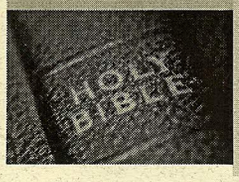
April 12, 2015




PERRY HILL ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST
800 PERRY HILL ROAD,
MONTGOMERY, AL 36109
WWW.PERRYHILLCHURCH.ORG

Perry Hill Road
Bulletin

# Essential Church Members

**by Greg Gwin**

In every healthy congregation you will find certain people that comprise the essential "heart and soul" of the church. Note . . . -- They are always present at the assemblies. They make it a point to never miss any of the services. If it is necessary to make changes, adjust schedules, suffer inconvenience or simply miss out on other activities, they will do so because they are committed to being present every time the doors are open.

-- These folks actually look for opportunities to serve. If there is work to be done, Bible classes to be taught, weak members to be encouraged, sick folks to be visited, menial chores to be fulfilled, they will step up and get the job done. They are not waiting to be told what to do. Instead they are searching for more and more that can be accomplished.

-- In matters of personal purity and morality, these people are setting a worthy example. They don't look for "loopholes" to justify untoward behavior. Rather they "go the extra mile" to make sure that there is not even an "appearance of evil" (1 Thess. 5:22). In the clothes they were, the language they use, the places they go, the movies and TV they watch, these brethren are determined to do the right thing.

-- Most surveys indicate that 80% of what is contributed in any church comes from about 20% of the membership. The kind of people we're describing here are among that 20%. They are truly sacrificial in their giving.

-- When conflicts arise in the church, these people can be counted on to help make resolution. They are not the sort to get their feelings hurt easily. Instead, they work hard to address situations that -- unheeded -- could lead to serious division. They stand firmly and without compromise for the truth, they love their brethren, and they care about the church.

More could be said, but the picture is pretty clear. Local churches depend on these members. In fact, without them a congregation will never prosper. Now, the simple question is: Are you one of these 'essential' church members? Think!

# Enthusiasm

How enthusiastic are you--no, not someone else--YOU, about the growth of the church? Enthusiasm means, "intense or eager interest; zeal; fervor." It sometimes appears as if this is one of the greatest failings of the people of God. Too many, including preachers, have the attitude of doing as little as possible or just enough to "get by." However, fervency and zeal are the elements of growth and warmth in any combined effort. They are especially essential in the Lord's work. The church is to be made up of those who ought to be "zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14). Words like fervent, zeal and excited should describe our lives in the service to our Lord.

1. **Fervent in Love**. Peter wrote, "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto the unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." (1 Pet. 1:22). "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." (1 Pet. 4:8). Fervent love "covers" the flaws and imperfections in the lives of others. Fervent love does not unmercifully expose a flaw in another. Fault finders are not fervent lovers.

Albert Barnes on this verse: "True love to another makes us kind to his imperfections, charitable toward his faults, and often blind even to the existence of faults." Nothing can cover sins in the sense of forgiveness but compliance with God's law, but we may cover one another's faults by dealing with one another in such a way as to lead one to comply with God's law."

2. **Fervent in Spirit**. The apostle Paul wrote, "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord" (Ron. 12:11). "Spirit" in this verse is the human spirit in each of us. We are to be deeply excited about our responsibilities. It is our duty to do what has been commanded by the Lord (Luke 17:10). The commands of the Lord are not "grievous." (1 Jno. 5:3).

The church can and will grow in proportion to the love and spirit with which we go about fulfilling our individual duties as Christians. Thus we can ask ourselves if we are as fervent and zealous about our personal work on non-Christians as we should be. What about our fervency and zeal in visiting the sick and needy? How fervent in spirit are we in giving of our means to do the Lord's work? How fervent and zealous is our attendance and many, many more questions. An English writer, Joseph Addison, once wrote: "There is no greater sign of a general decay of virtue in a nation, than a want of zeal in its inhabitants for the good of their country." Modifying that statement without altering the thought: "There is no greater sign of a general decay of virtue in the church than a want of zeal in its members for the good of the church."

Unknown...

You are invited to a

# Gospel Meeting

with **Phillip Shumake** of Lexington, Kentucky

## April 10-12, 2015

Please join the **Perry Hill Road church of Christ** as we begin a study of **Lifelong Zeal**—in keeping with the 2015 congregational theme: **Zealous for God**. Following the meeting, the adult classes will study Phillip Shumake's book *Lifelong Zeal*. Please make plans to attend.

Friday @ 7:00 pm – **The Zeal of Moses**
Saturday @ 7:00 pm – **The Friends Who Fuel Our Zeal**

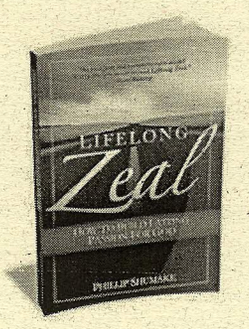
Sunday @ 9:00 am – **God's Vision for Lifelong Zeal**
Sunday @ 10:00 am – **Zeal in the Church**
Sunday @ 5:00 pm – **Snapshots of Zeal**

**800 Perry Hill Road, Montgomery, Alabama**
(Four blocks north of Interstate 85 on Perry Hill Road)

**www.perryhillchurch.org**

**Phillip Shumake** is the evangelist with the East End Church of Christ in Lexington, Kentucky. Educated at Florida College and Middle Tennessee State University, Phillip holds a degree in Communications. He has preached for 10 years and now lives in Lexington with his wife Tracy and their two children.

For information and resources regarding Phillip's book *Lifelong Zeal*, visit www.lifelongzeal.com.




## Prayer Request

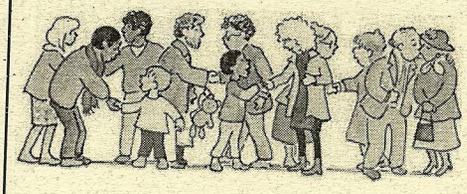
**Jess and Pat Hart…..** Jess was released from the hospital on Wednesday and Pat is still recovering from her fall .

**Pam Williamson….**Recovering from complications with her knee surgery and infection.

**Becky Keith….**Is recovering from surgery. Please keep her in your prayers as she awaits further treatments.

**Anne Carr….**Niece has been diagnosed with cancer.

**Ongoing health issues:**
**Helen Darnell, Orval and Joyce Huff, Mildred Allmon, David Thatcher, Ben Pittman, Paula Pittman, Pat Hart , Johnny Cunningham.**



## Leading in Worship

### Sunday AM

| | |
|---|---|
| Coordinators: | Paul Puckett / Jim Keith |
| Ushers | Jim Keith / Jerry Hensley |
| Announcements: | Neal Smith |
| Scripture: | Doug Williamson |
| Lead Singing: | John Burch |
| 1st Prayer: | Ragan Ingram |
| Preaching: | Phillip Shumake |
| Closing Prayer: | Ragan Ingram |
| Sound System: | Curt Williamson |

**Communion**

| Bread | Cup |
|---|---|
| Gary McDaniel | Stephen Guy |
| Nathan Smith | Gary Hart |
| Daniel Jones | Mike Howard |

### Sunday PM

| | |
|---|---|
| Announcements: | Neal Smith |
| Scripture: | Eric Bradford |
| Lead Singing: | Bill Knighten |
| 1st Prayer: | Aaron Smelser |
| Preaching | Phillip Shumake |
| Lord's Supper: | Harold Mustin |
| Closing Prayer: | Paul Puckett |
| Sound System: | Bud Porter |

**LORD'S Supper Preparation**

04/12 Tiara Kent 04/19 Cindy Knighten
04/26 Linda Lashlee 05/03 Rachel Lloyd

### Wednesday Evening

| | |
|---|---|
| Ushers | Harold Mustin / Mel Ott |
| Announcements | Neal Smith |
| Lead Singing | John Burch |
| Opening Prayer | Bob Trefethen |
| Invitation | Daniel Jones |
| Closing Prayer | Mike Howard |
| Sound System | Darrell Puckett |

**Count Contribution**

Daniel Jones / Kerry Lashlee / Doug Williamson

## *To our visitors:*

- The people who assemble at Perry Hill Road are simply a group of Christians who belong to Christ and are devoted to serving God.
- Our aim is to glorify God by following the Bible, His inspired word, which is our only guide in worship and service.
- Our commitment is to preach Christ, who is man's only hope for eternal life, and live in such a way so that others may see Christ in us.
- We encourage an open study and discussion of the Scriptures in all our Bible classes and extend to all a sincere welcome.
- Personal studies are available upon request.

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday**

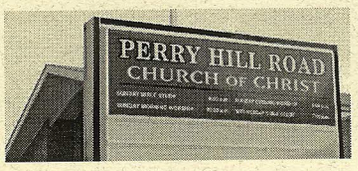
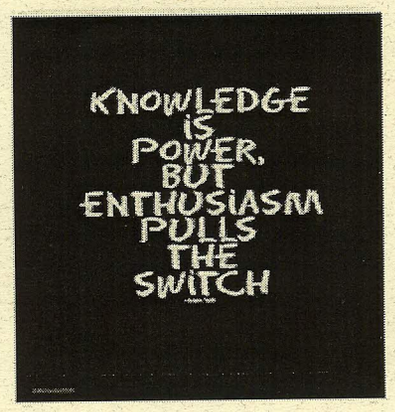
| | |
|---|---|
| Bible Classes | 9 AM |
| Worship | 10 AM |
| Evening | 5 PM |

**Wednesday**

| | |
|---|---|
| Bible Classes | 7 PM |

**Care Group # 1**
Tonight after services

*Sunday AM 131*
*Sunday Class 85*
*Sunday PM 73*
*Wednesday*
*Contribution $5,095*



**Please welcome new members, Blake & Amanda Boren and new baby son, Logan. You can find their contact data in the website directory**