

Readings Today: AM: John 1:29-34 The Lamb of God
PM: Psalm 21:7-13 Praise for Deliverance

Elders:
 Bob Alley Jerry Brinkley
 Cary Ashton Gary Watt

Evangelist:
 Steve Wolfgang

Deacons:
 Curt Frechmann Bryce Cann
 Loren Hueter Greg Jones
 Dave Malcomson Eric Paige

Worship Service Schedule

Sunday
 Bible Classes 9:00 A.M.
 Worship Service 9:55 A.M.
 Worship Service 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday
 Bible Classes 7:30 P.M.

Phone (630) 968-0760
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Spiritual correction is not spiritual rejection.
Actions speak louder than bumper stickers.
Live the gospel, and others will listen.



Order of Worship Today	Morning services	Evening services
Greeting and Announcements	Cary Ashton	Cary Ashton
Song Leader	Peter Jetton	Phil Prince
Scripture Reading	Nick Pippenger	Cary Ashton
Prayer	Bob Alley	Tom Hill
Contribution – Leader	Cannon Whitby	
Contribution – Prayer	Bob Alley	
Lord’s Supper – Leader	Cannon Whitby	Ramon Rodriguez
Cup – Prayer	Ramon Rodriguez	Bob Alley
Assist	Mark Ames	
Assist	Dakota Fuss	
Assist	Justin Elam	
Speaker	Philip Chumbley	Philip Chumbley
Closing Prayer	Josh Holland	Tony Kelly
Greeters —Bryce Cann and Greg Jones		
Welcome to our Visitors: Please fill out a white visitor card - and give it to a greeter at the close of services.		
Wed. Evening 5-6-15: Song–E. Roper; Speaker: P. Prince; Prayer—H. Prince		



Downers Grove church of Christ
 1236 63rd St
 Downers Grove IL 60516

HIGH LIGHTS

“THE LORD SHALL BE THINE EVERLASTING LIGHT”

May 3, 2015

Possessed

Life has many hazards and traps that can discourage and confuse the sternest of characters. Disease is a major concern of all, but parents are especially hurt when a child suffers from complicated medical problems. Behavior changes when these known maladies are dealt with, but unexplainable or unaccountable modifications in behavior and speech bring all sorts of speculation for the causes or reasons that brought it on. As if someone or something needs to be blamed for the changes being experienced.



There has always been fear in the minds of man that evil spirits may take possession of their mind and body. The horrors of such takeovers are described in the Bible as an uncontrollable madman ranting and raving in a graveyard. When unaccountable behavior is encountered, evil spirit possession is still very much considered a “reasonable” cause. Ephesians 6:12 is often cited as justification for bad behavior, bad judgment and evil actions caused by evil spirits activity.

God used unclean spirits to confirm that Jesus was His Son. Demon possession was not at random, but rather was planned and calculated so that the Messiah would be glorified through the miracles He would perform. God no longer needs demon possession to exist, because He has completed His message to mankind, and has given us a complete word that needs no addition, making demon possession no longer valid in proving Jesus as the Messiah.

—Bob Alley

"We Thank God for You..."

We live in a time of extremes when it comes to self-esteem and affirmation. Some people are constantly criticized, derided, and put down, even by family members, and feel as if they are worthless and can never be good enough. Other people receive nothing but praise and affirmations of their value and feel as if they are better than everyone else and that everything they do is wonderful even when it clearly is not. Most people are somewhere in between in terms of both giving and receiving affirmation, and it is often their personal experiences which dictate how comfortable they feel in giving or receiving affirmation and praise.

The attitude in many churches and in many relationships among Christians can be summarized as "assuming the positive and pointing out the negative." Many feel our culture spends too much time building up people's self-esteem; therefore, they feel the church is the place to bring people down a few notches. The tone set from the pulpit and in the Bible classes tends to reinforce this attitude: if something is being done well, there is little need to point that out; more time needs to be spent on pointing out the problems and-difficulties.

Likewise, husbands and wives take for granted when the other serves and does as she/he should in the marriage but are quite liberal with the critiques for where the other falls short. Parents often fail to show appreciation for the ways the children obey but are quick with censure for when they disobey; likewise children are full of criticisms of how their parents have let them down but often do not show any appreciation for their parents' effective efforts and sacrifices.

Yet we do well to note that the same Paul would always begin his correspondence with a message of affirmation, praise, and thankfulness, that which is truly "encouragement." The Corinthian Christians are divided, tolerating flagrant sin, taking each other to court, abusing spiritual gifts, and some even deny the resurrection, yet Paul begins his letter to them by thanking God for how they had received His grace and were enriched in Him (I Corinthians 1:4-8). Paul does not know much about the Roman Christians but first gives thanks and praise for them since their faith has been proclaimed in all the world (Romans 1:8-15).

Christians and churches will always have problems and difficulties, yet Paul thanked God for them and Jesus first looks for what is praiseworthy among His people. Would we not do well to do the same?

- Ethan Longhenry

Never take for granted
the people who show you
love and kindness.

News and Notes

Prayer List

Our Members:

Those coping with on-going health and mobility difficulties:

- Jean Freeman.
- Steve Richardson has a serious heart condition.
- Sal Scarpitti is in Provident Healthcare and Rehab facility, 3450 Saratoga Ave. Downers Grove, 60515 (630-969-2900) room 10A and he welcomes visitors.
- Mary Brown has been confined to home for some time and enjoys visits, cards and calls.

Prayers for Loved Ones

- Blair Elam's mother, Helen, (Elaine Petry's sister) coping with multiple medical issues is in a facility that deals with Alzheimer's patients.
- Walter Purcell's brother-in-law, Louis Woods, dealing with serious health issues.
- Mary Hall's sister in Wis. Sula Maxey, and her bro-in-law in Alabama, Joe Basham, dealing with health issues.
- Juanita Saladino's mother is in hospice care in KY.

Intern Program

Our preacher intern program with Ethan Rifle is due to begin on May 31st.

Edification Group

Group 1 will meet today in the library before services.

Travelers

Those that are away traveling or recently returned. Steve Wolfgang will be away this week in Memphis TN. The Alleys are due to return from a trip to VA later today.

Children's Bible Study

This class meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 5:30 P.M.

Tuesday Ladies class

This class meets Tuesdays at 10 AM in the library.

Speaker Today

Philip Chumbley will be our speaker at both services today while Steve Wolfgang is away.

Assignments For May

The assignments for the worship services for May have been posted. Jerry Brinkley has the assignment responsibility for this month. If you are unable to complete your assignment please let him know as soon as possible so a replacement can be arranged on a timely basis.