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IN THIS ISSUE

...Costs Me Nothing!"	1
Family Matters	1
Reed All About It	2
Note From Avery	2
John's Jogs	2
Family News	3
Calendar of Events	3
Prayers & Notes	4

*"Whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."
Colossians 3:17*

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

"...That Which Costs Me Nothing!"

"Make it easy on yourself." "Don't ever volunteer." "Let someone else do it."

I have no doubt that you have heard at least one of those sentiments or others just like them. The idea is that one should not have to put himself or herself out in any way. In such a culture, self-gratification is the name of the game while self-sacrifice is a dying art.

In such a world as this, the story of David found in 2 Samuel 24 sends a much-needed message.

On that occasion, David had sinned against God by taking a census and numbering the people of Israel. Basically, we could say that David was, at that time, putting his trust in "numbers" and not in God to provide. God was greatly displeased and gave David a choice of picking one of three different punishment scenarios. David chose three days of "pestilence." As a result, 70,000 Israelite men died. Finally, the angel of the Lord bringing death stopped just outside of Jerusalem. At that point, David was told by the prophet of the Lord to build an altar to God on property belonging to Araunah, a Jebusite.

When David and his men approached Araunah and told him of their plans, he offered to give David the needed land. Implements and even the oxen necessary to make the offering to God were also offered. Whether this was a genuine offer or an ancient bargaining method, it was at that point that David stated a truth that resounds even louder than the statements found at the beginning of this article. David said, "No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing." Now, be sure and get the picture. David was going to offer a burnt offering. In the other offerings, some of the meat might be spared to share between the worshipper and the priest. Burnt offerings, however, were given *completely* to God! David was planning on a total sacrifice. Then an offer comes to "lessen the cost or even negate the cost completely by receiving it as a gift. David would have no part of it. He was clear...I will not offer ... to the Lord my God that which cost me nothing!

Let us check ourselves and see if we have this same kind of attitude toward God and giving! Do we make *total* sacrifices? Are we giving God *the best* in our sacrifice? Are we satisfied with giving a pittance of our time, effort and money? Have we left the "easy life, let-someone-else do it" lifestyle and voluntarily become "living sacrifices?" There is so much to do...there are so many souls to save...there is no time to "let others" "hold back" or "take it easy." Let us do as David did on this occasion! Let's not only say...let's live the sentiments of his words—"I will not offer ... to the Lord my God *That Which Costs Me Nothing!*"

—Larry



Family Matters

We love having guests come to be with us as we study the Bible, fellowship, and worship together. If you are visiting, please complete the visitor's section of the attendance book that will be passed to you toward the end of our services. Again, thank you for coming!

The Campaign for Christ Rally

is at 6 PM tonight. We will leave from the building at 5:10 p.m. This is a great opportunity to share in worship with our brothers and sisters from all over the city! I hope you will attend. If you cannot, come back at 6 pm. and you will be blessed to hear Alan bring the message.

The offices will be closed to morrow for Memorial Day.

Let your light shine, Thanks to *Sister Elsie Wilson* for taking it upon herself to straighten up the auditorium prior to last Sunday evening's service picking up the trash, etc. Thanks, and *Shine on.*

Parting Thought: The one who climbs the highest mountain does it—one step at a time. HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!

Larry

Reed All About It: Vacation Time!

It is almost June and the start of vacation season. Some of my family's best memories occurred on our vacations. Even the vacations I took when I was a child still bring back wonderful recollections. What is it about vacations that makes them so memorable? First, we are taken out of our comfort zone and confronted with new experiences. Second, sometimes we go to some amazing places like Yosemite, Yellowstone or Hawaii. Third, we get to spend time together with the folks we love best. All of this adds up to creating special memories that last a lifetime.

I strongly recommend that everyone take vacations. They don't have to be elaborate around the world extravaganzas. Vacations can be simple and low cost. The key is to do something different with those you

love. God created this big beautiful world for us to enjoy. We should take the time to see as much of it as possible. I realize some of you may be adverse to travel for various reasons. Maybe you don't want to leave your comfort zone for the stress of staying in new places. In my view the risk is far outweighed by the reward of experiencing new people and places. In addition, as you travel it is a great time to be an ambassador for Christ. I have had some great theological discussions while traveling.

As you make your vacation plans, don't forget to worship God. It is easy to get caught up in the whirlwind of vacation planning and to forget that Sunday is a day of worship. Visiting different congregations can be an enjoyable and uplifting experience. You might say, we are going

to a place where there is no church, what do we do? Well, you can hold your own worship service. You can buy a traveling communion package from Mardel's or online. Don't take this family worship service lightly. This is not something to whip through prior to starting a tour. Prepare songs, scriptures, prayers and devotionals for a meaningful worship service. An added bonus is to conduct your worship in a unique setting that is tied to your vacation.

So, get out there and experience a great vacation! I can assure you memories will be created that will last a lifetime.

Blessings,
Alan

Note From Avery Caraway, Youth Summer Intern

Howdy! My name is Avery Caraway. I am going into my third year at Texas A&M University. I am a Genetics major with a minor in Public Health. When not studying, I enjoy working out with my friends at Crossfit Aggieland and watching or playing basketball. I can usually be seen on television during Aggie basketball games behind the goal, harassing the visit-

ing team's bench.

I attend A&M Church of Christ in College Station and am involved with Aggies For Christ. I grew up down the road in Magnolia, where I graduated high school. My home church is North Woodlands Area Church of Christ, formerly known as Buckshot Lane, where I served as the

youth intern last summer. Even though the Texas heat is intense, I still enjoy doing anything and everything outdoors. But on rainy days, I might have a tendency to stay in bed and binge watching Netflix. I look forward to working with Josh, the youth group, and everyone here at Champions this summer. I can't wait to see what God has in store for us! — Avery Caraway

John's Jogs: BIBLE BASICS

As we embark on our "Look at the Book" reading, studying and having all our sermons and lessons going through fourteen (14) books in our Summer Series this year, there are certain basics that we ought to commit to memory. Here are some of them:

The Bible was written by about forty writers over a period of 14-1500 years and yet in perfect harmony. It is composed of two major divisions:

I. Old Testament (Old -3 letters – Testament 9 letters = 39 books in the Old Testament. II. New Testament (New -3 letters) – Testament 9 letters 3 X 9 = 27 books in the New Testament and 39 plus 27 = 66 books in the Bible.

The Old Testament is divided into 5 sections – Law - 5 books, History -12 books,

Poetry 5 books, Major Prophecy 5 books and Minor Prophets 12 books. Develop a theme of 5-12-5-5-12. Commit to memory one group at a time. **Law** = Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. **History** = Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I – II Samuel, I – II Kings, I – II Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther. **Poetry or wisdom** = Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon. **Major Prophets** = Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel and Daniel. **Minor Prophets** = Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. They are only designated **major and minor** because of length of the books – not importance. There are 23,068 verses in the Old Testament.

The New Testament is also divided into five sections: Gospels (4 books), History

(1 Book), Pauline Letters (written by Paul 14 books), Other Letters (7 books), Prophecy (1 Book). **Gospels** = Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, **History** = Acts, **Pauline Letters** = Romans, I – II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, I – II Thessalonians, I – II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, and Hebrews is generally attributed to Paul, but some question if it was him. **Other Letters** = James, I – II Peter, I – II – III John and Jude: **Prophecy** = Revelation. There are 7, 958 Verses in the New Testament.

If you've never committed the books of the Bible to memory, it's not difficult to do by just working on one section at a time until you have it down pat and then move on to the next. It then becomes easy to find the scripture for which you are looking. More on this next week.

THE CHAMPIONS SPIRIT

EVENTS AND NEWS

TONIGHT Campaign for Christ Rally Memorial Church of Christ 6:00 p.m.

All those who would like to meet
and carpool together, please meet
at the building at 5:10 p.m.



A special thank you to the children's ministry; they have changed our lives, Eddie loves it there!!!

Have a blessed day,
Hanna, Olli, Eddie Haavikko



Dear friends,
Thank you for celebrating my high school graduation. I am so blessed to have such amazing family and friends. Your gifts, support, and prayers are truly appreciated.

Love,
Ngozi Iwunze



Dear Friends,
I would like to thank the Champions Church of Christ for your assistance via your donation following the events of the recent flood. The money will help me to put a down payment on a replacement car and help to get my life back on track.

Sincerely thanking you,
Natasha Rivera

Today! Meeting for All Families whose children are going to Camp Bandina

There will be a meeting immediately following morning worship in the front of the auditorium, for families of students who are going to Bandina. Contact: Tommy Hill

Champions VBS

REFUGE JULY 18-20
9-11:30 am
Ages 3-5th Grade
Safe in the Arms of God
2016 Champions VBS
Register at: www.championschurch.org

Empty Nesters Baseball Game Trip

If you are interested in going to a Sugarland Skeeters game in June, please sign the list posted on the bulletin board in the foyer. Contact: Carla Mahle

Young at Heart Trip Thursday, June 9th

Depart on Precinct 4 Bus at 9AM
Museum of Natural Science



Featuring the Faberge Jeweled collection, including the Faberge Eggs and some of the Romanov Jewels. Lunch at China Garden Restaurant after the tour. The cost is \$13.00, plus lunch. A head count is needed A.S.A.P. Please sign the list posted on the North Bulletin Board. Contact: John Dickenson, with questions.

Church Calendar May 2016

29 Campaign for Christ Rally @ 6:00
29 Alan Reed Preaches PM
29 Parent Meeting for Camp Bandina

June

1 Summer Series (SS)—Calvin Warpula
5 Family Circle #8 Meal
5 Fairfield Church of Christ Homecoming
8 SS—Bill Rasco (Spring Creek)
9 Young at Heart Trip
15 SS David Duncan (Memorial)
22 SS Scott Thibodeaux (Kingwood)

July

18-20 VBS—Ages 3-5th Grade

Youth Calendar May and June 2016

May 29 Summer Intern Starts
May 29 Campaign for Christ Rally
May 29 Camp Bandina Parent Meeting
May 30 Monday Funday
June 5-11 Camp Bandina

Sunday Morning Bible Hour Ages 2 to Kindergarten

Parents and children are dismissed to check in during the song before the lesson.
Teachers: Brent & Lisa Killough
May's memory verse: *For nothing is impossible with God. (Luke 1:37)*

Dinner with Avery Caraway Summer Youth Intern

A sign up list is posted on the North Bulletin Board for available dates to have dinner with Avery. Please sign up for one of these dates so Avery will not starve! Feel free to have him over for a home cooked meal or take him to Perry's or McDonald's.

Help Needed Moving Jeff and Rebekah Johnson Sunday, June 5th

(Following morning worship)
Pizza will be provided at present home on Hal-kirk. Contact Jeff or Rebekah if you can help!
Rebekah Johnson - Cell: 361-728-8317

Wednesday Night Meal June 1st

Menu: BBQ Brisket, Potato Salad, Beans, Salad, Strawberry Cake
Adults: \$5, Children and up: \$3, Two and under: Free. Please place number to attend in the attendance book today.



"A Place to Belong."

13902 Cutten Road,
Houston, Texas 77069
281-440-9898

www.championschurch.org

Elders:

- David Arnold
- Glenn Asher
- Jim Chitwood
- Bill Johnson
- Britt Jones
- Danny Mize
- Don Sammons
- Marvin Trice

Deacons:

- Phelan (Al) Allee
- Chris Ball
- Kevin Barnett
- Bill Bonham
- Charles Boyd
- Eltonio (Tony) Brown
- Darrell Fariss
- Jay Fraley
- Tommy Hill
- Joe Jackson
- Charles Joachim
- Brent Killough
- David Morgan
- Blake Phillips
- Kent Phillips
- Bryan Runions
- Justin Sammons
- Hank Sheppard
- Joel Smith
- Wes Smith
- Troy Thompson
- Billy Tippit
- James Wyatt

Ministers:

- Larry Keele (Pulpit)
- Alan Reed (Associate)
- John Qualls (Associate)
- Josh Vires (Youth)

PRAYERS & NOTES

Prayer Requests:

Ronda Morgan is home recovering from surgery on her wrist and finger.

June Gettings is home recovering from bronchitis.

Emmett Gaines for safety as he travels to Kentucky for his daughter, Tirah's, graduation from high school.

Wilson Kinsey, The Garrett's son-in-law's father, has stage 4 kidney failure and other health problems.

Danny & Laura Mize and Don & Susan Sammons for safety as they travel over the next nine days.

Mil and Josie Biron will be leaving this week for Maine. They will return around the 15th of June.

Linda Boatright and family in the loss of her brother-in-law.

Matthew Nance, John and Donna's grandson, is in TCH in the Medical Center with serious health issues.

Whitney White, Jim and Merri White's daughter-in-law, will begin radiation in the next few weeks for a brain tumor. Whitney has two small children.

Laverne Bonham is under hospice care. A sign-up list is

posted on the bulletin board for sitters.

Tim, friend of Olli & Hanna Haavikko, recently had heart surgery and faces many challenges going forward. Please keep their family in prayer.

Mary Buerger as she travels to be with her father, Ramoncito Jatico, who is being treated for prostate cancer.

Jean Simpson, David Kuehl's sister, is recovering from successful surgery on Friday.

Champions Members Ongoing Concerns: Shawn Waye, Sharon DeCarlo, Whitney Gaston, Glenn Dixon, Ron Jenson, Julia Shaw, John Hixon, Tasha DiRaffaele, Jan Kelly, Donna Nance, Keith and Linda Underwood, Beth Haden, B.B. & Dorothy Snell
Family and Friends of Champions: Conner Barnett, Larry Eckert, Mark Gardiner, Mary Chappell, Buddy Dameron, Jason Word, Mary and Von Chappell, Shelia Morrison

Employment Concerns: Wes Smith, Rudy Morris

Expectant Parents: Jeff and Rebekah Johnson, Jordan and Natalie Arnold

Response: Robert Leyner

Hospice Care: Laverne Bonham, Letha (Earlene Antwine's sister), Heidi Morrisey

Cancer Concerns:

Don Freeman, Jackie Stearsman, Ramoncito Jatico, Mary McCall Adamek, Laura Carroll, Colton Taylor, Larry Young, Steven Cerny, Bea Augustin, Jack Snyder, Rocky Harrell, Lawrece Smith, Sandra Underwood, Gary Brown, Nancy Miller, Pat Morrison, Sheila Durham

Missionaries:

Dale DuVerney, Peter Chin, Eddie Cloer, Roman Halamiccek, Eric Tan, Roland Moshen, Workers at Biblical Institute of Central America, Eastern European Mission, Jordan Arnold, Will Hanstein, Madison Avalos

Assisted Living/Rehab/

Nursing Homes: Terri Bennett, Margurite Pennington, Juanita Cox, Julia Garcia, Nell McDonald, Gladys McHenry, Marie McCall, Jean Simpson

Prayers for Military:

Landon White, William E. Taylor IV, George Marcus Jones, Melanie Adams, Travis Long, Aaron Jean, James Chin, Casey Bolin, Charles DuVerney, Ryan Bonham, Phillip Cuccerre, Jr., Eric McCall, Darion DuVerney, Meghan Gilispie

Nursery Attendants

May 29: Ruby Sheppard & Rebekah Johnson

June 5: Thresa Dickenson & Joan Burns

If you cannot serve, please find a replacement by checking names posted on the wall outside the nursery classroom. Contact: Karen Casey

**FOR THE RECORD
5/22/16**

Sunday AM	398
Sunday P.M.	160
Youth to WO CoC	7
Bible Class Attendance	263
Wednesday Night	nc
Contribution	16,096.49
Weekly Budget	20,048.00
YTD Contributions	426,980.45
YTD Budget	421,008.00
Over/(Under)	5,972.45

Service Times:

SUNDAY MORNING	
9:00 a.m.	Bible Classes
10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Sunday Morning Bible Hour	
SUNDAY NIGHT:	
6:00 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY	
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.	

Elder of the Month

Danny Mize—May
Don Sammons—June

Food Coordinator

Check with your Family Circle Leaders

Little Champs:

Mothers Day Out
Contact: Lisa Killough
littlechamps@att.net,
281-893-2062
Lisa Killough—Director