

*The church of Christ at Luverne*  
67 North Woodford Ave.  
Luverne, AL 36049  
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**Luverne, AL**  
**Permit # 28**

### *Assembly Assignments for March, 2009*

#### **The Lord's Supper**

Andrew Moorer / Isaac Sanders / John Frost / Jim Johnson

#### **Announcements**

Dale Sanders

#### **Building Duties**

Steve Sanders

#### **Greeters**

Steve Sanders  
Darrin Sanders

#### **Nursing Home Duties**

Jace Sanders  
Robb Sanders

#### **Lord's Supper Preparation**

Jean Sims

#### **Scripture Reading**

Reed Kilcrease

### *Privileged to Serve on March 8, 2009*

#### **Morning Prayer**

J. W Furr (opening)  
Josh McCartha (closing)

#### **Evening Prayer**

Dale Sanders (opening)  
Reed Kilcrease (closing)

#### **Song Leader**

Danny Rolling

#### **A/V Equipment**

Jace Sanders

All announcements need to be written and turned in before each assembly!

# *The Messenger*



*From*

## *The church of Christ at Luverne*

67 North Woodford Avenue  
Luverne, Al. 36049  
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#### **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

## Imitators of God

By Gene Taylor (Copied from *Church Bulletin Articles*)

Christianity is not some type of unattainable ideal but one which is both attainable and practical. In Ephesians 5:1 Christians as “dear children” and are urged to imitate their Father. When people become children of God, there should be a change in the way they live. Ephesians 5: 2-13 addresses this subject. From them Christians can learn how to “be imitators of God.”

**WALK IN LOVE (Ephesians 5:2):** One’s “walk” is their manner of life. Christians should be characterized as loving individuals. The standard for the Christian’s love is Christ (John 13:34-35). He should love as Christ loved, sacrificially (Eph.5:25). This is the principle of esteeming others before self (Phil.2:3-8).

**REJECT MORAL IMPURITY (Ephesians 5:3-5)** Similar warnings are found in Galatians 5:19-21 and I Corinthians 6:9-11. In the moral quagmire of our time, Christians must stand up for the morality of God. For to reject God’s standard is to reject God. Immoral acts should “not even be named” among Christians (v.3). This includes rejecting covetousness for it is also immoral. The Christian must not be consumed with “things (Luke 12:15) but must rather put them in proper perspective (Matt 6:33). It also includes “filthiness” and “foolish talking.” Christians must be careful of what they say and how they say it (James 1:26; 3:2). Words reveal what is in the heart (Matt. 12:34). God’s children must always speak properly (Eph. 4:29; Col. 4:6)

**GUARD AGAINST FALSE TEACHING (Ephesians 5:6-7)** Every New Testament writer warns of false teachers (cf. Matt. 7:15; 2 Peter 2:1; 1 John 4:1). The only possible solution to the problem of false teaching is the Word of God, the Truth (John 8:32; 17:17). The only way to be imitators of God is to know and obey the Truth. Sadly, that is not always the case even among those who claim to be God’s people (Gal. 4:16). Only obedience to the Truth of the gospel will purify one’s soul (1 Peter 1:22). Christians must continually strive to obey and practice God’s word and let no one deceive them.

**BE A LIGHT IN A WORLD OF DARKNESS (Ephesians 5: 8-3)** God draws a clear line between good and evil, light and darkness, His children and the children of the devil (Col. 1:13; 1 Peter 2:9). Because He has delivered Christians from Satan’s darkness, they must live with Him in light, their lives showing His light (Matt. 5:14). To be like God, one must walk in the light (John 8:12; 1 John 1:5-7). Those who belong to God must “have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness” (v. 11). If they are children of God, they belong to the light (1 Thes. 5:5-6) and their lives should reflect it.

**CONCLUSION:** Verse 14 provides the closing admonition to the text: “Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” Life without Christ is a spiritual stupor for it is Christ who motivates and energizes one’s life (Rom. 6:4; Eph. 2:1). Certainly one who claims to wear the name of Christ ought to awaken and live for Him and by His word. Because they are His children, Christians must let their lives reflect that glorious and sacred relationship. They must be “imitators of God as dear children.”



## In Our Prayers

- Rita Blakeman – pain from disk deterioration; fall
  - Ruby Bush- cardio version ( heart shock) on 3-10-09
  - Doug Brown – cancer treatments
  - Marie Clemmons – nursing home; rehab for broken hip
  - Joe Griffin – general health
  - Hayden Helms – ear surgery on 3-13-09
  - Ken Helms – cataract surgery on 3-4-09
  - Bobbie Sue Henderson – cancer
  - Cecil Kelley – COPD; general health
  - Chris Kyser – a little better, still serious condition
  - Rita Lewis – cancer; kidney removed
  - Maggie Marshall – to be able to have trac removed soon
  - J. T. Owens – lung cancer
  - Teresa Parker – health problems
  - Weaver Robinson – problems with his legs
  - Lindsay Turner – continuing recovery
- In Luverne Nursing Facility:**
- Frances Burgans Margaret Hall Allene Mount
  - Fanny Nichols Charles Phillips Edwina Rolling
- *Pray for those who have lost loved ones.*
  - *Pray for soldiers overseas.*
- Kevin Singleton*
- *Pray for missionaries, for leaders, for our congregation, and for our efforts to carry out God's will.*

### "I Saw Jesus Today."

Copied

\*He was wearing blue jeans and an old shirt. He was up at the church building; He was alone and working hard. For just a minute he looked a little like one of our church members. But it was Jesus, I could tell by his smile.

\*I saw Jesus last Sunday. He was teaching a Bible class. He didn't talk real loud or use long words, But you could tell he believed what he said. For just a minute, he looked like my Sunday School teacher. But it was Jesus, I could tell by his loving voice.

\*I saw Jesus yesterday. He was at the hospital visiting a friend who was sick. They prayed together quietly. For just a minute he looked like our minister. But it was Jesus, I could tell by the tears in his eyes.

\*I saw Jesus this morning. He was in my kitchen making my breakfast. He then fixed me a special lunch to take with me. For just a minute he looked like my Mom. But it was Jesus. I could feel the love from his heart.

\*I saw Jesus today. He was praying on his knees all alone. He then began to cry for those he prayed for. For just a minute he looked like a lady from our church. But it was Jesus. I could see the compassion pouring out of his prayer.

I saw Jesus the other day. He was at the grocery store talking to a friend. He then put his arms around them to comfort them. For just a minute he looked like a young mother in our ladies class. But it was Jesus; I could see the concern for others who hurt.

\*I see Jesus everywhere, Taking food to the sick, welcoming others to his home, being friendly to a newcomer and for just a minute I think he's someone I know. But it's always Jesus; I can tell by the way he serves.

**\*Let someone see Jesus in you today.**

## Announcements

● **Gospel Meeting – Grady church of Christ – March 8-11, 2009.** Speaker will be **Byron Benson.**

● **Gospel Meeting – Cedar Grove church of Christ – March 8-12, 2009.** Speaker will be **Jerry Hodge.**

● **Men of Honor and Women of Virtue Day –** A day of learning about purity and spiritual growth for young men and women – **April 4, 2009, 9:00 – 3:00. Girls will start at Dalraida and guys will be at University.** Lunch and afternoon sessions will be combined.

● Men are encouraged to plan to remain **after services on March 8<sup>th</sup>** and participate in a **planning meeting.**

● **Congratulations to Benjamin Beasley and Stacy Williamson on their upcoming wedding.** There is a basket in the back of the auditorium to collect gifts. If you prefer to help on a gift card, you may do so by giving your money to sister Jean Sims.

● **Daylight Savings Time.** Turn clocks forward (Spring forward) one hour on Saturday night, March 7.