

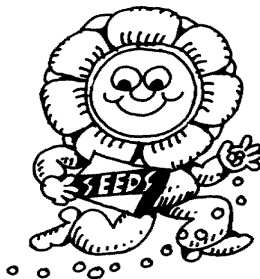
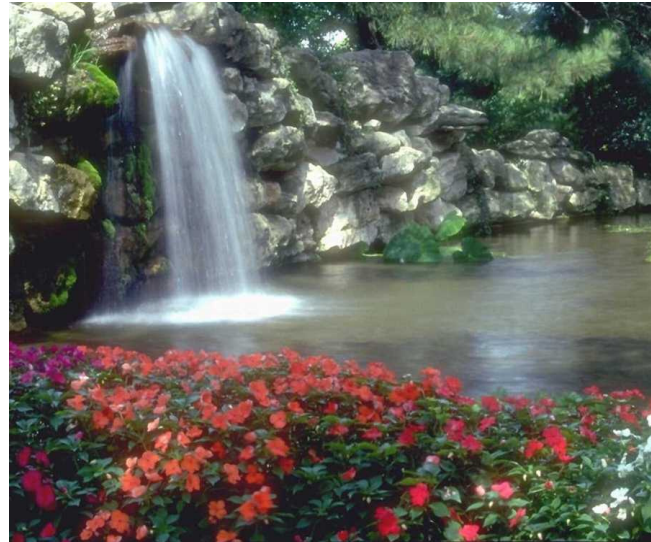
### A Day Like Any Other

Tw'as a day like any other,  
When the nightfall found them there;  
Guarding closely their possessions,  
Watching o'er them with great care.

Then God's presence filled the heavens,  
And each eye beheld the sight;  
Of a multitude of angels,  
Singing songs of peace and light.

In our days like any other,  
Night at times distorts our way;  
As we strain against the darkness,  
Lest our foes take all away.

In these times we need God's presence,  
And His perfect holy light;  
To proclaim our sure salvation,  
And illuminate the night.



## Black Creek Church of Christ

3216 County Road 218  
Middleburg, FL 32068  
Phone: (904) 282-4033

E-Mail: [stevea3@juno.com](mailto:stevea3@juno.com)

#### Times of Worship:

**Sunday Morning:**  
Bible Class: 10:00 AM  
Worship: 11:00 AM

**Sunday Evening:**  
Worship: 6:00 PM

**Wednesday Evening:**  
Bible Class: 7:00 PM

Visit our website at:

[www.blackcreekchurchofchrist.org](http://www.blackcreekchurchofchrist.org)

#### Works of Evangelism:

- ◆ Bible Call
- ◆ Georgia Mission (Soperton Church of Christ, Soperton, GA)
- ◆ Bible Correspondance Courses & Tracts (By Request)

#### Works of Benevolence:

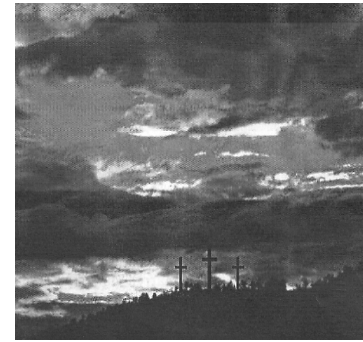
- ◆ Hospital Benevolence Basket (Orange Park Medical Center)
- ◆ Raintree Village Children's Home (Valdosta, GA)

#### Works of Edification:

- ◆ The Black Creek Courier
- ◆ Black Creek Christian School
- ◆ Visitation Program
- ◆ Vacation Bible School
- ◆ Bible Classes For All Ages
- ◆ Keenagers Group (Over -50)

#### What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Gospel (Matthew 7:24-27; Romans 10:14,17) → Believe the Gospel (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6) → Repent of My Sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30) → Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10) → Be Baptized (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21) → Be Faithful Unto Death (Matthew 10:22; Revelation 2:10).



# The Black Creek Courier

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*"And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given his this perfect soundness in the presence of you all." Acts 3:16*

February 1, 2009

## Faith In Action

When we carefully consider what the Bible teaches about faith, God has made it clear - true, Biblical faith is living and active. But when we look around (or within) it is easy to see that not all faith is active. When we observe those who profess "faith only" or those of us who carelessly practice this misleading doctrine - no doubt about it, "faith" can be very bland.

The person who appears to make the greatest spiritual splash usually gets the notoriety as the one of greatest faith. One's involvement might indicate great faith - to fellow travelers - when, if we knew the person's heart, we would be disappointed. Then too, a person

may be very active in realms not noticeable to most of us, but have ultimate faith in God and His ability and determination to work through us.

I knew a great man (now gone to his reward) who was limited in cognitive ability. He could do little by way of teaching others. He could read well and I know he read the Bible - a lot. Seemingly, he could not remember much of it. But those living closest to him observed a lot of the principles of faith being demonstrated in his life. When he was a young man, the family was discussing a rain that had unexpectedly fallen on their little farm. He asked his brothers, "Don't you know why it rained?" "No." "I asked God."

He did lots of little things like open the windows of the church house on hot days and build a fire on cold ones. He took care of the songbooks and rang the church bell. He was always the first to every service. If the bell didn't ring through the community an hour or so before meeting time, we assumed that he was ill. He loved to sing. Sometimes preachers would take him to small church appointments to lead the songs he knew.

I guess people didn't think of him as a spiritual leader. But he prayed a lot and believed God would do just what God promised to do. Those closest to him could see faith in action in his life. He didn't get into discussions about church problems nor was he on the



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lookout for the faults of others. He was a quiet man and did not try to make a big “spiritual splash” in order to attract attention to himself.

Some Christians show a lot of faith through the use of their money and time. This is usually observable and may we hold their hands high. But now much would God accomplish through these highly blessed Christians if their prayers were not intermingled with those of other Christians who enter their closet on behalf of the projects undertaken.

Searching the references of faith, it is evident that there are “degrees” of faith. We read of “no faith”, “little faith”, “broken faith”, “weak faith”, “true faith”, “increasing faith”, “forever faith”, “living faith”, “great faith”, and those “full of faith”. God did not choose to give us a technical thermometer whereby we can determine the degrees of another’s faith. We can usually detect what appears to be hot or cold. Only God can know for sure. Ours is to help those who are weak, encourage the faithful, reach the lost, glorify God, and “consider ourselves” that we not be tempted to work with a bloated heart (Galatians 6:1-2; 1 Corinthians 13:4).

Let us thank God who has supplied His church with leaders who display the “**faith that works**”. Let us delight in encouraging them, learn from them, and follow their examples so that the world around us will see this godly faith in us.

Bob Connel

I once learned a lesson from a dog we had. My father used to put a bit of meat or biscuit on the floor near the dog and say, “NO!” and the dog knew he must not touch it. But he never looked at the meat. He seemed to feel that if he did so, the temptation to disobey would be too great, so he looked steadily at my father’s face. There is a lesson for us all. Always look up to the Master’s face.



~ Leslie E. Dunkin

### Pulling On Both Oars

An old Scotsman operated a little rowboat for transporting passengers. One day a passenger noticed that the good old man had carved on one oar the word “Faith”, and on the other oar the word “Works”. Curiosity led him to ask the meaning of this. The old man, being a well-balanced Christian and glad of the opportunity for testimony, said, “I will show you.”

So saying, he dropped one oar and plied the other called Works, and they just went around in circles. Then he dropped that oar and began to ply the other oar called Faith, and the little boat just went around in circles again—this time the other way around, but still in a circle.

After this demonstration the old man picked up Faith and Works, and plying both oars together, sped swiftly over the water, explaining to his inquiring passenger, “You see, that is the way it is in the Christian life. Dead works without faith are useless, and ‘faith without works is dead’ also, getting you nowhere. But faith and works pulling together make for safety, progress, and blessing.”

~ Bible Friend



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# Black Creek... This Week

## Servants For the Month of February

	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry Russell	Larry Russell
Scripture Reading	Stanley Posey	Stanley Posey
Song Leader	Sam Sipper	Steve Atnip, Jr.
Opening Prayer	Tim Gotkiewicz	Sam Sipper
Lord's Table	Don Miller	Don Miller
Assistant	Justin Workman	
Assistant	Stephen Hedgecock	
Assistant	Frazier Blair	
Assistant	Gordon Richau	
Sermon	Steve Atnip, Sr.	Steve Atnip, Sr.
Closing Prayer	Steve Atnip, Jr.	Floyd Grace
Prepare Communion (For Feb.)	Sally G. (Mar.)	Cindy Copeland
Cleaning the Building (For Feb.)	Sally G. (Mar.)	Gordon & CupCup

## Prayer Requests

### Black Creek Family:

Tim Gotkiewicz, Cindy Copeland, Eula Morgan, Malissa Dasher, Gloria & Valerie Shaw, Sonny Best, Vernon Newsome, Ann Grace, John Moore, the Dennard family, Wanda Cheek, Herbert & Marie Dix, Norman & Marsha Thompson, Kay Van Horn, Gary & Gloria Evans, and Ann Maloy.

### Away:

Cindy Anderson, James Smith, Kay Taylor, Dorothy Wilson, Eileen Lacy, Amy McCrea, Jean Odom, Donald Petteway, Robert Vaughn, Gerri West, Terry Thompson, Gary Bartlett, Sloan Hunter, Bob Melson, Denny



We are so happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us, please remain a bit after services so we can become acquainted and let you know how special you are to us. Also, if you have any questions concerning anything you saw in our services today, please ask any one of us here today. We will be more than happy to answer any of your questions.

## Announcements

**Volunteer Work Lists:** There is a list on the bulletin board for anyone who could volunteer to watch the little ones during service if the need is present. Also, there is a list for doing the communion and building cleanup. If you could spare some time and could help us out, please sign up to do so.

**Mailboxes:** Please remember to check your mailboxes weekly.

**Hospital Basket:** We need to restock our snacks for the Hospital basket. If anyone can contribute, please see Billy Smith or Mary Register.

**Keenager's Trip:** The Keenagers had a great time at the Pancake house. I think all of us ate plenty for all of those of you that couldn't go. Thank you Billy for such good times.

**Superbowl Fellowship:** After the evening services, we are having a superbowl fellowship. If you love football, stay and watch the game and have some snacks.



**Guest Speaker:** Don Miller will be preaching today for Steve. The Atnip's are in Tennessee for the Lectureships. Thank you Don for your willingness to fill in for Steve while he is away.

PLEASE PUT YOUR CELLPHONES ON SILENT OR VIBRATE.