

The Cross & Steeple



www.collinsvillebaptistchurch.com
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June 2013

From John

It's where I learned to swim.

That's what I told my children about Anna Maria Island. The place where we are all gathering later this week for a vacation. It is the same place where my family went for ten to twelve years in the 50's and 60's. And my children have never been there. In fact, I have only been there once since I was about 14, and that was close to 35 years ago (for a Collinsville Baptist retreat).

But it is where I went with my family for two weeks every summer during my growing up years. Me, my parents, three sisters and grandmother. In one car. Usually another car went with my aunt and uncle and cousins. 800 miles. Usually no overnight motel. Close to 24 hours in the car. To Anna Maria Island, Florida. To the rental cottage waiting for us there.

You may have never heard of Anna Maria. But it was well worth the drive to us. What did we do there? Maybe go to a museum. Or a historical site. Or a drive in movie. Maybe fish off the pier. But mostly we went to the ocean. Daily schedule – eat breakfast, go to the beach for a few hours, back to the cottage for lunch, let food settle by reading or playing games, go to the beach for a few hours, back to the cottage for supper and reading and games. Repeat daily. And daily remind ourselves of what family is meant to be. (Which is what I hope and pray will also happen for my family this week.)

At the beach – castles, shells, walks, games. And especially the ocean. My daddy taught me how to swim there. And let me jump off his shoulders there. And threw me up in the air there – over and over into the water. Who can swim the farthest underwater? Who can swim the fastest?

A mask to hunt for shells on the floor of the ocean. An inner tube or air mattress to ride the waves. To surf them to the beach. I learned to really, really love the ocean.

My daddy taught me to always respect the ocean. To respect it by never, ever forgetting it is the ocean. And I still am at home in the water. I love to run into the ocean and jump into a wave. I love the feeling of body surfing on a big wave. Of being just on the edge of control. Even of having the wave slam me into the bottom and then coming up to coast to the beach.

But to always respect the ocean. To have the sense to back away when it is too dangerous. And maybe be afraid of it then. It is greater than me. And it is not a tame water park. It is the ocean.

My grandmother grew up a Tennessee farm girl. Never learned to swim. She loved the ocean. But only ankle deep. For fear she would be swept away. My mother loved the ocean. She mostly only did the side stroke swimming. Much to daddy's disgust. So she did not venture as far into the ocean.

Respect the ocean. I think that is kind of close to what the Bible means when it tells us to fear God. Realize that He is far beyond us, far greater than us. That there are times when His anger should frighten us. But mostly that we should always never, ever forget that He is God. And we are not.

And not be content to only go ankle deep with God. Or do the side stroke. But immerse ourselves with Him and in Him. To go ever deeper. Trusting Him. Loving Him. Until the day comes where we leave the beach and are called home to Him forever. That will be quite a wave to ride. All the way to heaven.

~ June 2013 ~

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | | | | | 1 Birthdays Cheryl Van Effen Lanie Eads |
| 2 Birthdays Susan Morgan Anniversaries Jack & Hortense Blanton | 3 Anniversaries Mike & Charlene Arthur | 4 | 5 Birthdays Bob Gese | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Lord's Supper Mark & Glenda Morgan Anniversaries Patricia & Tony Bartley | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Birthdays J.R. Bobo Elijah Morgan | 14 Birthdays Donny Jones | 15 Birthdays Tim Blanton Byron Gregg Dee Fortner |
| 16 Flowers Donzella Bobo Birthdays Mason McKinney Father's Day VBS | 17 Birthdays Monica Still Marty Borntrager VBS | 18 Anniversaries Jeff & Michelle White VBS | 19 Birthdays Anna Grace Carter VBS | 20 Birthdays Ryan Taylor Kristy Cleland Anniversaries Belle & Johnny Hamiter VBS | 21 Birthdays Richard Delk Kristina Garoutte VBS | 22 VBS |
| 23 | 24 Birthdays Stan Zulker | 25 | 26 Birthdays Marie Wilson Brenda Gembe Kevin Garoutte | 27 Anniversaries Margaret & Donnie Myers Dot & Gary Burke | 28 | 29 Birthdays Gail McReynolds Michelle - White |
| 30 Flowers Marilyn Borntrager | During the Summer: Remember lots of people are working on next year. Remember in your prayers, the Budget Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Stewardship Committee., the Music Council and the Deacons. | | | | | |



2013 GRADUATES

High School

1. Alexis Pope, Gilmer High School – granddaughter of Jo Ann Burton; parents are Angie and Steve Pope
2. Katie Dean, Fort Payne High School - granddaughter of Gloria Wright, parent is Jennifer Wright
3. Cameron Mackey, Sand Rock High School, Salutatorian, grandparents are Margaret and Donnie Myers; parents are Lance and Stacey Mackey
4. Will Hunt, Crossville High School, Valedictorian – grandparents are Jackie and Joanne Myers, parents are Suzanne and Harold Hunt
5. Chris Newsome, Plainview High School – son of Bo and Jan Newsome
6. C.J. (Christopher) Jones, Collinsville High School – son of Donny (Bear) Jones; grandparents are Donny and Judy Jones
7. Abby Gail Petty, Fort Payne High School – granddaughter of Ronnie and Gail McReynolds, parents are Mark & Beverly Petty

Elementary School

1. Christian Leath, Collinsville School, Sixth Grade, Class Officer – son of April Leath; grandparents are Cindy and Rex Leath
2. Erick Leath, Collinsville School, Sixth Grade, Co-Valedictorian – son of April Leath; grandparents are Cindy and Rex Leath

Kindergarten/Preschool

1. Christian Borntrager, Henagar Kindergarten – grandson of Marty and Marilyn Borntrager
2. Chase Godshall, Preschool – Grandson of Deb Redditt, son of Kevin and Stephanie Godshall
3. Avery Rhea Montpool, Kindergarten, Nolensville, TN granddaughter of Martha and Thomas Barksdale, daughter of Rhea and Andrew Montpool

College

1. Candis Cochran, Virginia College, Masters Degree – Granddaughter of Juanita Rogers
We are proud of all our graduates.

There has not been a year with this many names in a while. May God bless all of you.

Vacation Bible School

Under Construction
God's Building
June 16-22 Nightly
6:00-8:00



Sunday, June 16

Dear Church Family
We want you to know how much we appreciated the Dinner that was planned for our Anniversary, and I had to go and "blow the surprise" with winding up in the hospital. Would much rather have been with you. All of you are Special to us, and Thank-you for your Love and Prayers.....
Stan and Carol Zulker

Shocco Camps

1. July 12-13 Children's Choir Summit
Training for anyone involved with children's choirs
2. July 15-19 Mix 456 Music Camp
Grades 4-7 Fun, games, musical education

Fund Raising for the camps continues. Thank you for all of you who have made donations.

Covered Dish Dinner and Quarterly Ministry Meeting
Sunday, July 14 – Noon

Schools Start –

First Day for Students
August 19
Tentative Date for DeKalb and Fort Payne Schools

Community Revival

Sunday, September 8 –
Wednesday, September 11

Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
Wednesday nights 6:00 – 6:45.
In addition to prayer time we will have a devotion and a short Bible Study.

DeKalb County Emergency Management Agency Volunteers

If you would like to be listed as a volunteer for Dekalb County, please contact the church office for an enrollment form.
Volunteers are needed for cooking, food delivery, cleanup, chain saw, and other areas.

Walking Strong – A Devotion for Father’s Day

David R. Schmitt

When I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:10

Jesse “The Body” Ventura once body-slammed religious belief. “Religion is a sham and a crutch for weak-minded people,” he said. Later, he tried to clarify his remarks, but this former wrestler had put into words how our world wrestles with faith.

“Strong men don’t need religion. They make it on their own,” our world says. “People believe in God when they can’t handle the pressure. They reach out for some higher power and never develop the strength and stamina, the guts and determination needed to make it on their own.”

To oppose this view, some Christians celebrate strong men of faith. They put Samson in the ring with Jesse Ventura.

Billy Graham, however, took a different approach. When asked if Christianity was a crutch, Graham is said to have replied, “All of us limp.” Rather than hide from human weakness in a boast of manly strength, Graham stated the obvious truth; in some way, “all of us limp.”

It may be in your relationship with your son. After years of trying, you still can’t get break the silence. It may be at work, as personal conflicts prevent a fair evaluation of what you do. It may be an internal battle with recurrent bouts of depression, something you live with, yet never mention. What’s your limp?

To some, a limp means your wrestling days are over. But not to God. In fact, God himself calls people to follow, even with a limp.

Satan once claimed this world and all who live in it as his own. Yet Jesus came and fought for you. He fought to the death and rose victorious, claiming all those wounded by Satan as his own.

The apostle Paul could never forget the days he persecuted Christians. Yet memories of his sin only caused him to cling more strongly to God’s promises of grace.

This is the wrestling match of faith. Bruised and beaten, bleeding, exhausted, Paul rises and continues to fight. Not in his own strength but in the strength of God. “When I am weak, then I am strong,” he says. Even though he limps, he walks with God.

All of us walk with a limp. But we make our way forward, not with boasts and bravado, but by faith in the gracious strength of God.

Strong Savior, when I limp, draw to near to me, that I may walk with you. Amen.



The just man walketh in his integrity: his children are blessed after him.

Proverbs 20:7