

## Worship Service Schedule

### Sunday Services

8:15 AM Communion Worship  
9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:00 AM Worship Service  
10:10 AM Gospel Express  
For children ages 4 yrs.  
to 4th Grade  
6:00 PM Evening Worship

### Wednesday Services

10:00 AM Ladies Bible Class  
3:00 PM Afternoon Bible Study  
7:00 PM Mid-Week Bible Study

March 1, 2009



4920 Ross Road • Memphis TN 38141

[www.rossroadchurch.org](http://www.rossroadchurch.org)

## Ross Road on the Web

LIVE! Online

We stream our Sunday Services  
LIVE! Online @ 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
[www.rossroadchurch.org](http://www.rossroadchurch.org)  
E-mail [avcm@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:avcm@rossroadchurch.org)  
if you have connection issues

## Office Contact Information

**Gerald Jackson | Evangelist**

[gjackson@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:gjackson@rossroadchurch.org)

Phone 901.363.7439

FAX 901.363.5831

Office Hours **Monday - Friday**  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Raynee Randolph | Office Assistant**

[rroffice@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:rroffice@rossroadchurch.org)

**James Riddick | Worship Minister**

[jamesriddick@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:jamesriddick@rossroadchurch.org)

Cell Phone 901.413.8603

**David Garrett | Youth Minister**

[davidgarrett@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:davidgarrett@rossroadchurch.org)

Cell Phone 901.653.5788

Office Hours **Saturday**  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

## Our Elders

**Percell Duckett**

[percelduckett@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:percelduckett@rossroadchurch.org)

**Bruce Haynes**

[brucehaynes@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:brucehaynes@rossroadchurch.org)

## Our Deacons

Audio-Visual Communication **Kevin Kelly**  
[kevinkelly@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:kevinkelly@rossroadchurch.org)

Building Maintenance **William Wilkerson**  
[williamwilkerson@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:williamwilkerson@rossroadchurch.org)

Children's Ministry **David Bobo**  
[davidbobo@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:davidbobo@rossroadchurch.org)

Missions Ministry **David Franklin**  
[davidfranklin@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:davidfranklin@rossroadchurch.org)

Outreach & Evangelism **Bobby Edwards**  
[bobbyedwards@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:bobbyedwards@rossroadchurch.org)

## From Our Shepherds

Percell Duckett & Bruce Haynes

## To Give Or Not, That Is The Question

When we think of Paul's words about the giving of the Macedonian church, and how they gave out of their severe poverty, we can't help but to be reminded of the current crisis facing this country, and our inclination to hold back for the tough times that we are facing or the difficulties we believe are coming. Yet, when we read the scriptures we see that God's faithful people never allowed their circumstances to dictate their level of commitment to the Lord. When we look at the Children of Israel as they journeyed from Egypt with no jobs or 401K's, they gave as God commanded for the building of the Tabernacle. The only thing they had was the promise of the Father that He would provide for them.

We are currently starting the third month of the New Year and our giving has not been sufficient to meet our planned budget. Please understand that we are cognizant that several of you are very generous, but in some instances there is room for us to do more. It is during times such as these that we are put in a position to show our level of maturity. During times like these, we demonstrate our level of faith in God. In Numbers 11:23, "The Lord answered Moses, Is the Lord's arm too short? You will now see whether or not what I say will come true for you." Again in Genesis 18:12-14, when God promised Sarah the birth of a man child at the age of 90 years in Genesis 17:17, but she laughed and the Lord asked, "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" It is at times like these that we give a confident and faithful response to that question. "Is anything too hard for God? NO! NO! A thousand times NO! Let's commit to giving to God as he has prospered us and not hold back for the difficult times to come.

Have faith church.

*The Elders*

*Ross Road is a place where you can experience God's love,  
grow in God's family, and serve in God's kingdom.  
Ross is the place for you!*

# From Our Shepherds

Percell Duckett & Bruce Haynes

## The Unforgivable Sin

Most of you have heard of the "Unforgivable Sin" which is referenced in Matthew 12:31, 32 and Mark 3:28, 29. The scriptures make reference to blasphemy and state that anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven. It doesn't take a genius to understand that whatever this sin is, it is something that you don't want to be found guilty of since there is **NO FORGIVENESS** for it. Let's make sure that we understand what is meant by no forgiveness. It doesn't mean that God can't forgive, but that He has chosen **NOT** to forgive. Many of you have been fearful and hopeful that you have not committed this sin and have a lack of understanding about it. Our confusion is fuelled by our failure to have a thorough understanding of the word blaspheme/blasphemy. We generally think of it as only speaking against. But the word has a far deeper meaning. Webster defines it as *speaking evil of, to speak irreverently of, as to God; or an indignity offered to God. It also means to credit the works of God to Satan.* The scriptures in question are Matthew 12:31, 32 and Mark 3:28, 29. To comprehend the context of the statement we have to examine who was speaking, to whom they were speaking, and what was the purpose or occasion of the conversation. Jesus had healed a demon-possessed man who had a shriveled hand on the Sabbath, and this caused a stir among the Pharisees who claimed that it was unlawful to heal on the Sabbath. They in turn accuse Jesus of healing this man through the powers of Satan, to which Jesus responds by saying, "that a house divided against itself cannot stand". This is to say, that if he were of the devil he wouldn't be working against himself by casting out demons. And then He states in Mark 3:28,29, "**Verily I say unto you, All their sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and their blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: but whosoever shall blaspheme against the Holy Spirit hath never forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin.**" Understanding the context of this proclamation, we can see that Jesus is responding to the Pharisees' claim that He rid the man of demons by the power of Satan. This is attributing the power of Satan equal to that of the Holy Spirit, which is blasphemy.

This scripture has long been the source of much confusion for many during the years. I recall studying this subject and being told that this scripture refers to the sin that is not repented of. It is commonly referred to as the "unpardonable sin". I think that when we pay close attention to Matthew 12:24, 31, and 32 it becomes obvious that Jesus is talking about crediting Satan with the powers of the Holy Spirit. Although failing to repent of a sin does indeed keep one guilty of the offense, this is not what Jesus is speaking of in Mark 3:28,29 or Matthew 12:32. Hopefully this provides a little light on the subject, and causes you to want to engage in further study.

## The Elders

**Ross Road is a place where you can experience God's love,  
grow in God's family, and serve in God's kingdom.  
Ross is the place for you!**



## Looking Ahead

Mark These on Your Calendars

March 1	Missions Committee meeting
March 2   16	Elder's Meeting
March 4	Ladies Class
March 11	Ladies Luncheon
March 16-20	City School Spring Break MDO Closed   BASC Closed
March 25	Ladies Class
March 27-28	Ladies Clean Sweep Retreat
March 28	Men's Prayer Breakfast
March 30	Elder's Meeting
March 31	WEW 7:00 PM Library



## ALL ABOARD GOD'S CELEBRATION TRAIN!



**Bible Hour For Children  
ages 4 yrs. old to 4th grade**

### NOTE TO PARENTS

Please remember to pick up your child after Bible Class and take them to the auditorium with you for worship service. Children will be dismissed to the Gospel Express after the opening prayer.

### Before & After School Care

Phone 901.859.5203

Hours **Monday - Friday**  
6:30 AM - 8:00 AM  
3:30 PM - 6:00 PM

### Mother's Day Out

Phone 901.363.3644

Office Hours **Tuesday - Thursday**  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

[mdo@rossroadchurch.org](mailto:mdo@rossroadchurch.org)

# In Your Prayers

Pray for Each Other

## Current Prayer Needs

### Ross Road Family & Friends

- **Angela Bobo's** grandmother, **Alice Hubbard** went home from the hospital last week. She is still on antibiotics, but feeling better.
- **David Garrett** and Police Recruit Class #105 request prayers as they go through intense training.
- **Rick Moore** requests prayers for his niece **Donna**, that she may look to the Lord.
- **Linda Reed** continues to experience knee pain despite three injection treatments.
- Jada Banks requests prayers for **Marilyn Smith** and her health. She also wants to pray for **Denise Slater**, one of the BASC teachers, who recently had surgery.

### Kennington Pointe Folks

- **Doris Allen** asks for us to remember her in our prayers.

"Trust Him at all times, you people  
pour out your heart before Him;  
God is a refuge for us."

• Psalms 62:8 •



## Continue to Remember

Kim Alexander	Paul Montgomery
Helen Brock	<u>Pamela Moore</u>
Larry Cole	Willie B. Perry
Natalie Cravens	Rick Pratt
<u>Freddie Estelle</u>	Jacqueline Price
Judy Hector	<u>Becca Reed</u>
<u>Joyce Hicks</u>	Barbara Robbins
Tyrel Jones	Lewis & Tammy Short
<u>Tonya Kelly</u>	Mary Ellen Tomlinson
Benjamin Kerekes	<u>Willie Mae Ursery</u>
Monica Martinez	<u>Agnes Vaughn</u>
Julius Melton	<u>Jason Wilkerson</u>

**Underlined Names  
are Ross Road Members**



## Our Service Men & Women

- ★ Matt Beaty
- ★ Sam Coblentz
- ★ Bruce Haynes, Jr.
- ★ Colin Saulkner



# Praise & Details

More About the Family & Events

## Lewis Short

| Today

Lewis Short will be here for the next two weeks as he will be taking classes at the Grad School. He will be preaching for us today while the Jackson family is out of town. Please keep Tammy in your prayers as she looks after the new baby and Michaela and Rebecca while Lewis is here.

## Missions Committee

The Missions Committee will meet today at 5:00 PM in the Library. All committee members are please asked to attend.

## Spring Break

| March 16-20

Memphis City Schools will be on Spring Break this week. Our Mother's Day Out Program will be closed for the entire week. Our BASC program from Ross Elementary will be closed as well. The Wednesday Ladies Class will not meet and the afternoon 3:00 PM class will be canceled also. Please check with the Painting Class organizers to verify if they will have class. The office will remain open.

## Ladies Clean Sweep Retreat

| March 27-28



This will be our first retreat of 2009. It is being designed to help us organize and prioritize our Spiritual life and our earthly life as well. We have a block of rooms reserved for us at the Holiday Inn Select on Democrat Road. Our Guest speaker will be our own Pepsi Jackson. We will also have a professional organizer, Lesley Adams, join us to give us ideas that we can use to clean out, un clutter and organize our earthly lives. The cost of \$60.00 will include your rooms, Friday evening meal, a buffet breakfast Saturday morning in the hotel restaurant, as well as a conference room on Saturday. Please sign the list in the foyer so we will be able to confirm the correct number of rooms to be reserved.

## Women Encouraging Women (WEW)

| March 31

This months WEW lesson is entitled Weathering The Storm, and will be facilitated by Judy Franklin. The Scripture references will be Job 1:13-2:10. We will begin promptly @ 7 PM in the Library. Come join us.

## Support Our Youth

Zachary Bobo's school band will be performing @ Walt Disney World, Florida in April. He is interested in doing work on the weekends to help pay for his trip. If any members have odd jobs such as stacking wood raking leaves, moving furniture, etc please call Zachary @ 901-299-3913.

## New Membership

Please welcome two new members to our family. Steven II and Stacy Simmons were baptized Wednesday evening. Their address is:

2596 Lynnfield Road  
Memphis, TN 38119

## Banana Pudding

### Contributed to the book by Cheryle Day

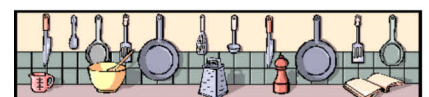
from "A Book of Favorite Recipes" - Compiled by the Ross Road Church of Christ

- 1 can Sweetened condensed milk
- 1 12 oz Cool Whip
- 1 large box instant banana pudding
- 2½ to 2¾ C milk
- Vanilla Wafers
- Bananas

Mix pudding with milk. Stir. Add condensed milk and Cool Whip. Blend Well. In a 9x13 pan layer vanilla wafers, bananas, then pudding mixture until all is used. Refrigerate overnight is best.

## What's Cooking?

Add This One to Your Recipe Box



# Sunday Morning Order of Worship

Call to Worship	Scripture & Prayer	Bruce Reed
Worship in Song	Please Stand	James Riddick
*20 You Are Worthy of My Praise *63 I Will Call Upon The Lord *718 We Shall Assemble		
Prayer of Thanksgiving		David Hale
Scripture Reading		David Bobo
• Dismiss to Gospel Express Today! •		
*73 As The Deer Communion		Bill Randolph
Fellowship of Giving		Bill Randolph
*100-101 Holy Ground Medley		
Morning Message		Lewis Short
Invitation Song		
*90 Create In Me A Clean Heart		
During this invitation song, if you have a need for the prayers of fellow Christians, desire to be baptized into Christ, or to place your membership with the Ross Road Church of Christ, please come to the front.		
Closing Remarks		Bruce Haynes
*84 You Got To Take The Lord With You		
Closing Prayer		Bruce Haynes

- \* Indicates the song selection is in the Paperback Books in the bookracks.
- \*\* HO indicates a "Handout" of a song that is not in either of our books.
- \*\*\* OS indicates that the words are projected on the screen ONLY ... Song is not in book or on handout.

**Sunday Evening @ 6:00 PM**

*Lewis Short*



## Words of Wisdom

Manners are like the zero in arithmetic; they may not be much in themselves, but they are capable of adding a great deal to the value of everything else.

*Humor At A Glance*  
**Laughter Is the Best Medicine**

Johnny learned the story of creation in Bible class, and how God made Eve from Adam's rib. That afternoon, while playing outside, Johnny got a terrible side ache and went home to lie down. After he rested, his mother asked him if he was feeling better. "No," said Johnny. "I think I'm getting a wife."

*Helpful Tid-Bits*  
**Hints, Tips, & Remedies**

To clean your microwave, use a 4-cup microwave safe bowl filled with chopped citrus of your choice. Lemons, oranges or limes work great. Add one cup of water and place in microwave and cook until the water boils. Let rest for 15 minutes. Open microwave and wipe clean.

## Last Sunday's Record

Bible Class	53
Morning Worship	132
Sunday Evening   LG	56
<b>CONTRIBUTION</b>	
Budget	\$4,606.00
Yearly Average to Date	
February 22, 2009	\$3,808.18

## We Believe ...

Though God's part is the big part, our part is also necessary if we are to reach heaven. We must comply with the conditions of salvation which the Lord has announced. Our part is clearly set forth in the following steps:

**Hear the Gospel** - "How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" - **Romans 10:14**

**Believe** - "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him." - **Hebrews 11:6**

**Repent of past sins** - "In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent." - **Acts 17:30**

**Confess Jesus as Lord** - "... they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?' Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' The eunuch answered, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.'" - **Acts 8:36-37**

**Be baptized for the remission of sins** - "Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" - **Acts 2:38**

**Live a Christian life** - "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." - **1 Peter 2:9**

## Welcome Visitors

*Welcome to Ross Road! We are so glad that you have joined us this morning. Please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering tray when it passes. Also, please stay around a few minutes after worship so that we may meet you. Thank you for the opportunity to share the love of Christ with you - we hope you will be back soon!*

[www.rossroadchurch.org](http://www.rossroadchurch.org)