

### New Prayer Concerns:

Dora Gatlin suffered a fall on Thursday and was taken to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. She will be moved to the Nursing Home in Quincy today for therapy.

Robby Dittmann has been diagnosed with advanced TMJ. Please pray for him as adjust to another chronic pain disorder.

Donna Hosey's father, J.T. Atkins, fell and broke his hip. He is in Tallahassee Memorial and not doing well.

Brother Marvin Sapp, a friend of Matthew Dittmann, requests prayers as he enters the NFL draft.

### Others in our Prayers:

Louise Strickland, Gynell Chambliss, George Joiner, Noel Green, Sherry West, Missy Williams, Dale Newberry, Gertrude West, Hilda Barnett, Royce & Nada Whittington, The Hall family, Dora Gatlin.

### Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Our church family, Our Elders and their families, Our Deacons and their families, Our Minister and his family, Luis Bazan – Caracas, Venezuela, Our Troops, Our local Law Enforcement, Our Youth & Youth Leaders, Our children & grandchildren

### Prayer List Updates:

If you have prayer list items that need to be added or deleted, please make sure to let one of the Elders know! Names will be removed from the prayer list after 3 weeks if there is no update.

### January Celebrations:

- 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Marshawn Harper's Birthday
- 4<sup>th</sup>** - Jonathan Hill's Birthday
- 10<sup>th</sup>** - Hannah Mahler's Birthday
- 12<sup>th</sup>** - Ashley Waddell's Birthday
- 16<sup>th</sup>** - Maighen Hosey's Birthday
- 17<sup>th</sup>** - Wesley Thompson's Birthday
- 18<sup>th</sup>** - Jacklyn Hill's Birthday
- 28<sup>th</sup>** - Joy Cook's Birthday

### Upcoming Events:

- January 31<sup>st</sup>** - Supper Club
- February 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Children's Home truck arrives
- March 21<sup>st</sup>** - Ladies' Day

### Contribution:

1/18 - \$978.15

### Contacts:

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# Welcome to the Bainbridge Church of Christ

1001 Culbreth Street  
Bainbridge, Ga. 39819

**January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009**



### Elders

Lester Gatlin  
Royce Whittington

### Deacons

Mitchell Comerford  
Don Rabon  
Chad Waddell

### Minister

Tim Mahler

### Services:

**Sunday:** 10:00am Bible Study 11:00am Worship  
6:00pm Worship/Youth Program  
**Wednesday:** 6:30pm Bible Study

## Who Teaches the Children?

There's a battle going on. It's not a battle against the powers of this dark world or against spiritual forces of evil. It's a battle that has been waged for decades, perhaps for centuries. What battle is it? It is the battle over who should be teaching children's Bible class.

I've seen it to some degree in every congregation with which I have ever come in contact. Sometimes it manifests itself as a battle between those who "have the gift" and those who don't. Sometimes it manifests itself as a battle between the 'parent generation' and the 'grandparent generation'.

In God's church, filled with His love and His people, we would expect this fight to be over who **gets** to teach the children, yet it always seems to be a fight over who **has** to teach the children. Those with the gift of teaching get burned out from teaching year after year and want a break. Those without the gift of teaching refuse to help because this isn't their area of expertise. The 'parent generation' says, "We have to deal with them at home. Why should we have to teach them at church." The 'grandparent generation' says, "We taught our kids. You teach your kids." What a travesty!

Jesus said that we should bring the little children to him. He told us to teach the whole world about him. Yet so often we sit back and assume that someone else will lead the little children; that someone else will teach the world.

How wonderful it would be if we could look at the children in our midst and always see them as God sees them! Every time a child comes into our lives, whether for a moment or a lifetime, it is a blessing and affirmation from God. God is telling us, "I trust you to be an example to this child. I trust you to take this child by the hand, and lead them to me."

So whose job is it to teach the children? It is everyone's job! And it is not really a job; it is an opportunity. An opportunity to fulfill the command of the Lord, and an opportunity to show ourselves worthy of His trust. It is an opportunity to honor those who taught us by teaching others.

Besides, we are all always teaching the children. We are either teaching them how to lovingly respond when God calls us to service or we are teaching them that the call of our Lord can be ignored if we don't want to do something. We are teaching them that they are a precious gift from God or we are teaching them that they are a burden to us.

So let's change the fight. Let's fervently argue for our right to teach the children. Let us wrestle with the spirits that make excuses why we can't or why we shouldn't. Let us stand resolutely and proclaim that we are soldiers of Christ and we will not falter in our call to battle.

## Raintree Village Children's Home Items

Today, please bring **cold medications**.  
Next Sunday, please bring **air fresheners**.

***The truck will come on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>.***

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## Point of No Return

by Jason Wilder

I have been told that there is a sign on the Niagara River, just before the falls, which reads "POINT OF NO RETURN". This sign is to warn all boats in the area that no matter how strong their vessel is, no matter how skilled of a captain is in charge, and no matter how powerful the boat's rudder is... the river is in control. There comes a point that even the best attempts of the vessel to make it to the river's shore or to get out of the main current is in vain because the river is simply too powerful to conquer the 750,000 gallons of water per second rushing over the 170 foot falls. I'm sure a lot of good people with good intentions were accidentally swept over the falls simply because they didn't think far enough ahead.

Sin has some of the same characteristics as the falls. James 1:14,15 says, "*Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, brings forth death.*"

A lot of good people with good intentions have been swept away into the abyss of spiritual death simply because they didn't think far enough ahead. It's interesting to note that our temptations aren't sin, and our desires aren't sin either as long as we don't dwell on them. James clearly says that we do not sin until our desire has conceived. Sin comes when we either act upon our desire or we would act upon it given the chance... and our sin brings forth death. There is a fine line between desire and sin that I think we should all be aware of. That line is the "POINT OF NO RETURN". We have the ability and responsibility to control every aspect of our actions, even our desires. How far ahead are you thinking? (1Tim 6:12)

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## On the Lighter side...

A woman had just returned to her home from an evening of church services, when she was startled by an intruder. She caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables and yelled: 'Stop! Acts 2:38!'

The burglar stopped in his tracks. The woman calmly called the police and explained what she had done.

As the officer cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar: 'Why did you just stand there? All the old lady did was yell a scripture to you.'

'Scripture?' replied the burglar. 'She said she had an Ax and Two 38s!'