

Camden Church of Christ

Christ Centered ~ Bible Based



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January 5, 2020

Elders

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Deacons

Dennis Richardson
William Blow
Tom Ulderich
Joe Sisco
Michael Laux
Wesley Sparks
Daniel Richardson
Britt Johnson
Sid Osment

Minister

Daniel Cook
731.441.5217

Youth Minister

Paul Ulderich
731.792.5522

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:00 am
Morning Worship 9:50 am
Evening Worship 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Evangelism and Jumping Off the High Dive (Part I)

By Travis Main

Every summer, sprinklers, pools, ponds, lakes, creeks, rivers, and oceans are invaded by swarms of people looking to escape the heat. Water is wonderful! It offers a refreshing playground in which to frolic. Great memories are had around water including fishing, skiing, surfing, tubing and swimming. Many swimmers have feelings of fear and joy when it comes to remembering the high dive. It doesn't matter if the high dive was the standard board 12 feet above the water, a rock outcropping, or a local bridge. The experiences all take the individual through a similar range of emotions. In reflection, it seems the Christian approach to evangelism travels a path also paralleling the high dive. In order to view the phases of evangelism in a different light, this article will attempt to demonstrate how evangelism and jumping off the high dive are similar. There are seven specific phases which will be discussed: Preparation, expectation, stepping out, the decision, taking the leap, response, and do it again.

Climbing the Ladder – Preparation

To dive, one must begin by climbing the ladder of the high dive. Others have done it. So it should be easy right? It's just a matter of taking one step at a time. Each rung brings reassurance to the individual. Each bit of effort brings the goal of diving in the water closer. All along the way the diver envisions himself being successful.

All Christians should set a goal to evangelize. Matthew 28:18-20 gives the words of Jesus to the apostles. He tells them to go, make disciples, baptize, and teach. Those becoming disciples were expected to grow in the Word (I Peter 2:2). Thus, the gospel would grow by the preaching of man (I Corinthians 1:21). However, men then and now need to climb the rungs of study (2 Timothy 2:15). Before they begin to lead others, they need to know the path themselves (Ephesians 6:13-15, Psalm 119:105). When the rungs of the Word have been climbed, the Christian is prepared to evangelize.

All Eyes are Watching – Expectation

Once an individual has climbed the ladder of the high dive, climbed the hill to the cliff, or walked to the middle of the bridge, *(Continued on last page)*

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS.
Please fill out a white visitor card, including your mailing address and email address, and drop it in the collection plate. We are so glad we can worship together today.

Communion Sign-Up Sheet – There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for those who are able to help take communion to our shut-ins.

We Need Your Help – Please take a moment to look around you and see if someone is missing. If you notice someone, please check on them or let somebody else know. Thanks!

Food Committee – The sign-up sheet for the food committee bookkeepers for 2020 is on the board. We need ladies to please sign-up for this new year.

Ford's Madden Christian Academy – Today is the last day to help with the school supply drive. Monetary donations are welcome. If you haven't helped yet and would like to help with this, you can give a donation to Jeff Belisle.

Lads to Leaders

- Dates and deadlines for L2L are posted on the bulletin board.
- If you are going to the L2L convention you need to sign up for your hotel room. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Car Stickers! – We are going to be ordering stickers to put on the back windows of our cars (or wherever). This is an easy way to support and make others aware of the church. They will be laminated and made weather and fade resistant. The cost is \$4.00 per sticker. If you would like stickers, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board and indicate how many you would like. The picture on the sign-up sheet shows the sticker and is the actual size that the sticker will be.

Care Groups – Care group **B** meets today.

Please Continue to Pray for:

Cancer: Betty Hyde, Phyllis Sanders, Karen McDowell, Margaret Turner, Rex Wynn, Margaret Joyner, Wayne Johnson, Richard Fry, Hope Whetherford, Bill Cargle, Doug Rains, Joe Swearingen, Brian Cunningham, Robert Blackstock (a friend of Greg Matlock), Charlotte Loggains (LaBriska Blow's mother), Larry White (a friend of Greg Matlock), Angela Henry (Nancy Curtis's niece), George Smith (brother of Brenda Travis), Hayes Wakefield (a friend of Cindy Lumpkin), Marsha Hatley, Jace Jones (a friend of William Holder), Jimmy and JoAnn Arnold (friends of Tracy Tolley), Darlene Tunnel (Dwayne Robinson's sister), Cindy Lomax (a friend of Mike Wilson), Wendell Cary (member at Westport congregation), Lisa Lowry (a co-worker of Michelle Ballard), Bryant Allen (Michelle Ballard's brother), Loman Ballard (Stacy's father), Becky Orr (John Taylor's Aunt), and Lora Pettigrew (Glenda Sparks' aunt).

Others: Elton Hatley, Luke Crossett, Joan Ballard, Eva Maiden, Dorothy Redden, Curry and Christian Montague, Tarry Stockdale, Jewel Hatley, Susie Brackins, Tracy Tolley, Linda Hams, Tammy DeBruce, Lynn White, Lisa Haynie, Marvin Phipps, Vickie Cox, Shirley Overby (a friend of Greg Matlock), Ann Dinkins (Angela Hick's mom), Janet Holland (friend of Rebecca Whitfield), Dorothy and Pete Chappell, Johnny (Susie Brackins' brother), Rita Hatler, Brad Carman (brother in law of Karen Lynch and Judy Hensley), David Taylor, Larry Fisher (Jana Ulderich's step-father), an anonymous friend of David Ulderich (brain aneurism), Walter Bryant (a friend of Ross Cole), Tommy Hams (the brother-in-law of Greg Matlock), Beau Griffin, Chesney Bell, Louise Holder (Jim's mom), Russell Holmes, Aaron Roberts (a friend of Garrett Todd and Shawn McDowell), Donnie Cuthbertson (a friend of Ross Cole), Bonnie Fleischman (Georgia Lashlee's daughter), Wendell Cary (a member at Westport), Jeff Homan (a nephew of Emma and John Dawson), Brian Melton (a friend of John and Cindy Lumpkin), Buddie Webb, C. H. Hardin, David Nowlin (a friend of Joan Phillips), Jessie Robinson, Danny Hardin, Larry Yarbrow (Grandfather of Mark and John Yarbrow), and Thomas Little (a friend's grandson of Wanda Horner and Marge Phillips).

Sympathy: To the family of Frank Atkinson (Joan Phillips' uncle).

Military: Mallory Pratt Triplett, US Marine Corp; Joshua Melton, US Marine Corp; Austin Riley, US Navy

Special Donations

- Given to the building fund in memory of **F.B. Cain** by m/m Thomas Ray Townsend.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **F.B. Cain** by m/m Bill Jarnagin.
- Given to the youth fund in memory of **F.B. Cain** by Barbara Thompson.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **F.B. Cain** by Anita Boyd.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Pearl Laux** by Mark Keene.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Pearl Laux** by m/m Wesley P Arabie.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Cathy Olson** by Anita Boyd.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Danny Pratt** by Anita Boyd.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Danny Pratt** by m/m Bill Jarnagin.

Our caring remembrances are gratefully appreciated by the families and by the church.

Most Recent Prayer Requests

- **Karen McDowell**, Shawn McDowell's mother, is under Hospice care.
- **Ray Frazee** and **family** need our prayers.
- **Mary Margaret Ulderich's** surgery went well and she is recovering from home.
- **Sue Bell** is going to be starting Physical therapy with Home Health.
- **C.H. Hardin** is at Jackson Madison General Hospital (room A430). He has started dialysis and may begin physical therapy soon. He is having a difficult time with his dialysis.
- **Charles Wyatt**, Dan's father, is still at HCMC and in need of prayers (no visitors please).
- **David** and **Kaylin Belisle's** house burned down last Sunday evening.
- **Mattie Walker** has pneumonia (no calls or visits right now, please. She needs rest).
- **Betsy Kee**, Bill Kee's wife, had a heart attack and was air-lifted to Centennial Hospital.

FROM THE ELDERS

The elders welcome all newcomers. If you would like to be identified as a member here or if you have not had the opportunity to meet the eldership, we would like to meet with you briefly to introduce ourselves and to explain our position on certain issues and matters of doctrine.

NEXT WEEK January 12, 2020

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

Morning Prayers

Mike Wilson
Wesley Sparks

Evening Prayers

Ronnie Grimes
Jeff Belisle

To Serve at the Lord's Table

Dennis Richardson	Daniel Richardson
Doug Phipps	Adam Blackburn
Jeff Crossett	Greg Matlock
Ronnie Grimes	Wesley Sparks

Alternates

Tim Plunk, Tell Laux, C.J. Baker
(Nursery)

Evening Communion

Garrett Todd Paul Ulderich

Door Greeters

North	Britt and Sherry Johnson
South	Cecil and Debra Bates

If unable to serve, please tell William Blow.

FOR THE RECORD *Week of December 29, 2019*

Sunday School	108
Sunday Morning Worship	170
Sunday Night Worship	110
Wednesday Night	107

(Continued from the front cover) there is expectation. Everyone takes notice of the steps the individual has taken. Something is supposed to happen. A bit of uneasiness may enter the divers mind about their decision, are they ready? Still who would climb the high dive and not fulfill the purpose of the journey?

When a Christian has prepared himself in the Word, he is expected to share the Word (2 Timothy 2:24). He is supposed to encourage, exhort, and admonish from the preparation of the Word (I Thessalonians 5:14). If the expectation is not fulfilled, then doubt is cast upon the individual. He doubts himself and others may doubt his faithfulness. It is at this point, the urge to give up is very present in the individual's mind. Yet, with the knowledge the Christian has studied to gain, how could he neglect such opportunity (Hebrews 2:3).

Stepping Out – Goodbye Comfort Zone

The diver now decides he will walk the board. He will step out away from the handrails. He will walk to the edge of the cliff. He will climb over the bridge railing. Sometimes, the biggest battle is just going to distance to the goal. Knees will shake, sweat will break out, but the feet keep moving and the diver is looking over the water. It seems counterintuitive to leave safety, but eagles can't fly if they don't leave the nest.

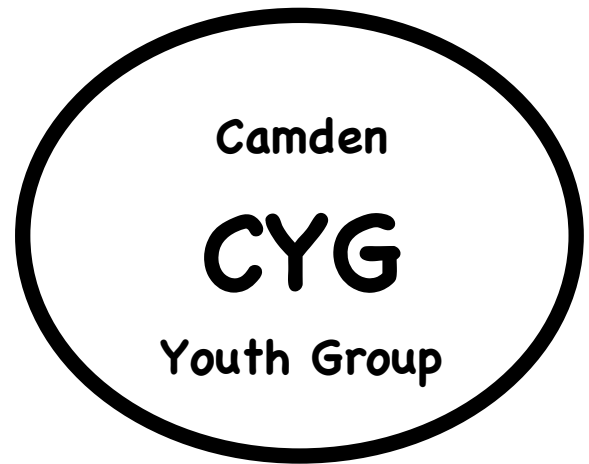
Many Christians face great fear leaving the confines of the Church building. How can they possibly go up to someone and share their faith? How can they walk down that long sidewalk to someone's door? They may drive the block five times first. Yet, they do eventually take the walk (Psalm 23). Their brain is worried about what will happen and their mouth is dry, but God has their back (Romans 8:31).

Standing on the edge – The Decision

Standing on the edge of the diving board, toes curled and hanging on tightly, the diver has a big decision. Many a first time diver has stood there for what seems like an eternity. How many below have watched and chanted for them to jump... or chanted "Billy Bob is a Chicken". This is the moment. This is decision time. Once you leave the board, you are committed. There is no turning back once your body commits to jump.

The Christian evangelizer has reached the door. Do they ring the bell? Do they knock? Do they just leave their flyers and run? Does the Christian trust his emotions or God (Hebrews 2:10-13)? Satan is hoping against the Christian. He wants the Christian to turn back. Yet, God has commanded. Will the Christian deny Christ (Matthew 10:33). Those who have chosen to suffer the life of a Christian are to commit themselves to God (I Peter 4:19).

To be Continued in Next Week's bulletin.



Monday, January 6th: 2nd Harvest Food Bank from 3:30-6

January 11th: Skating trip. All ages.

January 15th: CYC registration is due \$30

February 1st: Bowling and lasertag

February 8th: Hangout 6pm-10pm. 5th grade and up

Scripture Readers

January 5th AM Paul Ulderich

January 5th PM CJ Baker

January 8th Elijah Brewer

January 12th AM Cameron Ballard

January 12th PM Mike Wilson

January 15th Bill Jarnagin

January 19th AM Aden Hardin

January 19th PM John Dawson