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Words of Life

THOMAS C. CHRISTMAS, Pastor
 First Baptist Church
 Andrews, N. C.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10: 25

Today there is concern on the part of thinking Christians with regard to the attitude of the average church member in reference to worship and fellowship. The problem lies in the fact that upward to half the membership of our churches give almost no attention to public worship and the kind of fellowship enjoyed by first-century Christians. Early Christians made much of public worship—the believers continued "daily with one accord in the temple."

Paul did not wait for someone to visit and tell him how happy and honored they would be to have him come and worship with them. He simply went and joined with them. Today, many people move into a new community and wait for years before joining a local church because "no one seems to be interested in them." A Christian should not wait until his vanity is complimented, again and again, by invitations from the various churches that may be competing with each other for the new member.

The early Christians also manifested a beautiful spirit of fellowship in their homes. They broke bread from house to house in steadfast earnestness. These early Christians experienced continuous revival. Luke tells us that the Lord added to them "day by day those that were saved."

The writer of Hebrews enjoins us to "hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering." The faith that wavers is not a worthy faith. Those with an unwavering faith will not forsake the assembling of themselves together.

The character of our faith and our relationship to the church will have a pronounced effect upon the lives of other Christians: In verse 25, the writer inserts a solemn exhortation to loyalty in the matter of church attendance: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

By faithful and regular attendance at worship services, we not only grow ourselves, in the faith, but we encourage others to grow. Here is one point at which all Christians can be of mutual benefit to each other.

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Gown
- Halts
- One-fourth
- Test
- Lie
- Revive
- cream
- Of life
- Limited time
- Five-cent coin
- Baglike part
- Moose
- Born
- Perform
- Peck
- Number
- Article
- Str
- Color
- Neither
- Arguer
- Brain cover
- Musical work
- Distant
- Poetry muse
- Ocean actors
- Glossy fabric

DOWN

- Numbskull
- Estimators
- Go astray
- Stump
- Combining form: bristle
- Afflicted
- Wheel rut
- Petroleum
- Buddy; slang
- Crafty
- Leave
- French river
- Slope
- Crazy
- Printers' measure
- Meadow
- Japanese coin
- Comic strips
- Father
- Poem
- Existed
- Bow
- Prefix: Toward
- Hoing in
- Petroleum
- Disturb
- Moving
- Train tracks
- Curves
- Flavor
- Land measure
- English letter
- Rodent
- Sweetsop
- Electrified particle

Answer to Puzzle

DEATHS

MRS. FLARRA MILLER
 Mrs. Flarra Miller, 38, of Robbinsville, died at 1 a.m. Thursday in an Andrews hospital following an illness of several months. Services were conducted at 3 p.m. Friday in Yellow Creek Baptist Church.

Burial was in Yellow Creek Cemetery. Mrs. Miller is survived by two daughters, Gay and Linda; a son, Garry, all of the home; the mother, Mrs. Eliza Crisp of Robbinsville; two brothers, Hubert and Don Crisp, both of Robbinsville; four sisters, Mrs. Wade Garland of Robbinsville, Mrs. Herman Adams of Enoree, S. C., Mrs. Earl McToy of Camp Lejeune, N. C., and Mrs. Porter Rogers of Hartsville, S. C. Townson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MRS. DOCIA LEDFORD
 Mrs. Docia Rowan Kitchens Ledford, 79, of Hayesville Route 3, died Monday morning at her home. She was a native of Clay County, a daughter of the late Melvin and Louisa Reynolds Kitchens, and was a member of Old Shooting Creek Baptist Church.

Surviving are the husband, Julius S. Ledford; two daughters, Mrs. Fred Moore of Hayesville, and Mrs. Mrs. Neal Crawford of Asheville; four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; three brothers, Wiley and Benjamin Kitchens of Hayesville, and Erwin of Berry, Ga.; and three sisters, Mrs. Lassie Gribble and Miss Hattie Kitchens of Hayesville, and Mrs. Maggie Lawkin of Belmont, N. C.

Services were held Tuesday at 3 p.m. in Old Shooting Creek Church. The Rev. Boyd Hogsdon and the Rev. Stewart Taylor officiated, and burial was in the church cemetery. Nephews were pallbearers. Ivie Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

FRANK M. EDWARDS
 Frank M. Edwards, 41, of Robbinsville died in an Asheville hospital at 5:40 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16, after an illness of several months. He was a son of the late Thomas J. Edwards and Amy Randolph Edwards of Graham County.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Annie David Edwards; a brother, Monroe Edwards of Robbinsville; and four sisters, Mrs. McKinley Green of Almond, Mrs. Bill Chambers of Clyde, Mrs. Wyatt Gentry of Hendersonville, and Mrs. Laura Polos of Marion, Va.

Postmaster Cites Effects Of Obscenity On Juvenile Delinquency; Asks Help

The U.S. nationwide mail order traffic in obscene materials has played a flagrant part in the alarming rise in juvenile delinquency in the United States, according to Postmaster Joe Ray.

Mr. Ray said that this point has been emphasized once again by Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield in a recent statement before a Congressional Committee studying the mail order obscenity racket and its vicious effects.

Mr. Ray noted that "time after time, in police investigations of armed robbery, extortion, embezzlement and forgery, it has been found that those guilty were youthful collectors of highly obscene pictures and materials."

In his testimony before the Committee the Postmaster General emphasized that: "Sociologists and psychologists tell us that exposure of children to pornographic pictures and literature may often lead to sexual aberrations."

"Any experienced law enforcement officer," Mr. Summerfield continued, "can give you the grim information that virtually every sex criminal has a record of affinity for obscene photographs and other such filth."

Mr. Ray pointed out that this latter fact is what leads to the terrible indirect results of this sadoistic traffic.

"Many children who are never

exposed to obscene material," he said "can nevertheless become victims of the criminal who are affected by it. They can fall prey to the perverted imagination of the man who starts pulling a little girl's braid and ends by taking her life."

Mr. Ray stated flatly that this racket, which now operates at a half-billion dollar a year level, will keep on growing unless the members of every community take direct action to stamp it out. He predicted that sex crimes will become far more prevalent than they are even today, as the filth racketeers seek to pervert the minds of more and more children, and concluded with Mr. Summerfield's warning that, if this trend continues, "We can expect an ultimate breakdown in moral strength, order and decency in this country."

But, Mr. Ray emphasized, "There is something each parent can do—prevent his children and children elsewhere from falling into the clutches of these racketeers." His advice to parents is to take these steps:

1. If the contents of mail arriving in your home are obscene, save all the material including the envelope in which the material is received.
2. Put the material and the envelope promptly in the hands of your Postmaster, either personally or by mail.

Mr. Ray assures parents that the Post Office Department will take immediate action to investigate and, where warranted, to bring about prosecution of the parties responsible for the mailing. Conviction can result in sentences of up to 10 years in jail and heavy fines. And he adds that "if parents throughout the country take these three steps, our local community, and our entire nation, can look confidently to the day when this insidious menace will be stamped out."

9 To Represent Waynesville Dist. At Meet

Seven young people and two adult counselors, representing the Waynesville District of The Methodist Church, left Sunday to attend the National Convocation of Methodist Youth, which opened Monday, August 24, at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. They are: Joe Leatherwood, Long's Chapel Methodist Church, Waynesville; Jerry Ferguson, Dellwood Methodist Church, Waynesville; Miss Clara A. Rikard, Central Methodist Church, Canton; Miss Louise Estes, Whittier Methodist Church, Whittier, Miss Leone Dunlap, Bryson City Methodist Church, Bryson City; Donald Hopper, High lands Methodist Church, High lands; and Harry Jarrett, First Methodist Church, Hayesville. They are accompanied on the trip by Miss Laura Wells of Hayesville, Clay County rural worker, and Mrs. E. F. Pepper Jr., of Waynesville, District Director of Youth work. Over 150 youths and counselors are attending from the Western North Carolina Conference. Six thousand are attending from across the United States. The Convocation will close on Friday, August 28.

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