

# Second Street Church of Christ



January 8, 2017

## MINISTER

Adam Cozort

662-663-0231

## Office

662-454-9429

P.O. Box 126  
Belmont, Ms. 38827

Website:  
secondstreetcofc.com



## SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am  
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am  
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm  
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

***Endeavoring to keep  
the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:3***

## Inspiring Awe

When is the last time you sat back and meditated on the grandeur of God? For various reasons, we often lose sight of just how incredible God is. I am convinced that our eyes need to be frequently reopened to the greatness of God. One way to accomplish this is to bask in the wonders of God's creation (Gen. 1; Ps. 33:6-9; 135:1-9; Heb. 11:3).

Scripture itself upholds the idea that there are two sources of divine revelation. The Bible, of course, is one; creation is the other. In Psalm 19:1-3, we read: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world" (cf. Rom. 1:19-20). God's people recognize that the reality of creation does, in fact, reveal the grandeur of God.

So, what might we point to in creation in an effort to inspire awe in our hearts? I have discovered that a consideration of the universe is one of the best ways to accomplish this.

*Day to day pours out  
speech, and night to night  
reveals knowledge.*

- ⇒ Our planet hurtles through space a total of 93,205,679 miles every single year. That's well over 255,000 miles a day or 10,625 miles per hour. What's more? Earth travels this distance every day while spinning at a rate of 1,000 miles per hour.
- ⇒ If Jupiter were not in its current orbit, Earth would be bombarded with space material. It acts as a sort of cosmic vacuum cleaner on our behalf, preventing global havoc.
- ⇒ The average distance between Earth and the sun is 93 million miles. It's amazing that we can even see the sun in our sky. This should give you an indication

*(Continued on page 2)*

## *Announcements*

**Welcome Visitors!!** You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

**The sign-up sheet** to host a singing and fellowship night is posted on the board in the foyer.

**Clothing Drive Continues** - See Debra Wren if you have any clothes to bring.

**Scripture and Song** and fellowship meal tonight. If you are visiting with us please stay!

**BE THINKING** about helping out with teaching a class in 2017. The time is drawing near to change out teachers. When several people help out, it helps ease the task for all the teachers.



*Opportunity may  
only knock once, but  
temptation will  
bang on the door for  
years.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

of how big the sun is. If that doesn't amaze you, think about the fact that it would take over one million Earths to fill up the sun.

⇒ Our solar system is only the beginning of what is out there. The sun is a star, but it's not the only star. There are at least 100 billion stars in our galaxy alone. To give you an idea of how big our galaxy is, consider that it would take a spacecraft traveling at the speed of light (i.e. 186,000 miles per second) nearly 100,000 years to traverse our entire galaxy.

To this list you could obviously add so much more. In fact, I would suggest that you do some research on a particular image that the NASA guys refer to as the "Hubble Ultra Deep Field." Prepare to have your mind blown.

While the universe itself is awe-inspiring, it obviously doesn't hold a candle to the One who created it. In Isaiah 40:25-26, we read: "To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing."

John Glenn was 77 years old when he got to fly with the Space Shuttle Discovery. He looked out the window of that shuttle at space, and he said, "To look out at this kind of creation and not to believe in God is, to me, impossible." That's true, but there's more. One can't look at that kind of creation and not be overwhelmed by the grandeur and glory of God.

*Jacob Evans*

*PULASKI STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Lawrenceburg, Tn.*

# The other grace

This week a student dropped a Thank You card by my office.

I'll live on that for a month!

It was an act of grace by a young person more mature than her years. Students have no idea how much such a gesture means to a teacher. Expressing gratitude is an act as graceful as a tree swaying in the wind or an athlete swooping in to catch a ball.

Most readers will know the more usual New Testament concept of grace, the unmerited favor granted so continually by God to us: We have been saved “by grace through faith,” Paul reminds us, “not a result of works, so that no one may boast” (Ephesians 2:8,9). Have you ever considered, another use of the term grace, one that refers to the manner in which we treat each other?



***“Let your speech always be gracious,” we are urged, “seasoned with salt,”***

Giving generously to those in need is an “act of grace” (2 Corinthians 8:6,7, the same word as God’s grace, from *charis*). In fact, Paul suggests, we should graciously excel in “faith,” “knowledge,” “love,” and in the way we give to others. When you think about it, it is possible to give to others in an ungracious manner, a means of doing the right thing (being generous) in the wrong way (flippantly, unkindly). “Here’s the food you asked for, you lazy so-and-so!” It is possible to not say these precise words yet indicate it in our manner. That would be an example of being ungracious.

Think how words can be used with grace: “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may *give grace* to those who hear” (Ephesians 4:29). Words that “build others up” are in contrast with cutting, hurtful remarks. Words that “fit the occasion” suggest speaking the right thing at the right time. Words that “give grace to those who hear” brings to mind words that are loving, that teach, that encourage. That is what it means to be graceful with our words!

“Let your speech always be gracious,” we are urged, “seasoned with salt,” (Colossians 4:6). In ancient times salt was used to preserve meat or fish. So can our gracious words preserve vulnerable hearts, if we will let them.

What impressed Jesus’ skeptical townsmen most when he returned to Nazareth? They “marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth” (Luke 4:22). Jesus was a man characterized not only by grace toward sinners, but gracefulness in the way he handled people and the way he expressed his words.

May I, gracefully, make some suggestions?

- It’s so simple: Say please and thank you.
- Graciously greet someone who is not in your demographic group, who is not your close friend. Greet a visitor to church, a child, or an old person.
- Thank those who lead (or serve) with so little gratitude expressed (preachers, elders, parents, teachers).
- For those in leadership, think how much an encouraging word from you might be to those you lead – students, church members, parents. Students and church members wither or flourish according to our gracious leadership.
- If you must say something critical, couch it in terms of loving support. “Getting things off your chest” is not “truth telling,” its as graceful as a wounded buffalo!

Being gracious is how we behave when we have been the beneficiaries of God’s great grace.

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

**Bible Study**      **9:00am**  
**Worship**         **10:00am**  
**Evening**          **5:00pm**

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**      **7:00pm**

---

Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*  
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

**Psalms 133:1**

### Prayer List

Paula Wanner	Dianne Vandagriff
Joey Pierce	Faye Johnson
Phillip Pharr	Elizabeth Posey
Stephanie Moore	Fred Webb
Larry Sartain	Flora Wanner
Jennifer Steger	Carolyn Holcomb
Lou Dodson	Shane Stevens
Mike Braden	Lynn Sander
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
Debra Brewer	David James
Jimmy Searcy	Aletha Ray
Brenda Leatherwood	



The process for becoming a Christian is the same as it was over 2000 years ago! To become a Christian, one must:

*Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17*

*Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6*

*Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3*

*Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10*

*Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38*

*Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10*

None of these alone will make you a Christian. These commands are from God and must be obeyed from the heart to become a Christian.



### January Birthdays

**Bonnie Holcomb 1/1**

**Debra Searcy 1/10**

**Doris Vandagriff 1/17**

### January Anniversaries

**Debra & Jerry 1/2**

*Sympathy*

*Cannon Family*