



# Family Matters

January 31, 2010

[WWW.STARKVILLECHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.STARKVILLECHURCH.ORG)

**Starkville CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**1107 East Lee Blvd**  
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<p><b>Schedule of Services</b></p> <p><b>Sunday</b></p> <p><b>Bible Study 9:00 A.M.</b></p> <p><b>Worship Assembly 10:00 A.M.</b></p> <p><b>Evening Assembly 6:00 P.M.</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday Bible classes 7:00 P.M.</b></p> <p><b>Bible Classes for all ages</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Contact Elder for January</b>  <b>Bailey Howell</b></p>
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## Assignments

*Contact Elder for January*  
*Bailey Howell*

### **Assignments for Sunday, January 31**

**Greeters:** the Eglis and the Weinings

**Elder to Serve:** Dean Stewart

**Worship assembly:**

Head of Table	Isaac Howard
Serving	Jeffrey Jinkerson
Serving	Josh Bates
Serving	Wesley Thompson
Serving	Lynn Davis
First Prayer	Bascom Allen
Closing Prayer	John Weaver
Song Leader	Daniel Russell
Media Room	Reed Loden

**Nursery:** 10:00 A.M. Diane Jenkins and family  
 5:00 P.M. Attended with love

**Shepherds' Prayer:** Dean Stewart and Roger King

**January 24, 2010**

Bible Class	206
Worship Assembly	291
Combined*, evening worship	136
*including Life Groups	*
Previous Wednesday, Jan. 20	244

**Birthdays**

<i>Pat Sneed</i>	<i>Jan. 30</i>
<i>Amie Russell</i>	<i>Jan. 31</i>
<i>Kenton Coble</i>	<i>Feb. 2</i>
<i>Kim Orr</i>	<i>Feb. 3</i>
<i>Brian Roberts</i>	<i>Feb. 3</i>

<p><b>The Starkville Church of Christ</b>  <b>is a Christ-centered, Bible-based family</b>  <b>striving to be like Jesus and committed to</b>  <b>sharing Him with others.</b></p>
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## SHEPHERD'S PEN: Marriage Matters

Our church family is pretty diverse. We have U.S. students, international students, and those with lifelong residence in Starkville... single and married, married with children, and married without children. Some have children at home and some have "fledged the nest." Some of us are divorced, separated, or looking for a mate. We have couples married for a short time, and couples married for-nearly-ever. Take great encouragement in long marriages! Some have lost their mate. Some, little children, can barely say "marriage." Some guys might, right now, think they never even want to utter the word "marriage." In some ways we are so very different; in others, we are all alike. We love our Lord, having the ultimate love relationship with Him provided through His grace in giving us Jesus. God wants the best for us.

God also understands loneliness. He knew in the beginning that we also needed a physical mate, and he provided a most wonderful plan that we can call "marriage and family." He desired that marriage be a "union to one person of the opposite sex for life, bound together by our spiritual relationship with Him." We are compelled by our God-given makeup to seek out a mate. This is the stage where our children, most of our college students, and older single adults may be. We must, when in this mode of seeking and choosing, use our heads as well as our hearts. Falling in love (emotion) is not always compatible with thinking about whether a person will be suitable for us. How can we know? If we believe that our most important relationship is our spiritual one, then we might ask whether this person whom we think we love will help us get to heaven. Is their relationship with God their first priority? Is he or she a Christian? Marriage is a two-way street. Does this person think of your needs first and vice-versa? Are they willing to commit to a relationship, or do they hold back a large part so they can have their own life? Do they exhibit the characteristics mentioned in I Cor. 13:4-7? Don't start off going the wrong way down a one-way street. This choosing of one's mate is so critical. "Lord, help each at this station in life to find someone to love in the way that you love us, so that we can have the joy that you want us to have in our marriage...so we can avoid the pain and anguish of strife, separation, loneliness, guilt, and sin in our relationship,... so that we can grow together and pass on your ways to our children."

For those of us who are in marriages, how is it going? These days, so many things pull at us, some in good ways, but so many take away from our marriage and family relationships. Work stressors, school issues, extracurricular activities, physical difficulties, financial dilemmas, church activities...the list goes on. Sometimes we find little-to-no time to spend with our spouse. Is any of this the way God wants it? I think not. God has given us *free choice*...to make decisions together for the good of our relationships. If we are too busy, change it. If we do not spend time with our spouse until 10:30 pm, change it. If we get upset about something and take it out on our spouse, change it/forgive them. Good marriages are those where two people are partners in life, lift each other up in all things, and understand that the foundation for their relationship is spiritually-based. A "working" marriage is one where both spouses are other-centered to some degree and "work" at the marriage. Priorities are set for time spent with God, each other, and children. Men, be leaders. Others benefit when we are growing spiritually in the Lord or even when we spend time together doing mundane things.... cooking dinner or washing the car. Read I Cor. 13:4-7 and dwell on God's words. *Lord, help us examine our priorities, our relationship with you, and your words about our loving relationships, identifying those areas you want us to work on in our marriage relationships. Help us keep you first, loving our spouse as you love us and as Christ loves His church. ...* (Continued inside, in the middle column...)

**Marriage Matters  
Seminar Begins this Sunday**

**Sunday, January 31**

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Classes
- 10:00 a.m. Assembly: The Servant Heart
- 3:00 p.m. Recovery from Death and Divorce
- 4:00 p.m. Parenting 101
- 5:00 p.m. Dinner
- 6:00 p.m. God's Ideal Marriage — Jerry
- 7:00 p.m. Affair-Proofing Your Marriage

**Monday, February 1 (6:00 dinner)**

- 7:00 p.m. Please Listen To Me (Part 1)
- 8:00 p.m. Please Listen To Me (Part 2)

**Tuesday, February 2 (6:00 dinner)**

- 7:00 p.m. Unrealistic Expectations
- 8:00 p.m. Trouble In Paradise: Pornography

**Wednesday, February 3 (6:00 dinner)**

- 7:00 p.m. Loving Your Mate Through the Seasons of Life (Part 1)
- 8:00 p.m. Loving Your Mate Through the Seasons of Life (Part 2)

**Be Sure to...**

- ❖ Invite a neighbor, friend, co-worker.
- ❖ Plan to serve at least once during the seminar: sign up to help with dinner, nursery, or for youth care.
- ❖ Be here for Bible Class by 8:45 so we can begin on time. Jerry will be teaching the men in the UCSC and Lynn will be teaching the women in the auditorium.

**Prayers for the Seminar**

Please pray for the following immediate needs:

- ◆ Come early to warmly welcome any of our guests.
- ◆ Plan to stay around after the last session of the day so that you can meet and greet any of our guests.
- ◆ Have some encouraging words for our fellow congregations that may be attending from surrounding areas.
- ◆ Pray and prepare your heart to be receptive to the teachings that the Jones' will be sharing with us.

Serving Him,

Andy Miller

**Thank You** [Notes are posted on foyer bulletin board.]

“Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for all the prayers, care and concern during John's illness. God was merciful regarding John's death to him and his family. The love and support that was poured on us through you will forever be held in our hearts. Thank you so much for your listening ears, shoulders to cry on, encouraging words, cards, food and many other acts of service. May God continue to bless us all as we love Him and others. In Christian love, **Mary Fields and the Billy Caldwell family**”

“Thank you for being so nice to Uncle John, and (to) us during our time of grief. The food was delicious and such kindness shown to us. Thanks again, **Nadine Gladden, (John's) niece.**”

“The family of Tag Williams acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy. (For the singers) Thank you for your part in Dad's funeral. The music was very well selected and sang. We were moved and we know Dad would have enjoyed. Friends like you make hard times much easier to endure. May God bless you. **Van and Judy**”

**Wedding Shower** Sylvia Jinkerson is hosting a gift card/money tree shower for **Tiffani Floyd Powell** who married **Frank Matthew Powell** on September 26, 2009. Gifts may be given to Sylvia Jinkerson, or dropped off in the church office, by January 31.

**Ladies Night Out** Ladies of all ages are invited to a **Ladies Night Out**, Thursday **February 4**. Meet at Hollywood Premier Cinema at **6:50pm** to see "Extraordinary Measures" Rated PG. If you have any questions contact Natasha Thompson.

**Marriage Matters Meals** Participation in the helping and serving in next week's Marriage Matters conference is already outstanding. If you are able to help with cleanup after the supper for an evening or two, please let Roslyn Miller know.

**Fireproof** The movie “Fireproof” will be shown on Saturday, February 13, at 4:00 P.M. in the auditorium. Immediately following the movie, a “Parents Night Out” (free babysitting) will begin so that parents may enjoy a Date Night until 9:00 P.M.

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**Shepherd's Pen: “Marriage Matters” (continued)**

Difficult marriage trends increasingly face our culture and are even prevalent in the church. Your elders and ministers have diligently studied what God has to say about this important topic, coming away with a much stronger understanding of what God desires for His people. We concluded that we must all work together as His family to help one another meet God's goal of a lifelong commitment to loving relationships in our marriage and families. Hence the Marriage Matters Seminar, a program from which we believe everyone can benefit, no matter marital status or cultural background. Many are working diligently on it. God bless all. If needed, Jerry and Lynn will be available to counsel, and the elders will be available to assist in seeking God's way with marriage issues. We love you and desire that you find great joy in the relationships that God provides. Dean Stewart

**\*\* YOUTH BULLETIN \*\***

This past Thursday there was a Teen F.A.S.T. (Fun And Spiritual Teaching) at our house. We had close to 20 teens come and hang out, play games, devour snacks, and discuss being joyful in hope, patient in afflictions, and faithful in prayer out of Romans 12:12. Sunday there was a Teen Devo at the Cobles. The teens roasted or charcoal-ed weiners over a fire and had hotdogs, or in many cases, blackdogs. Again we had around 20 in attendance. Kenton spoke at this devo on Philippians, chapter four. Part of his message is that it is not enough to rid our lives of evil but we must fill it with good things from God as well. Thanks to the Cobles for hosting this event and for Kenton stepping up and doing a great job with the lesson. Wesley Thompson

**There is/was a meeting on Wed, Jan 27 to discuss our TORCH mission trip to Honduras. If you were unable to come you can contact Wesley Thompson for the necessary information.**

- This Fri Teen Guys SleepOver @ Wesley's 8pm-9am. Bring Snacks!!!
- Fri, Feb 5 Teen Girls SleepOver @ Natasha's 8pm-9am. Bring Snacks!!!
- Sun, Feb 7 Teen/KICS Big Brother Lunch @ McDonalds 11:30-1pm (guys only)
- Wed, Feb 10 Teen Short Day @ Building 1-3:30pm
- Sat, Feb 13 Teen/KICS Big Brother @ Bulldog Lanes 10am-12:30pm (guys only)
- Thurs, Feb 18 Teen F.A.S.T. @ Wesley's 6-8pm
- Feb 19-21 J.A.M. Youth Rally in Hattiesburg, MS \$5 due by Wed, Feb 10



**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 1/31-2/3/10 Marriage Matters seminar with Jerry and Lynn Jones
- Thu., Feb. 4 Ladies Night Out - Meet at cinema: 6:50pm
- Sat., Feb. 13 Fireproof at 4:00pm with “Date Night” (free babysitting) afterwards, until 9:00pm
- Sat., 3/06/10 Wilburn and Bonner Whittington Celebration Ceremony