

Central Baptist Association

2517 Wyoming Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112

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Central Connection



September 2008

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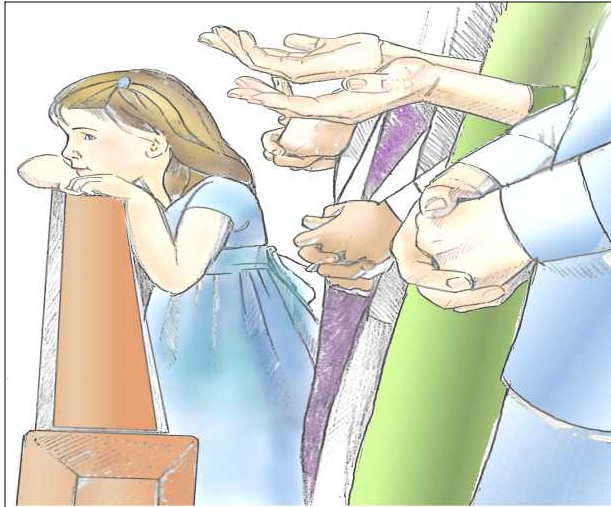
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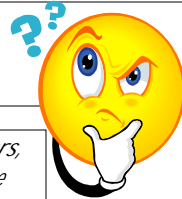
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"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."
 Matthew 18:20, NIV

??...Riddle Me This...??



If a parsley farmer is sued can he garnish his wages?

Is atheism is a non-prophet organization?

Which is correct to say, "The yolk of the egg are white," or "The yolk of the egg is white?"



Answer next month

Ostriches are such fast runners, they can outrun a horse. Male ostriches can also roar like a lion.

I can't give you a surefire-fire formula for success, but I can give you a formula for failure: try to please everybody all of the time.

-Herbert Bayard Swope



What's in Your Hands?

Grandma, some ninety plus years, sat feebly on the patio bench. She didn't move, just sat with her head down staring at her hands.

When I sat down beside her she didn't acknowledge my presence and the longer I sat I wondered if she was OK.

Finally, not really wanting to disturb her but wanting to check on her at the same time, I asked her if she was OK. She raised her head and looked at me and smiled. 'Yes, I'm fine, thank you for asking,' she said in a clear voice strong.

'I didn't mean to disturb you, grandma, but you were just sitting here staring at your hands and I wanted to make sure you were OK,' I explained to her. Have you ever looked at your hands?' she asked. 'I mean really looked at your hands?'

I slowly opened my hands and

stared down at them. I turned them over, palms up and then palms down. No, I guess I had never really looked at my hands as I tried to figure out the point she was making.

Grandma smiled and related this story:

'Stop and think for a moment about the hands you have, how they have served you well throughout your years. These hands, though wrinkled shriveled and weak have been the tools I have used all my life to reach out and grab and embrace life. They braced and caught my fall when as a toddler I crashed upon the floor.

They put food in my mouth and clothes on my back. As a child, my mother taught me to fold them in



...and with my hands He will lift me..

Continued on page 10



They call it “dumbing down.” I think it was originally coined for education. It referred to lowering educational standards to include the performance of a wider section of the student population. Popular language has made it a versatile expression. I have heard it applied to law enforcement, the military, sports, and anywhere else where standards and expectations have been reduced.



*They must first be tested,
and then if there is nothing against them,
let them serve as deacons.
1 Timothy 3:10*

I would like to apply it to ordination. I recently read an article extolling the fact that ordinations are easy to get over the internet and just the ticket for those who want to officiate over their friends wedding (“Chapel bound: getting ordained online,” WSJ, June 12, 2008). I hope that angers you. The article quotes John Holbert, professor of Homiletics at Southern Methodist University, who observes, “This is a result of an increasingly secular society.” Gee, ya’ thank!

Friends of the article’s author received ordination papers from the Church of the Latter-Day Dude. Now that will stir your matrimonial fever. Imagine having one of the most critical decisions in life sealed by a minister of the Dude.

Wild, huh? Disgusting, right? As troubling as I find that, more troubling is what I observe to be a trend in the trivialization of ordination in our churches. Granted, our customary practice of ordination has as much to do with tradition as it does with scripture, but, it does communicate the sacredness of God calling out a person to a specific service or task. I was ordained as a deacon and as a Minister in the First Baptist Church of Los Chavez. In both ordinations, the process of review for candidacy and the ordination service were formal and intense. Both left a great impression on me. My ordination as a minister is especially significant to me. Over the years, it has

proved a milestone, a holy ground for me to visit and recapture that early passion of my calling.

These days, ordination may very well lack the rigorous examination by the ordination council. Pretty well gone is the day when sister churches were called together to participate in and celebrate God’s activity in the lives of those in the community of faith. Gone is the celebratory time the church dedicates to the recognition of God’s activity and to the honoring of a surrendered soul. Today, ordination is likely tacked on to a regular service or celebrated by only a handful of the church family. It is a formality, a left over from “back in the day” that we grudgingly pay homage.



I am not suggesting we do things “like we have always done it.” Sometimes to my undoing, I am one of the first to throw out tradition. What I am suggesting is that we recapture the deep significance in God branding an individual and setting that person aside for special assignment. I am suggesting that we be extremely careful on how we recognize such individuals. I am suggesting that God’s mark on such an individual is a momentous occasion in the life of the church family and is due a celebration worthy of the occasion. I even think ordination may have wider application than to deacons, elders, and those called to the pastoral ministry. What I do know is that God is powerfully at work in the lives of individuals and that activity is not trivial to him or to his kingdom.

Ken Goode



Sep 22—23
State Library Meeting



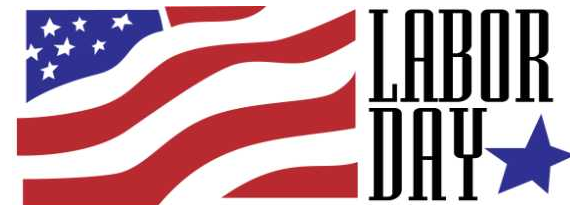
Sep 10th
Administrative
Committee



July 15th
Executive Board



September 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Church Needs / Items

NEEDS

New Life Fellowship— Portable Projector, Part Time Music Person.

Northdale—Floor Buffer

Carlisle Community— Sofa & Love seat, Piano

Sierra Vista— Copier, seats (pews/chairs)

FBC Tijeras—Chairs & Couch, end table

Indian Nations Baptist—Padded chairs, video projector, screens 6x8 or 8x10

FBC Los Lunas—Pastors Desk, Filing Cabinet

Blake Road Baptist—Bookshelves, visitors chairs, folding tables.

We provide hair cuts on Tuesday morning from 9:00 - 11:00. We have room for four Barbers or Hairstylists and when I first arrived we had three and sometimes four. We are currently down to two ladies and we need at least one more and hopefully two more. This program is huge with the homeless community a shower, haircut and a change of clothes to begin your day and week is an extreme lift for our folks.

Danny Whatley, Director
Noon Day Ministry
101 Broadway NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
(505) 246-8001

ITEMS TO GIVE AWAY

Overhead Projector

Church Bulletin Board

Where will you be
sitting in eternity?
Smoking or non-smoking?



Kids Korner



Three boys are in the school yard bragging about their fathers. The first boy says, 'My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a poem, they give him \$50.'

The second boy says, 'That's nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on piece of paper, he calls it a song, they give him \$100.'

The third boy says, 'I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, he calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!'



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Hands

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prayer. They tied my shoes and pulled on my boots. They held my husband and wiped my tears when he went off to war.

'They have been dirty, scraped and raw, swollen and bent. They were uneasy and clumsy when I tried to hold my newborn son. Decorated with my wedding band they showed the world that I was married and loved someone special They wrote my letters to him and trembled and shook when I buried my parents and spouse.

'They have held my children and grandchildren, consoled neighbors, and shook in fists of anger when I didn't understand.

They have covered my face, combed my hair, and washed and cleansed the rest of my body. They have been sticky and wet, bent and broken, dried and raw. And to this day when not much of anything else of me works real well these hands hold me up, lay me down, and again continue to fold in prayer.

'These hands are the mark of where I've been and the ruggedness of life.

But more importantly it will be

these hands that God will reach out and take when he leads me home. And with my hands He will lift me to His side and there I will use these hands to touch the face of Christ.'

I will never look at my hands the same again. But I remember God reached out and took my grandma's hands and led her home.

When my hands are hurt or sore or when I stroke the face of my children and husband I think of grandma. I know she has been stroked and caressed and held by the hands of God.



I, too, want to touch the face of God and feel His hands upon my face.

(Author Unknown)

Biblical Treasure

The following are clues to a bible verse. Solve the clues to find the verse:

I am the first of the letters,
When I am divided by myself,
Pipers piping & drummers drumming.

August Biblical Treasure answer:

Male Paddlers ~ Roman

Almost a baker's dozen (13) ~ 12

Roman single digit Vs ~ V, VI, VII, VIII
(5,6,7,8)

Romans 12:5-8 So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.



August Riddle
Answer:

A pound of feathers is heavier! Precious metals are weighed in TROY pounds, which are only the equivalent of 0.8228 pounds avoirdupois (lbs).