy Holidays" is another attempt to remove any indications of Christianity from the public eye. I see the issue differently and understand that there would be certain reasons and advantages, from a business perspective, of using "Happy Holidays.") However, I have found that the American Family Association has been a very helpful resource regarding the moral issues facing our nation. And, they have made it very easy to *speak up*.

And, that's what we need to do – speak up – let our voices be heard. You can begin by contacting our senators regarding the unfortunate efforts to repeal DOMA.

TRIVIAL TREASURES

Every Day Americans buy:

3,972,603 movie tickets

1,683,835 songs and albums from online resources

568,764 Titleist golf balls

443,650 large French fries at Burger King

160,968 bottles of Absolute Vodka

7,500 Samsung LCD TV's

---Nancy Gibbs, "One Day in America," *Time Magazine*, 11/26/07

PRAYER LIST

The Hearons
Ellen Reddell
Mark Schow
Grace Anderson
Quinton Anderson
Fred Sloan
Shirley Hyso

Gayle Hardcastle
Sharrolyn Reed
Virginia Frisbie
Judy Watts
Our homebound members:
Oba Ensley, Effie Lane, Jo
Barnes, Daphne Dreher, and
A.V. Hearon

MILITARY

Andy Reynolds (Iraq)
Jason Jones (Ft. Bragg, NC)
Paul Haverfield (Italy)
Justin Barnes (Afghanistan)

If you want someone on the prayer list or taken off;
please let Martha or Kristy know.

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2011	
Bible Class	60
Morning Worship	124
Contribution	\$2651
Budget	\$2520
Evening Worship	71
Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011	62
Daily Bible Readers	20
Fair Haven	
	GRAVY MIX
	HAIR CONDITIONER

THOSE TO SERVE

MORNING

Announcements
Song Leader
Prayer
Lord's Supper
& Contribution

Prayer

Greeters

Clipboards

Communion

Open Building, Oct.

EVENING

Announcements
Song Leader
Prayer
Lord's Supper & Contrib.
Prayer

WED. EVENING

Announcements
Song Leader
Prayer
Devotional
Prayer

DEC 11

Dale Hoggatt
Doug Douthitt
Ed Hardcastle
Leon Johnson
Q. Anderson
Robert Reaves
Graylon Miller
Joe May
Mike Lawson
Glen Patton
Derrick Perry
Ronny Reddell

Graylon Miller
Chrystal Miller

Bryan Patrick
Breck Skidmore

M/M Chambers

Steve Johnson

Graylon Miller
Dale Hoggatt
Doug Claxton
Doug Douthitt
Clayton White

DEC 14

Mike Lawson
Doug Douthitt
Richard White
Doug Claxton
Fred Roesel

DEC 18

Steve Johnson
Dale Hoggatt
Leon Johnson
Addison Kendall
Clayton White
Ernie Trumbly
Breck Skidmore
Mike Roughton
Fred Roesel
Ronny Reddell
Wade Reddell
Bob Reed

Bryan Patrick
Sarah Patrick

Josh Esquibel
John Freeman

M/M Chambers

Steve Johnson

Bob Reed
Graylon Miller
David Coffee
Drew Douthitt
Richard White

DEC 21

Joe May
Dale Hoggatt
Q. Anderson
David Coffee
Ernie Trumbly

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HOLIDAY BASKETS

"CHRISTMAS REMINDERS"

PARTY SATURDAY AT DOUTHITT'S

<u>Elders</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Doug Douthitt	Dwain Addington	Richard
Jerry Howell	Dale Hoggatt	Chambers
Richard White	Steve Johnson	
	Fred Roesel	

MEETING TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class	9:00 AM
Morning Worship	10:00 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM

Tuesday Bible Class (Sept. - May) 10:00 AM

Wednesday Devo. & Bible Class 7:00 PM

December 11, 2011