
NEWS FROM MCCK

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH † KNOXVILLE, TN



VOLUME 30, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2010

MUSIC, MUSIC AND MORE MUSIC AT MCCK

Make a joyful noise this summer, beginning with an **old-fashioned gospel singing and potluck dinner** on Saturday evening, June 12 from 6 to 10. Donations will help the church catch up on the general fund. Bring your own sheet music or CD if you want to sing. Coordinate with Ray E. or James F. on any needs related to your music. If you feel like bringing an instrument to play, feel free.

SHAWN THOMAS, PRIDE PICNIC ON JUNE 20

Shawn Thomas will return to share his music ministry at MCCK on Sunday, June 20. Shawn is an “out and affirming” contemporary Christian worship leader, singer and recording artist. He is a two-time Pride in the Arts Awards recipient from The Stonewall Society and seven-time nominee. He’ll play for the 11 a.m. service and a concert at 6 p.m.



Also that day, the annual Pride Picnic will take place between his two performances. So mark Sunday, June 20 on your calendar and be prepared to spend a full day of worship and celebration at MCC!

Details of Pride Picnic:

Bring some food to grill and something to share. The church will provide drinks, plates, utensils, cups, napkins and grills. We plan to eat around 1:30 p.m. There will be tables available for groups who would like to display information and goods. This year marks the 26th year of MCCK’s Pride Picnic, making it the longest continuous Pride event in Knoxville.

MCCK CHOIR REUNION WEEKEND

In the 16 years that Ray has been our choir director, almost 200 people have sung or played in the music ministry here. Ray wants to know what we’d sound like if we all got back together. (Scary, huh?) He’s sent out letters to every current and former member for the celebration, which will be July 31 and Aug. 1. There’ll be a rehearsal and light meal on Saturday, the 31st, followed by Sunday worship, potluck and a 3 p.m.

concert. Ray is “hoping that we will have such a wonderful response that we will have to find an outside venue to actually hold the crowd.”

PASTORAL SEARCH UPDATES

The pastoral search team has begun its hard work and needs our prayers. Check out the ad and summary position description on the MCCK website (mccknoxville.org and follow the link).

HOW TO PRAY FOR EVERYONE

By Steve P

In his book “Five Smooth Stones for Pastoral Work,” Eugene Peterson says that pastors “must pray *for* everyone [they] meet.” If we take our role as ministers seriously, then this idea applies to all of us who claim the name of Jesus. We don’t necessarily pray *with* everyone, but we do pray *for* them.

So who is covered by this command? Clearly we should pray for the people in our lives: family, friends, neighbors, co-workers. And we should include the people we meet as we go about our daily routines: the waiters, the bank tellers, the service representatives on the other end of the phone (and probably on the other end of the world), et al.

All of these people—simply by being human—stand in need of prayer, and even a quick “Lord, guide and protect this person” said in faith can be beneficial not just to them, but to us as well. While you wait for the cashier to ring up your order, while you stuff envelopes or Xerox memos, after you get off the phone with customer service—say a prayer for the people you’re interacting with. And see how it changes your sense of community.

But have you ever considered how many people you come in contact with every day? How many lives you could touch through your prayers? Take the clothing you’re wearing right now. How many people were involved in the manufacture and sale of those clothes? From the farmers who grew the cotton to the workers who spun, dyed and sewed the fabric to the truckers who transported the clothes to the store to the cashier who rang you up—you have been touched by dozens of people just in what you’re wearing.

Now consider how many people were involved in making the food in your refrigerator, the furniture in your home, the building you work in, even the paper you’re holding in your

hands now. We are connected to many thousands of people every day. If we include their families, neighbors, churches, etc., the number swells out to millions.

Pray for those people. Give a prayer of thanks for how they have blessed your life and a prayer of blessing that God might keep them safe and give them wisdom. And again, see how it changes your sense of connection to others.

It is possible to pray for everyone, if only we take the time to see how interconnected we all are. May we learn to see the webs that connect us to the rest of the world and the world to Christ Jesus. Amen!

FACES OF MCCK

Robert C. White, a deacon at MCC, was born in Athens, Tenn., and grew up in Charleston, Tenn. (both somewhat near Chattanooga).



He's an accountant who obtained his bachelor's from East Tennessee State University and a master's from UT-Knoxville. He has lived in East Tennessee all his life, except for a period in the late 1970s, when he lived for 18 months in Botswana, a country in the southern part of Africa. He did the office work at a farm teaching young adults improved farming techniques. "Botswana was a former British protectorate so it was quite British. I still drink hot tea from learning to do it while there," Robert says. While he doesn't remember exactly how he heard about MCCK, Robert says that, "as part of my coming out process, I knew I wanted to be at a church that

accepted my gayness. It is a caring community of faith and I enjoy being part of its life and ministries."

OUR SUFFICIENCY IN CHRIST

Pt. 5

By Wayne Sacchi

We continue our study of Colossians now with the issue of mysticism/angel worship. I am treading on some toes with this topic's application -- let me say up front that what I say is with love and this is my opinion. The Colossians, as well as many in the church today, struggle with the idea that they need something more to complete their faith -- Jesus plus something else -- in this case, an ecstatic experience. Angels, to the Colossians, were used as intermediaries. Many commentators believe what is discussed in this passage is similar to the Corinthian problem of the misuse of the Spiritual Gifts and especially the gift of tongues (or languages).

It is hard for us to understand in our culture today, the use of ecstasy in communion with God, but this was commonplace in the first century. The "clobber" passages in the New Testament that are used against GLBT people involve the use of ecstatic worship with temple prostitutes. The Oracle of Delphi, which was located between Corinth and the Lycus Valley, gives us a clue to the use of ecstasy in worship. Hoping to get messages from the Greek god Apollo, a prophetess sits above a break in the earth's crust inside Apollo's temple. The Delphi oracle is probably the most famous oracle in history. In the 1990s a scientific team including a geologist, a chemist and an archaeologist investigated the site. Friction caused by the faults could have released ethylene vapor. Vapor released from the fissure induced ecstasy and unintelligible words, which other prophets standing nearby translated.

In Corinth, the Christians had many wrong ideas about the gifts of the Holy Spirit, especially tongues, because of their culture. The Apostle Paul corrects them by telling them: 1) that all the gifts of the Spirit are given for the common good and not for self-edification and 2) tongues were revelations from God that were to be received both with the MIND (understanding) and the Spirit. Tongues were foreign languages that were unlearned to the speaker and given by the Holy Spirit. When someone used this gift in the Church it was to be "interpreted" by another person, to prevent bias, so that the whole congregation could be edified.

In our Christian culture today, many try to intimidate us that we need something more to complete our salvation -- Jesus plus something supernatural. When we look at the ministry of Jesus we see that these "thrill seekers" were following him for something more than Him.

In John 6:25-44, Jesus had a whole dialogue about it with the crowds following him.

Notice the marvelous antinomy in these passages:

The Call of God: (An Invitation to All)

John 6:27 “Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him Abba God has placed God’s seal of approval.”

V35: “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

The Sovereignty of God: (The Purpose and Will of God)

John 6:37 “All whom Abba God gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away.”

V39-40: “And this is the will of God who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those God has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Abba God’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

V44: “No one can come to me unless Abba God who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

Jesus knew there were “thrill seekers” in every crowd, but he made the call to all to be his disciples. When he saw the reaction of the crowds that followed him for what they could get out of him, Our Lord depended on Abba God to bring in those who would believe. Even Christ believed that Abba God was sufficient for everything! Monumental truth!

Does it surprise anyone today, when we see the same abuses in televangelism? We see Jesus used as the name to attract many to the shrine of their greedy empires. One major station has made millions fleecing people 24 hours a day with their visions and tales. Pet chickens are being raised from the dead,

people are going to heaven and hell and writing books and discussing them on “live Christian TV” to tell what they have seen. This is spiritual intimidation at the highest level because many of us feel that we are missing something.

Well here we go again, brothers and sisters, I declare to you that YOU are complete in Christ and Christ is all-sufficient for you. You need no denomination, baptism, confirmation, ecstatic experience, exodus experience, sexual orientation reprogramming; you need not join a church, be sealed in a temple, go knocking on doors making witnesses, have a vision or any other creation of humankind to make you right with God – it’s all found in Jesus!

GAY MEN’S GROUP TOPICS

- 7 – Open Discussion
- 14 – Our Non-Gay Allies, Locally & Globally
- 21 – My Weirdest Coming-Out Experience
- 28 – My Favorite Person or Event in Gay History



Lectionary



June 6	1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Galatians 1:11-24; Luke 7:11-17
June 13	1 Kings 21:1-10, 15-21a; Psalm 5:1-8; Galatians 2:15-21; Luke 7:36 - 8:3
June 20	1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a; Psalm 42 and 43; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39
June 27	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62




Calendar of Events



Event	Date
Bible study – Church history from the Eastern Perspective	Tuesday, June 1, 7 p.m.; repeats Sunday, June 6, 9:15 a.m.
Gospel singing and potluck dinner (fund-raiser for the church)	Saturday, June 12, 6-10 p.m.
Membership inquirers' class	Sunday, June 13, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Ice cream social at St. Ninian (\$5 donation requested)	Saturday, June 19, 6-8 p.m.
 FATHER'S DAY	Sunday, June 20
Shawn Thomas (worship)	Sunday, June 20, 11-12:30 p.m.
Pride Picnic	Sunday, June 20, 1-6 p.m.
Shawn Thomas (concert)	Sunday, June 20, 6-7:30 p.m.
Administrative Council meeting	Thursday, June 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Friday Night Social Club	June 25, 7-9:30 p.m.
 MCC General Conference (Acapulco, Mexico)	June 28-30


<p style="text-align: center;">Metropolitan Community Church Knoxville</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Bob Galloway, Pastor</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sunday Worship: 11:00AM & 6:00 PM</i></p> <p>Phone: (865) 531-2539 *</p> <p>Toll Free: (866) 531-2539 *</p> <p>Fax: (865) 531-6190</p> <p>E-mail: MCCCK@mcccknoxville.org</p> <p>Web Site: www.mcccknoxville.org</p> <p>Newsletter: newsletter@mcccknoxville.org</p> <p>* GLBT Helpline 7 to 11 PM staff permitting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Directions to MCC Knoxville</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>From I-40 west bound</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take Exit 380 (West Hills) - Continue through the first stop light (West Town Way) <i>From I-40 east bound</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Take Exit 380 (West Hills) - Turn right at the first stop light (heading to Montvue Rd.) 2. Turn left at next stop light (Kingston Pike) 3. Turn right at the second stop light (Morrell Rd.) 4. Continue straight through the next five stop lights (1.3 miles, finally crossing Westland Dr.) 5. Turn right at the next 4-way stop (Nubbins Ridge Rd.) 6. Continue 3 blocks 7. Turn left on Tranquilla Dr. (at crest of hill) 8. Turn right on Redeemer Lane 9. Parking lot is at the top of the hill (through red brick gateposts)
--	--

This Month's Newsletter Sponsors



GREG McINTYRE
REALTOR®, Million Dollar Producer
(865) 693-1111 BUSINESS
(865) 694-1774 FAX
(800) 489-1118 TOLL FREE
(865) 661-4545 CELL
greg.mcintyre@coldwellbanker.com

COLDWELL BANKER  

WALLACE & WALLACE, REALTORS® 

124 N. Winston Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37919

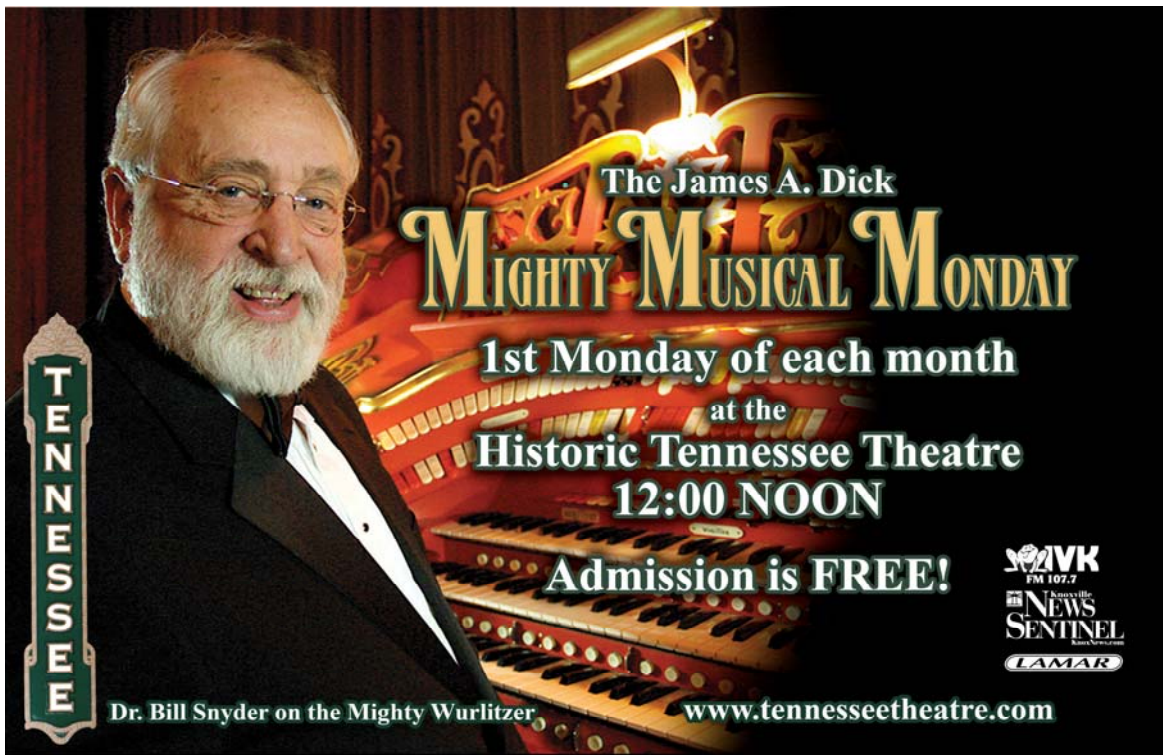
www.cbwww.com/gregmcintyre

Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated.

N. David Roberts, Jr.
Attorney at Law

119 W. Summit Hill Drive, Ste. #315
P. O. Box 2564
Knoxville, TN 37901-2564
Ph: (865) 566-0538
Fax: (865) 566-0541

Email: davidroberts@cavtel.net



The James A. Dick
MIGHTY MUSICAL MONDAY
1st Monday of each month
at the
Historic Tennessee Theatre
12:00 NOON
Admission is FREE!

TENNESSEE
Dr. Bill Snyder on the Mighty Wurlitzer

WKV FM 107.7
NEWS SENTINEL
Knoxville, TN
LAMAR

www.tennesseetheatre.com



Want to buy an ad in this newsletter for your business? Rate is \$60 a year for 12 issues. Let us know at newsletter@mcknoxville.org.

Published by:
MCC Knoxville
7820 Redeemer Lane
Knoxville, TN 37919
NEWS from MCCK

*Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
Paid
Knoxville, TN
Permit No. 226*