

A LONG WAY FROM PATMOS

Revelation 1:9-10b

Patmos is a Greek island 10 miles long and 6 miles wide in the Aegean Sea. It is mentioned once in the Bible referenced above. According to the ISBE, (Vol. 3, p. 690) it is volcanic, rocky, and mostly treeless. It was a place the Romans used as a deserted island of punishment—a place to which prisoners were banished. One of the early church fathers, (writers, historians) Irenaeus, says that John was exiled there in the 14th year of the reign of Domitian (A.D. 96).

John wrote, ***I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit...***

When did Christian discipleship cease being countercultural? America is not ever going to be Christian. Why do we get so hyper about the Federal Government refusing to practice complicity with Christian morals or values? What is it with the church that we seem to think God has or ought to have control of the Government? Who do we think America is? This is America that pays kids \$20 million to play basketball before they can legally drink inside a bar. America where someone pays \$40,000 for a pair of used sneakers from a star or athletes under the age of 25 who buy \$20,000,000+ private homes (George Barna, Boiling Point).

This is America where Jesus has made more millionaires out of book writers, agents, and publishers than we would have ever dreamed. What did being a Christian ever do for John? He speaks of being our “brother and companion in the suffering and Kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus...” I wonder what our brother John thinks of our Sunday celebrations of jumping to the drum beat of yet another millionaire’s success. Americans demand superfluity even in their assemblies to worship the God of heaven. We have absolutely convinced ourselves that Western Christianity is the best of heaven right here on earth. Has the Christian assembly become just another means of diversion—a never ending progression and promotion of entertainment delirium? No wonder we are now wanting for the government to jump in with us. It ain’t gonna happen friends! The church will always be counter-cultural if it is Christ’s church.

Only recently my dear brother Dr. David and wife Lorie French wrote of an awful day and night of drenching rain, mud, and work in Zambia. They left the states to reach the lost. Missionaries among us are harder to find than a native trout in the Mississippi River. John found that swimming upstream against the culturally biased current was demanding to say the least—demanding enough to refer to the church as a brotherhood of suffering which required endurance in Christ Jesus. About the only thing we endure for Christ these days is a 30 minute sermon! We tolerate a 20 minute one and really would choose a 15 minute one if it is packed with funnies and the latest gadgets. Oh, how we suffer!

I wonder what the writers would say about John. Would they say he should have been a little more tolerant? Not quite so offensive? Remember—the cross is a stumbling block, the gospel is foolishness, and Jesus was only popular until he stopped handing out dinners and began to teach what it meant to be a disciple—SuperBowl party indeed. Jesus had to bleed instead of blend. Have we sold out? What does it take to get me “in the Spirit” on the Lord’s day—today? It just seems to me I have come ***a long way from Patmos***. yc

PRAYER LIST

- ♥ Ivan Bergeron, father of a co-worker (Troy Bergeron) of Ryan Hamrick, is having prostate surgery.
- ♥ Virginia Bergeron, grandmother of co-worker (Troy Bergeron) of Ryan Hamrick, had a massive heart attack.
- ♥ Allen McDaniel is still recovering.
- ♥ Billy Jack McDaniel and family as he recovers.
- ♥ Web and Polly Shivers, friends of the Kipatricks, are in poor health.
- ♥ Rudy Staggs, Ashley Nowlen’s father, diagnosed with lung cancer.
- ♥ Lynn Snellgrove, a friend of Barry Rhodes, has Sceroderma.
- ♥ David Lynn Taylor, Lena Price’s brother, needs prayer to find peace.
- ♥ Joe Saia, Cindy Saia’s husband, radiation treatments.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER

Betsy Canfield, Tony Dority, Howard Farrar, Beverly Huffstetler, Mary Louise Gipson, Beverly Graham, Charlotte Hunter, Larry Mittlestat, Mart Salley and Joey Sanderford

LADIES NIGHT OUT

The next Ladies Night Out will be February at 6:30 pm in the Ladies Ministry Room. Bring finger foods. See Kim McDaniel, Ann Ellis, or Mary Ellen Hester if you have questions.

FAMILY WEEKEND

Skyway will host a Family Weekend of February 24-25. There will be pizza, singing, and worship on Saturday night starting at 5:30 pm. On Sunday morning we will have a breakfast followed by Sunday School and worship. Guest speaker will be Alan Robertson from the Whites Ferry Road congregation in Monroe, LA. Guest song leader will be Jason Jenkins.

LIFE GROUPS

All Life Groups are to meet at the building on the February 11 for praise and fellowship. The Rogers Life Group will facilitate this evening. If you are not part of a Life Group you are still encouraged to attend.

SUPPER CLUB

The Supper Club will meet on Friday, February 10 at 7:00 pm at the Rogers’ home. Bring your loved ones favorite food.

VALENTINES BANQUET

The Valentines Banquet will be February 10. Cost is \$20/couple or \$10/individual. Sign-up sheets and information are on the bulletin board outside the library.

PRE SUPERBOWL FOOTBALL GAME

We will hold our annual Superbowl touch-football game on Sunday afternoon, February 4, 2007 from about 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the Reservoir - Lakeshore Park. Everyone is invited to join in on the family fun (please have your medical insurance card available... just kidding!). See you there! See Jim Head if you have any questions.

PANTRY

The Pantry still needs help. Critical items: fruit cocktail, chicken noodle soup, spaghetti sauce, grape jelly and corn. Low items: Spam, and spaghetti noodles.

GRADUATES

Pictures for Grad Sunday are needed by March 4. If you are graduating college only one picture is needed. See Debbie or Jenny with questions.

LADIES CLASS

A Ladies Class will begin February 11 in the Women’s Ministry Room.

FOOD MINISTRY

From time to time occasions, such as family illness, death in family, or accidents, arise where families need our assistance with food. If you would like to commit to bringing a food item for such occasions, please see the sign-up sheet on the Ladies’ Bulletin Board.

CRAFTERS CLUB

Joy would like to have all the crafters come to here home Saturday, February 3.

SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

Contact Tim Nelson if unable to serve at 601-853-3704.

2/04/07

Greeters McManaway Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Jim Head
 Prayer Allen McDaniel
 Presiding Jeff Sweeney
 Closing Prayer Allen Rogers

Serving

Rocky Barnette	Terry Claunch
Charlie McMasters	Jerry Mitchell
Ryan Hamrick	Wayne Bridges

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Michelle Hester
 Children’s Worship ... Beth Farrar
 Lauren Miller

2/11/07

Greeters Canfield Life Group
 Song Leader Tim Farrar
 Call to Worship Jerry Mitchell
 Prayer Lonnie Livingston
 Presiding Glynn McMillen
 Closing Prayer Tony Dority

Serving

Dusty Reynolds	Mike Babin
Bobby Stewart	Todd Lott
David Blevins	Dan Ellis

Evening Worship Life Groups
 Nursery Genie Rogers
 Children’s Worship..... Laura Stanley

THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Feb. 4 – Ex. 34-36; Matt. 23:1-22
 Feb. 5 – Ex. 37-38; Matt. 23:23-39
 Feb. 6 – Ex. 39-40; Matt. 24:1-22
 Feb. 7 – Lev. 1-3; Matt. 24:23-51
 Feb. 8 – Lev. 4-6; Matt. 25:1-30
 Feb. 9 – Lev. 7-9; Matt. 25:31-46
 Feb. 10 – Lev. 10-12; Matt. 26:1-19

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 4 – Touch Football Game
 February 10 – Valentine’s Banquet
 February 11 – Combined Life Group
 Worship
 February 16-18 – Winterfest ‘07
 February 24-25 – Family Weekend
 March 4 – Graduate pictures due

LIFE GROUPS		
Area	Location	Leaders
South Brandon	Rotated	Paul McManaway
		Glynn McMillen
Crossgates	Claunch Home	David Blevins
		Lonnie Livingston
Florence/Star	Rotated	Yale Canfield
		Allen McDaniel
Brandon	Sweeney Home	Jeff Sweeney
		Tim Farrar
Reservoir	Rogers Home	Jim Head
		Allen Rogers
Teens	Varies	Ken Salley
Pearl	Building	Steve Perry - Preaching
		Ron Morgan

Mission Statement for Heart Matters
 To enhance the mission of the Skyway Hills church of Christ and to build a sense of community among the members of the body of Christ through an accurate and quality communication of 1) ministries and activities of the church 2) the opportunities for each member to find fulfillment as disciples of Jesus and 3) the scriptural application of God's Word to life relevant issues today.

YOUTH

Upcoming Events

Renewal 2007
 Baton Rouge, LA
 March 2-4

Featuring Watershed Worship,
 Earl Lavender, and Revival Drama.

Cost is \$15. Sign up on Teen Bulletin Board.

Heart matters

Skyway Hills Church of Christ
 Highway 80 East
 P.O. Box 5600
 Pearl, MS 39288

Schedule of Service
 Sunday Bible Class.....9:00 am
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 am
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 pm
 Wednesday..... 7:00 pm

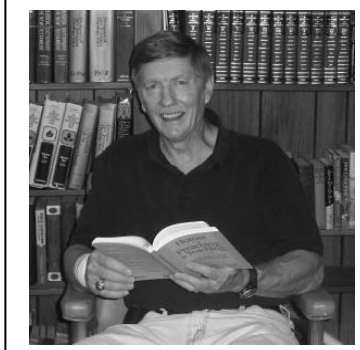
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YAKS

*“Since then,
 you have
 been raised
 with
 Christ,
 set your
 hearts
 on things
 above.”*
 Colossians 3:1

Skyway Hills Church of Christ
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 Web: www.skywayhills.com • E-mail: skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.net
 Elders - Lonnie Livingston • Al Garner
 Minister – Yale Canfield
 Email: yalec@bellsouth.net
 Youth Minister – Ken Salley

February 4, 2007



Heartbeat

Church, I hope you are convinced about Jesus. The things I am convinced of I do habitually: I floss everyday, I work out every other day, I eat everyday, I drink green tea and honey, I am convinced trout fishing makes men handsome, and I pray every day. The question is, “Am I convinced that I am going to be eternally lost if I don’t believe and accept the gospel story about Jesus?” If I do, it will change my life.

P H P is important. People Helping People is a project designed to help people when they need it most. LaRan Kilpatrick is designing and building a moneybox of sorts for the back of the auditorium. It will be a nice addition to our auditorium—LaRan makes magic when he builds anything. I have asked him to make this for us. Each Sunday as you pass by drop some bills or change into the box to help people who need it. This will go into a special fund which the elders and I will dispense for worthy causes. We will use it wisely. It will be used mainly not for people who ask necessarily but for people we discover that need it. Any seed money will be appreciated this Sunday and every meeting day afterward—Sunday or Wednesday. An accounting of all funds will, of course, be kept in the office.

Family weekend is coming up the first weekend on February 24-25. This is an important weekend for this church. I trust we will give it our best.

Your preacher may have to get involved in this year’s football game on Sunday. There is no doubt, as a wide receiver, I will be the fastest guy on the field—over sixty.

Have you been to “Praise Every Wednesday?” We just praise God and love one another. Please come.

Coffee and doughnuts every Sunday at 8:30.

See you there. This Sunday: “Have I ever been CONVICTED?”

- Deacons**
- David Blevins, Education
 - Tony Dority, Building
 - Tim Nelson, Calls/Visitor/Greeters
 - Jim Head, Life Groups
 - George Miller
 - Ron Morgan, Family Development
 - Allen Rogers, YAKS