

# The Clinton Messenger

*Devoting ourselves to one another  
in brotherly love.*

*-- Romans 12:10*

Volume 59, Issue 5

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Clinton Church of Christ  
607 E. Clinton Street  
Clinton, Missouri 64735  
660.885.5824  
Minister: Nolan Rutter  
www.clintonchurchofchrist.org  
minister@clintonchurchofchrist.org

 Look for us on FaceBook!

Sunday Bible Study ..... 9:00 A.M.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening Services ..... 6:00 P.M.  
Monday Bible Study ..... 7:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 7:00 P.M.



## ELDERS

Alva Routh  
Don Ross  
Keith Carmichael

## DEACONS

Glen Austin  
*Congregational Development*  
Rick Hill  
*Treasurer/Finance*  
Barry Bullock  
*Benevolence*  
Kyle Adkins  
*Youth/Education and Worship*



*We love because  
he first loved us.*

*1 John 4:19*

**PRAYER**



**REQUESTS**

*The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much... James 5:16*

Bert Williams	Jerry Pickle	Gertrude Cox	Charles Lavigne
Leroy Long	Connie Austin	Tyler Matias	Debbie Espey family
Ronnie Brown	Frances Brown	Gary Andrews	Glen Austin
Joe Bock	Mike Johnson	Roger Clevenger	Tyler Bennink
Pat Gunter	Beulahmae Hook	Nona Shadday	Marilyn Baugh
Jimmy Brown	Beverly Breedlove	Erlene Nall**	Melvin Hook family
Amanda Schafer**	Sherry Burres**	Mary Pugh	Katherine McCoy
Rene LaVigne**	Charles LaVigne	Leo Debold**	Rick House**

**TRAVELING THIS WEEK... Theresa Young**

Our Elders/Deacons      Namikango Mission      Fair Haven Children's Home      GV Door of Hope  
 Reaching & Teaching South African Missions

*THOSE Serving...*

	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
Announcements	Rick Hill	Rick Hill
AM Song Leader	Kyle Adkins	Keith Carmichael
Opening Prayer	Nolan Rutter	Don Ross
Closing Prayer	Caleb Bullock	Karl Austin
<b>Lord's Table Lead</b>	Don Ross	Kyle Adkins
<b>Lord's Table Assist</b>	Kendal Carmichael	Sean Langston
<b>Lord's Table Assist</b>	Wayne Nance	Alva Routh
PM Song Leader	Kyle Adkins	Keith Carmichael
Opening Prayer	Joshua Bullock	Wayne Nance
Closing Prayer	Sean Langston	Tony Boyd
PM Speaker	Nolan Rutter	Nolan Rutter
Wed. Opening Prayer	Rick Hill	Sean Langston
Wed. Closing Prayer	Barry Bullock	Kyle Adkins

*"Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant and praise is becoming." Psalm 147:1 - NASU Welcome to worship, as we join our voices in song.*

- We rejoice with our Sister Reta House as she shares with us that her husband Rick was recently baptized into Christ! Many prayers were answered

- Sister Sherry Austin has begun the preparations for the Relay for Life garage sale fundraiser to be held in April. Now is a good time **to do some 'winter' cleaning and if you have items you would like to donate, bring them by the building.** We have a room designated to hold those items. The Kickoff meeting for

**team captains will be Feb 24th... If you are in-**

interested in participating in Relay For Life (Cancer Walk) 2012 please signup on the clip board in the foyer.

- Sister Stephanie Bock will be filling the photo gaps we have for the Family Board and the new directory. **She will be set up on Feb 12th & 19th... Please help us by being available for your pic!**

## Coaching And Preaching

By Bill Denton

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. — Hebrews 12:1-2, NASB95

*Players gathering for the first day of basketball practice at UCLA were full of anticipation. They*

*wondered how their coach, John Wooden, would set the tone for the long season to come. They didn't have to wait long.*

*Veterans knew what was coming. But first year players were no doubt perplexed by the initial lesson imparted by their Hall of Fame coach: He taught them how to put on a pair of socks. He did not teach this lesson only once, but before every game and practice. Why?*

*Wooden discovered many players didn't properly smooth out wrinkles in the socks around their heels and little toes. If left uncorrected, these wrinkles could cause blisters that could hamper their performance at crucial times during games. Many players thought the practice odd and laughed about it then. Wooden knows some of them still laugh about it today. But the coach would not compromise on this basic fundamental principle: "I stuck to it. I believed in that, and I insisted on it."*

*- Dean, Griffith, Indiana; source: [espn.go.com/page2/s/questions/wooden](http://espn.go.com/page2/s/questions/wooden)*

Over the years, I have discovered that preaching and coaching have a lot in common. Coaches instruct, train, develop, encourage, motivate and prepare players to compete in their sport. Preachers do the same kind of things.

A lot of preaching is instruction. **We teach people what God's word says, and what it means.** We train people to live positive, productive lives, and help them develop their own particular ways of effectively serving the Lord. We encourage those who become discouraged, or who have never found the strength to launch past hiding in the crowd. We motivate people to learn, grow, mature, and serve. We prepare people for life and beyond. **When you stop to think about it, it's really a daunting task, and requires much more than most people ever know.**

This is why the illustration above from the coaching career of John Wooden resonates with me. Coach Wooden began with how to put on your socks. I suspect he checked on this little aspect of sports life more often than his players were aware. Good coaches know that the little things count.

In spiritual realm, there are very few truly little things, but there are some things that are so basic, so fundamental, that unless we take the time to get this right, little else will develop properly.

For example, some might question why I keep preaching about Jesus and about our need to be his disciples. **Shouldn't we get on to more important things? Aren't there more pressing issues to deal with, things that are critical issues for today's church?** No doubt there are a lot of things for us to address. **I've learned in more than 35 years of preaching: you never get around to dealing with all the issues.** There are just too many! Preach on one, and two more pop up. You can literally spin your **wheels and get nowhere by focusing on today's popular topics. Don't misunderstand. It's not that we should never deal with them in sermons. It's that there are some things you can't dispense with.**

So, coach Wooden insured his player put on their socks properly. I keep talking about Jesus and being his disciple. Why? Because the basics are at the ground floor of everything else. A basketball **player's healthy feet make it possible for him to develop his skills and play a great game.** A Christian who knows Jesus, keeps learning about Jesus, grows to be like Jesus, keeps his eyes on Jesus, finds new and exciting ways to make Jesus a part of daily life – **that's somebody who is going to do just fine with whatever he or she faces today, tomorrow or next year.**

So, I make no apologies for preaching Jesus over and over. I worry about the people who seem **bored with Him, or who think we've got more important things to talk about.** They are wrong! **Work on being like Jesus and you'll be amazed at how many other things work out well.**

## Simple evangelism...

A moving van is a symbol of opportunity for any active and alert church member. When a new family moves into your neighborhood or community, you can render helpful Christian service in these ways:

1. Get acquainted as soon as possible. Take the first step by introducing yourself and your family.
2. Extend warm and courteous friendship. Take them some food, or just ask if they need some help with anything.
3. Offer to answer any questions they may have about the community or neighborhood. Recommend your favorite place to eat or to grocery shop.
4. Introduce your new friends to your other friends.
5. Demonstrate an enthusiasm for Christ and His church.
6. Tell them about your congregation, its ministries, programs and group activities.
7. Give the names of your new neighbors to your elders, minister or church office for follow-up.



### *WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!!*

- Monday - 7:00 PM at the Rutter Home (Book of James)
- Wednesday Ladies Class - 10:00 AM at the ACT II Hair Port in Lowry City
- Wednesday Mid-week Bible study - 7:00 pm