

# The Church of Christ at **SUNSHINE** Bulletin

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**ISSUE 16**

## **The Rock Tumbler**

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Have you ever used a rock tumbler? You put rocks in a barrel along with different grades of sand, from coarse to fine. The coarse sand chips away the corners of the rocks to make them into a common shape, whereas the fine sand polishes the rocks with a shiny surface.

In a similar way, we are in a rock tumbler. We can either choose to be with the coarse elements, "*sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like*" (Gal 5: 19-21), or with the fine elements "*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control*" (Gal 5:22-23). We have the choice.

With the rock tumbler, the rocks do not change quickly, it takes weeks or sometimes months. The acts of the sinful nature work on us gradually. We may not see any change initially, but over time it chips on us, wearing us down into someone unrecognizable.

*"They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more."* (Eph 4:18-19)

The fruits of the spirit have a different effect than the acts of the sinful nature. Instead of distorting our image it refines it, polishing us into a jewel.

*"Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe"* (Phil 2:14-15).

We can choose that which is coarse or fine. What do you choose to surround yourself with?

— Jay Crook  
Corpus Christi Church of Christ

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**For our national leaders and world leaders** as they lead their respective nations.  
**For our troops** in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Korea, Iraq, Liberia, Haiti and other places.  
**For the innocent** who are suffering in the midst of war.  
**For the “people in the box” the lost in** our families and community.  
**For those who are being martyred and persecuted for Christ** in our own time  
**For marriage to stand** in our laws as God ordained it.  
**For the church in Siliguri and Naresh Chetri**  
**For the churches in Honduras and Haiti who partner with us in the gospel**  
**Rick Richmond** a continuing request for healing.  
**Alex Cram** had a follow-up appointment in Columbus this week. Spinal tap revealed fluid pressure still borderline. He may be going back on medication to reduce pressure.  
**Emerson Coriell** a continuing request as he goes through his chemotherapy.  
**Ellen Lemon** has her surgery on Wednesday in Columbus.  
**Sharon Rogers** is having serious problems with her feet and needs to have some bones fused in the near future.  
**Sharon Stewart** (Patsy Graff’s sister) is in ICU at KDMC with multiple serious problems.  
**Phyllis Stevens** (Bradenton, FL) has been moved to a rehab facility for the next week.  
**Ruth Miller** was taken to SOMC Thursday PM with chest pain. Tests and catheterization show no damage. Released Saturday, treating with medication.  
**Gene Crisp** has been dealing with severe back pain over the last few months. Has affected his ability to walk. Tests have not been conclusive as to cause.  
**Sarah Riley** (Jamie’s mother) was taken to Jackson Holzer this week with congestive heart problems. She is now in Four Winds Nursing facility.  
**Gracie Lockyear** (newborn daughter of Todd and Amanda Lockyear) is in Duke University Hospital with heart problems—pacemaker installed.

## **Verse of the Month**

Romans 12:21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

## **In the News**

**Our Haiti mission** team is pictured in the Spring 2008 edition of HFHC’s magazine. Posted on the bulletin board. **Beth Miller** and **Jacob Miller** were honored Thursday evening by Shawnee State University for being the top students in their programs at SSU. Beth for Visual Arts Education and Jacob for Engineering.

## **Court House Scripture Reading**

In connection with the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 1, 2008, there will be a week long public reading of scripture in the Scioto County Court House in Portsmouth. We have participated in this reading of scripture every year for several years. We have our regular slot, which is **Wednesday, April 30, from 3-5 pm**. If you would be willing to read for ½ hour (or 15 minutes) in the lobby of the court house, sign up for the slot on the bulletin board.

## **Troop One News**

Boy Scout Troop One has two service projects for May. The weekend of May 16 they will be camping at Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp and cleaning the grounds of all trash and litter. May 20 they will be going Memorial Burial Park in Wheelersburg and placing flags on the graves of war veterans buried there.

## **Spirit Club Meeting**

6 pm this evening. Spirit Club Hot Dog party for all those who participate in Spirit Club meetings this month coming on Sunday, April 27, 5:30 pm.

## **May Services at Elbrooke**

May is Sunshine’s month to conduct Bible Study and Worship services at Elbrooke Pavilion. Sunday services are at 2 pm and Bible Study is at 7 pm on Thursday’s. We need a crowd to help us with the singing and also men to help with teaching, prayers and song-leading. Check the sheet on the board in the foyer to sign up for a slot to help out.

## **Men’s Meeting**

Friday, May 9, 7:30 pm at the Innermission Building. This will be our second session. Open to all men of the congregation. An effort to discuss our common struggles and weaknesses. Our desire is to become more open and supportive of each other to foster spiritual growth. Informal setting, come as you are. We will enjoy some pizza and good fellowship together. Thanks, Jon C.

## **Kingdom Stimulus Package**

A few weeks ago we talked about the Kingdom Stimulus Package in our lesson. We hope to convert the Economic Stimulus checks from the US government which will be coming our way over the next 6 months into a stimulus for the Kingdom of God here in Minford, Ohio. We are asking all members to take this windfall and pass it on to the building fund of the Sunshine church of Christ. There is an information sheet on the table in the foyer which gives more details. We will be making reference to this effort many times over the next 6 months.



