

*The church of Christ at Luverne*

67 North Woodford Ave.  
Luverne, AL 36049  
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Luverne, AL  
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*Assembly Assignments for December, 2009*

**The Lord's Supper**

Robb Sanders / Zack Wilson / Joshua McCartha / Rodney McCartha

**Announcements**

Bob Williams

**Building Duties**

Dale Sanders

**Greeters**

Steven Frost  
John Frost

**Nursing Home Duties**

Jace Sanders  
Reed Kilcrease

**Lord's Supper Preparation**

Teresa Sanders

**Scripture Reading**

Andrew Moorer

*Privileged to Serve on December 13, 2009*

**Morning Prayer**

Dale Sanders (opening)  
Ronald Hilburn (closing)

**Evening Prayer**

Larry Hoffman (opening)  
Jim Johnson (closing)

**Song Leader**

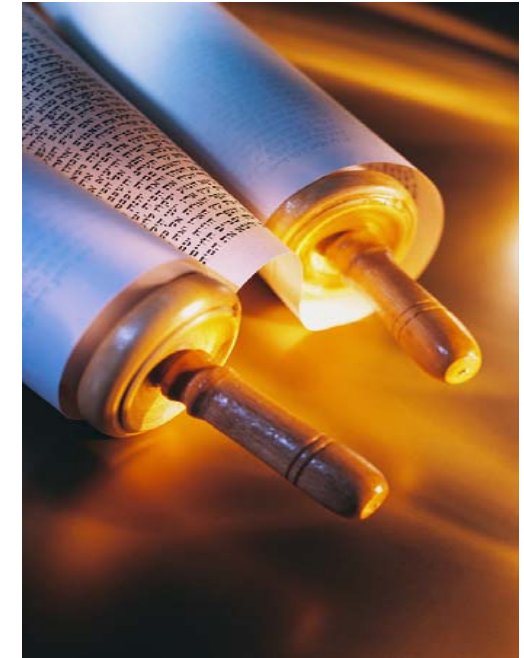
Ross Sanders

**A/V Equipment**

Russ Kilcrease

If you are unable to serve, please contact John Frost – 429-1114  
All announcements need to be written and turned in before each assembly!

# *The Messenger*



**Minister  
Keith Dixon**

**Services**

**Every Sunday**

Bible Study 9:30 AM  
Morning Worship 10:30 AM  
Evening Worship 5:00 PM

**Every Wednesday**

Bible Study 7:00 PM

*From*

## *The church of Christ at Luverne*

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## Who is the devil?

Could the devil be a fallen angel? "For God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment" (2 Peter 2:4). It could be that pride was the sin that caused this fall. Listen, "Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil" (1 Timothy 3:6).

Could the devil be a serpent? "Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden" (Genesis 3:1). "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Revelation 12:9). "But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ" (2 Corinthians 11:3).

Could the devil be a lion? "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

Is the devil a father? "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it" (John 8:44)

Could the devil be other people? "But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men" (Matthew 16:23). "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness: whose end shall be according to their works" (2 Corinthians 11:14-15). "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Matthew 7:15).

Could it be that the devil is a discourager of young Christians? Acts 5:1-11 tells of a husband and wife who were trying to impress someone but in the end all knew their lie. Do you think that the devil was trying to use this event to discourage the young Christians from doing their work that God requires of them? It did not have its desired effect if that is the case, notice carefully verse 11, "And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things."

Could it be that the devil also uses natural events? As Paul was on his voyage to Rome, it was the time of year when it was dangerous to travel. Paul told the captain and the owner of the ship that this was so, but the decision was made to travel on. When the storm came upon them and had lasted fourteen days, Paul encourages all the people on board the ship. Why was it that they needed encouraging? Could it be that the devil was trying to get at Paul through these events? The Lord would not allow that to happen, and we can not let the devil get advantage of us; we must remain strong. 2 Corinthians 2:11 tells us, "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices." The devil will use any way he can to discourage Christians, young and older, to leave the faith. We cannot let that happen

Now let us consider that the devil can take many forms: animals, people and events and try to discourage every member here, we cannot let that happen. If the devil wins; we lose. Therefore remain encouraged!

Love, Keith



## In Our Prayers

- Alan Bagents – home from the hospital
- Shelley Baker – MS
- Lynn Beasley – chemotherapy
- Lance Brooks – brain tumor
- Linda Daniels – open heart surgery 12-7-09
- Sam Goodwin – broken back; in Huntsville
- Joe Griffin – general health
- Bobbie Sue Henderson – cancer
- Tracy Holzmon – baby born 12-4 – 2 months early; both doing better
- Cecil Kelley – COPD; general health
- Chris Kyser – health problems
- Ray Langford – in rehab following heart surgery
- J. T. Owens – lung cancer
- Gustavo Ramirez – benign brain tumor; Noël's nephew

### In Luverne Nursing Facility:

Margaret Hall Allene Mount Edwina Rolling

- *Pray for all those who have lost loved ones.*

- *Pray for soldiers overseas:*

- *Pray for missionaries, for leaders, for our congregation, and for our efforts to carry out God's will*

### "Where Everybody Is Somebody"

Legendary Grambling football coach Eddie Robinson was known for the care that he had for each player on his team. When Grambling built a new stadium they placed a huge marker at the entrance which read: Robinson Stadium: "Where Everybody Is Somebody."

Of course, spiritually speaking, the church is a place where everybody is somebody. There are no unimportant members of the body of Christ. The foot, the hand, the eye, and the ear are all important (1 Cor. 12:12-27). In His infinite wisdom God "tempered the body

together...that there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another" (1 Cor. 12:24-25). In other words, everybody is somebody.

In the body of Christ, there is "neither Jew nor Greek...bond nor free...male nor female" (Gal. 3:28) Every person enters the body the same way – by being baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:26-27). We all share the same noble birth (1 Cor. 12:13) and wear the same "worthy name" (James 2:7). None of us wears a name above another. We each wear simply the name "Christian" (Acts 11:26).

In addition to the same birth, every person in the body has been purchased at the same price – the precious blood of Christ (1 Cor. 6:20; 1 Peter 1:18-19). None of us is worth more than another. The price of redemption was the same for each of us. Each brother is somebody because Christ died for him (Romans 14:15).

Sadly, our world often values people differently. Some are deemed important, while others are seen as unimportant. Thankfully, such is not the case in the church. In the church, everybody is somebody. This distinctive trait goes back to Christ, the Founder and the Head of the church (Eph. 1:22-23). As you recall, everybody was somebody with Him – even publicans and sinners (Matthew 9:10-11). Wade Webster, Southhaven church of Christ, Southhaven, MS Copied from Opp's *Friendly Visitor*, 12-6-09

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Everyone is invited and encouraged to bring your favorite finger foods and remain following worship on Sunday night, **December 20**, for a time of **fellowship**.

Everyone is also encouraged to come at 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon, December 20<sup>th</sup>, to go to the nursing home to deliver the packages that have been prepared and to sing songs.