

News & Notes

Sunday, December 30, 2007

Remember in Prayer: Daryl Alberson; Francis Alberson; Steve Alberson; Tommy Alberson; Francis Bennett; Vikie Cobb; Melba Cox; Lettie Mae Hunt; Charles Johnson; Dot Ketchum; Sam Kidd; David Lipe; Michael Lumkins; James Luna; John and Deliah Mann; Diane Mize; Kelly Parker; Ann Ray; Ruth Ross; Katherine Shaw; Chris Spence; Jamie Spence; Jon Street; Ron Tega; Calvin Ursery; Luther Williams; Alvie Williford;

Sympathy is extended to the family of Brian Cossett.

Pantry item for the month of December is Ketchup.

The newest edition of **House to House/Heart to Heart** is available in the foyer for those not on the mailing list;

Ashland Events: Tomorrow: New Year's Eve get-together in the dining hall; January 19: Ashland Youth Rally at 9:30 AM;

Sermon in Preview:

AM: Guest Speaker: James Horton

PM: Last-Sunday-of-the-month Singing

For the Record (December 23, 2007):

Attendance: 86 Contribution: \$1351.00 Budget: \$1326.00

The Ashland Church of Christ

P. O. Box 25
Ashland, MS 38603-0025

www.ashlandcoc.org

acoc@ashlandcoc.org

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 AM

Worship 10:30 AM

Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Shepherds:

Barney King
Carrol Street

spreading the Good News
Ashland Announcer

"GO THEREFORE AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS..." (MATTHEW 28:19)

**“THEREFORE LET
US NOT JUDGE
ONE ANOTHER
ANYMORE, BUT
RATHER RESOLVE
THIS, NOT TO PUT
A STUMBLING
BLOCK OR A CAUSE
TO FALL IN OUR
BROTHER’S WAY”**

-ROMANS 14:13

FALLACIES ABOUT SINGING

Roger D. Campbell

When it comes to singing songs of praise to the Lord God, our concepts of such need to be based on the teaching of the New Testament. Sometimes, though, when it comes to singing in worship, Christians accept ideas that simply are not true. Since such fallacies often influence the mindset and actions of others, we need to be aware of their danger.

A common fallacy about spiritual songs is that it does not matter *what* we sing, as long as we are sincere when we sing it. While it is true that our worship must come from a sincere heart (John 4:23,24), the Bible also says that when we sing, we teach others (Colossians 3:16). It is just as wrong to *sing* a falsehood as it is to *preach* one. The content of every song that we sing needs to harmonize with the Bible.

A second fallacy about singing is that if I am convinced that I do not have what humans would count as "a good singing voice," then I am relieved of my responsibility to sing. The message of Ephesians 5:19 is for every child of God: "*Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*" Those members of the church who

refuse to sing should seriously consider what the Master said: "*Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?*" (Luke 6:46).

A third fallacy which some have is that it is cool to sing without using a songbook, even if you do not know the words to the song. All saints of God are instructed to sing, and by such singing we admonish one another (Colossians 3:16). When I do not sing along because I do not know the words, obviously I am not doing any admonishing, am I? What if everyone in the entire congregation followed the same practice of not looking at the songbook during the singing? We would surely have some "dead time" in the middle of certain songs - that would not be much admonition, would it? If one thinks it is childish to use a songbook, he needs to be reminded that singing praises is a spiritual activity that is supposed to come from a heart that wants to honor the Creator, not look macho in the eyes of our peers.

A fourth fallacy about singing is that if the song leader leads more than one verse of a closing song (or *all* the verses of a "regular" song), that makes worship too long and is an infringement on my personal free time. Bless your heart, unless the elders decide otherwise, it is the song leader's prerogative to decide how many verses of each song will be sung. I personally love singing the "extra" verses.