

## Service Opportunities

Announcements: Ted Wheeler  
Usher: Delbert Leavens

### RECORD

Attendance: **85**  
Contribution: \$ 2746.00  
**Weekly Budget: \$ 2820.00**

### *Thought for The Day*

"The man who has lived for himself has the privilege of being his own mourner."

BEECHER

Society would be a charming affair if we were only interested in one another.

CHAMFORT

## Church of Christ of Venice

4301 SR 776  
Venice, FL 34293

### MORNING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Larry Jenson  
Songs: Marty Wingo  
Sermon: Ted Wheeler  
Closing Prayer: Bill Burnside

### EVENING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Wayne Vowell  
Songs: Marty Wingo  
Sermon: Ted Wheeler  
Closing Prayer: Delbert Leavens

### COMMUNION

Tim Simmons Mike Weber  
Troy Wheeler Kaden Simmons

# Church of Christ of Venice

"A friendly church, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ"

March 18 2007

Volume 17, Number 11

## Are We of the Vital Few or ... ... the Trivial Many?

A universal law called the Pareto Principle or the law of "the vital few and the trivial many," has an application that is profitable for members of the Lord's Kingdom.

A statistician, scientist or businessman might illustrate this law as follows; a few countries account for most of the world's population, a few individuals own most of the world's wealth, a few employees account for most absenteeism, a few inventory items account for most of the dollar inventory, a few percent of purchase orders account for the bulk of dollars of purchase. 20% of the key customers account for over 80% of the sales. A vital few of an assortment account for most of the effect or, in other words, the bulk will account for very little of the total effect.

As this law finds bearing and pertinence in things mundane, it also has value in things spiritual. The vital few in religion, have ever been God's concern, thus, the Israelite nation was chosen because they

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Please fill out a blue visitor card so that we might have a record of your visit. If needed, there is a **nursery** available at the rear of the auditorium. **Bible classes** for all ages are available Sundays at 10:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We hope that you will join us for these studies. Please come and worship with us again soon.

### Elders

Delbert Leavens  
Wayne Vowell  
Ted Wheeler

### Minister

Ted Wheeler

### Sunday Services

Bible Study-10:00 am  
Worship-I 1:00 am  
Evening Worship-6:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 pm.

### Church of Christ

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Venice, FL 34293  
USA

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### Outreach:



were few in number (Deuteronomy 7:7). In like manner Hebrews the 11th chapter speaks of the faithful few, of Israel's millions, who were vital as their nation's spiritual leaders. Israel's history is the record of the overpowering influence of the vital few; the Midianites were destroyed by Gideon's minority (Judges 7); the 450 prophets of Baal were outdone by solitary Elijah (I Kings 18). Many an Israelite battle was won as one man would chase a thousand (Joshua 23: 10, Deuteronomy 20: 1; 1 Samuel 14:6); the outnumbered Levites quickly and zealously rallied to Moses' cry of *"Who is on the Lord's side?"* (Exodus 32); and lastly, Peter mentions a few (eight to be exact) that were faithful in the Antediluvian world (I Peter 3:20).

The new covenant speaks of laborers being few in the Lord's church (Matthew 9:37). Although many will be called yet few will be chosen in the language of Matthew 20:16; and concerning the celestial abode - only a few will find it (Matthew 7:14). Before written revelation was concluded, the church of Christ at Pergamos was reminded that in spite of many good works and deeds, yet the Lord held against them *"a few things"* (Revelation 2:14); and wasn't Sardis spiritually dead saving for *"a few names ... which have not defiled their garments"* (Revelation 3:4)?

Today, God's people continue the pattern, so it comes as no surprise to observe that ...

1. for any battles being fought and won for truth,
2. for any souls rescued or reclaimed from the evil one,
3. for any benevolent work carried on,
4. for any teaching and preaching done to combat the intrusion of error,
5. for any activity from pulpit and pew that promotes growth in the Lord's body

... it will be the vital few to account for it.

Brethren, a soul searching question is in order here and its solemn answer spells out our relationship to God, His Kingdom and His Truth. May each one of us be given strength to be of God's vital few.

**Bill Dillon**

## Pet Buzzards .....



Animals are our friends. We have all kinds of pets: dogs, cats, canaries, gerbils, monkeys, turtles, cows ... even de-fumigated skunks.

People are often compared to animals. We say: *"He's like a big ol' teddy bear... He roars like a lion ... He's as mean as a snake... He's as stubborn as a mule ... She's as blind as a bat."* And on and on.

But no one wants a pet buzzard! Why? Because they have a *"buzzard personality."* In appearance they are dull, scruffy. They smell awful. So, watch your appearance.

Buzzards have filthy appetites. They feast on *"stink."* So, watch what you *"feed"* on.

And buzzards don't sing. So, learn to sing the praise of your friends. Take sunshine with you.

What does it take to have true friends? Look at animals again. Why do we like them? Dogs are faithful, cats are cute, canaries are bright and cheerful. Isn't that exactly how the Bible teaches us to be? *"A friend loveth at all times"* (Proverbs 17:17). *"A man that hath friends must show himself friendly..."* (Proverbs 18:24).

It is possible for us to have friends. But remember, no one wants a pet buzzard!

**Levi Sides**

## Remember in Prayer

DONNA YOUNGBLOOD  
 JANET WEBER  
 DORIS WHITE  
 CLARENCE RIGGENBACH  
 PATRICA SMITH  
 FRANK SMALL  
 IVA & LEM TURNER  
 PATRICIA FORD  
 JEANETTE THOMPSON

## Mark Your Calendars

- ✓ Mar 23: Friday Night Movie:- *The Dethroning of God in America.*
- ✓ Mar 24: Cook-out @ 2:00 pm. Burger, dogs, etc.
- ✓ Jun 3-9: Bible Camp @ Weeki Wachee
- ✓ Jun 14-Jul 9: Ghana Campaign 2007



**Welcome ...**  
**FHU**  
 "Spring-Breakers"

## Sermons:

**YOU JUST NEVER KNOW**  
*Acts 9:1-9*

**Joy Comes In The Mourning**  
*Matthew 5:4*