

swimming...

"I Belong!"

The house was old and unpainted. No indoor plumbing. No electricity. No insulation. No piped-in gas for cooking or heating. Two butane bottles stood outside the kitchen window. The copper tubing running through a small hole in the wall provided fuel for the cook stove and the refrigerator (yes, we had a refrigerator!). Heat for comfort was furnished by a big kerosene stove in the living room. The kerosene was carried into the room from a 55 gallon barrel out in the yard in a small container. The regulator-topped can was then turned upside down (carefully) into its holder on the back of the stove. The apparatus was very simple.

The house was very simple... four small rooms and a large screened-in porch, but home for a family of twelve... mom and dad and ten children...actually only nine children, the oldest had just gotten married... No, actually eleven children because when her new husband was home from the army on leave they were both there, too. Well maybe there were only ten because my oldest brother kept leaving home to be a cowboy...but then he would occasionally come back home, so there were eleven, or ten, or... oh forget it. There was a bunch of people living in that little four-room house.

But anyway, the point is life was simple. Or at least I thought so. We never had much...never enough food, but we never went hungry; never enough room, but we all had

all head out for the muddy old swimming hole.

a place at the table; never enough space, but we all had warm, comfortable places to sleep; never enough money,

but daddy always paid the bills; never enough help, but we

always seemed to get the work done; never enough time for

Oh, but there were those special times! Like when the whole

family had been working in a field of grain all day. And the

chaff would get inside our clothing, and we'd itch all over,

and the sweat and the chaff combined to torture our tender

hide, nearly driving us crazy... and daddy would say, "Well, why don't we guit early today and all go swimming!"

We'd all head back to the house, find our old cut-offs (or

make some new ones out of our oldest pair of pants with

daddy, would put on something less but still enough, and

the largest holes in the knees), everyone, even mother and

mother would put together something for a picnic and we'd

Muddy? Yeah. But wet and cool! And oh, what relief! Oh what fun! Oh what memories!

(continued on page 4)

Church Staff:

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Deacons:

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear

of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for

names of the ministry staff and to point them

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

Port Orchard Church of Christ

Save the Dates!

Sunday 12/11 Senior Saints Potluck

Tuesday 12/13 Ladies Prayer Group

Friday 12/16 God is Not Dead 2

Saturday 12/17 Christmas Concert

Friday 12/30 Miracles From Heaven

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview— "First Things First"

The religion of the Bible declares that God takes the initiative, always. He has created, he has revealed himself (spoken), and he has acted (saves). So...? Well, a "So?" could mean "So what?" Or it could mean, "What must we do?" James Greer will be sharing a sermon with us this upcoming Sunday. Service begins at 10:45, we hope to see you there!

Happy Birthday!

December has arrived, it's time to celebrate our December babies. If you see any of these following brothers and sisters make sure to wish them a Happy Birthday!

Nikole Karn, LaDonna Latham - 12/3. Tristan Herbert - 12/5. Sarah Benjamin, Elizabeth Herbert - 12/8. Jedidiah Herbert - 12/17. Bonnie Mitchell - 12/18. Darlene Woodrow - 12/24. Wayne Hammock - 12/25. Deloris Brun - 12/28. Jake Order, Randy VanLeuven - 12/31.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Darrell Frv

Darrell Fry shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message and would like to hear it, please visit the church website at pococ.weebly.com

Senior Saints Potluck

There will be a Senior Saints Potluck following service this coming Sunday.

Serving December 11, 2016 :

Prayer Leader: Darrell Fry Communion Prep: Sanders Family Scripture Reader: James Greer Communion Cleanup: Bratcher Family

Offering Thoughts: Ken Reinke Praise Team: Gene G., Laura G., Brad O.

Communion Meditation: Troy Hill

Servers: Jim S. & Jacob H. Sunday School & CW Helper: Dale Sanders & Karri S.

Ushers: David L. & Terry B.

Greeters: Warner Family Fellowship Team: Donuts— Sandi Warner

Nursery Attendants: TBD Coffee— Greg Warner

Sound: John Bickle Cleanup— Sandi Warner

Slides/Lighting: Lisa B. & Brittney P.







Gift Wrap Exchange

There is a bin in the foyer with different types of gift wrap. Feel free to bring in some of your old gift wrap and switch it out with something "new to you" from the bin.

Christmas Concert

All - The children of the church will be performing on December 17th at 6 PM. Please bring cookies to share.

Parents - Please have your children dressed in their "Christmas Best" but bring their pajamas, as they will need them as a part of their performance.

Hammock/Snead Growth Group Movie Night

The Hammock/Snead Growth Group will be showing two more movies this month here at the church building.

When: December 16th **Movie:** God Is Not Dead 2

Time: 6 PM

When: December 30th

Movie: Miracles From Heaven

Time: 6 PM

Congregational Meeting

If you missed the congregational meeting, there are notes from that meeting in the fover.

New Addresses

Roy & Jo Vaughn 27014 80th St. E. Buckley, WA 98321

Ken & Pat Woodrow 4656 Nina LN. Apt. H 202 Port Orchard, WA 98366

Our Prayer List

Healing for:

Isaac Benjamin
Runell Mason- cancer
(numbers coming down)
Delores Brun - cancer
David Latham
Randy Parrott- Healing from knee
surgery
Starla Graham - Stage 4 breast cancer

Encouragement & Comfort:

Wayne & the Hammock family Eloise Gerard, Nikole Karn, Bret & Bryan Hollman, Delores Burn, Dan Gross- sister passed away

Other prayer requests:

Our leaders, Our church, Our deacons, Our members, Our country, Our homeless in the community, Elder Study Group guidance

December 4, 2016

Worship: 87 Class: 49 Offering: \$5,171.00 Goal: \$3,437.50 (Continued from page 1)
I was raised as a member of the household of Samuel George and Anna Lucile Byrd. I am a member of that family. And even though I am among the youngest of ten children, my place at the table has never been in doubt. I belong!

Household. Family. Words that have special relationship meaning. Words that hold precious memories. Words that offer the assurance of love and warmth and support and encouragement and acceptance and value.

So, God chose such language. "You are members of God's house-hold." (Ephesians 2:19) That does it for me! That is enough! I will hold on to that with every ounce of strength and energy I possess. I am a member of the family of God. My place at the table is secure. And that can never be taken away! I belong!

Thank you, God, for my family. And thank you for making me a member of yours.

[Reprinted from 2007]-Melvin Byrd bers of his household,

Ephesians 2:19 (NIV)

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his bousehold

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