

NEWS

Ronald Stringer has been having trouble with his right leg for some time. Last Wednesday he had an MRI in Tyler and is awaiting the results of that. Let's pray that the news from this and other tests will be the very best possible—**Debbie Rust**, Betty's daughter-in-law, is scheduled to have back surgery November 8 in Wyoming. This is a follow-up surgery to three other back surgeries she has already had. She and the family requests our prayers—**David Hill**, Paula's husband, has started receiving radiation treatment for his cancer, and (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 572-1219
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

DEACONS:

Ron Burns 577-9978
Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:

Ronald Stringer 717-8603
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

November 4, 2012

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Ron Burns

Bob Arnold **Luke Arnold**
Kevin Kanaley **Austin Fulmer**

Sunday Evening

Bob Arnold **Luke Arnold**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Phil Brown** (Opening)

—**Ricky Davis** (Closing)

PM—**Buford Guthrie** (Opening)

—**Willie Don Davis** (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Ken Ferguson**

P.M.—**Kendall Johnson**

(notify Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

Think It Over—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside
Church of Christ
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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The Legacy of R.J. Stevens

By Leon Goff

Brother R.J. Stevens passed from this life to his heavenly reward a week ago yesterday and his memorial services were conducted Wednesday and Thursday in Garland and Pasadena, TX, and burial in West Columbia, TX. Because of his good influence upon so many churches, including the Southside church, I write this tribute to the legacy he has left. May we be encouraged by the good influence he has had upon us through the years.

Family

R.J. and Pauline were married for 65 years. They were blessed with three children. Joseph and his wife, Marsha, live in Pampa, TX. He is an elder of the congregation they worship with, and as might be expected, is an excellent song leader in that congregation. Tim and his wife, Vicki, live in Kemp, TX, and for a number of years Tim has been serving as an elder of the church there, along with R.J. Tim has also followed in the footsteps of his father in preaching and in teaching and conducting singings and singing schools across this country. Tim has worked with us the last ten years in our singings and held us a meeting a couple of years ago. R.J. and Pauline also had one daughter, Paula, who is married to Rich Ladd, and they live in Roseville, CA. Rich is an elder in the church in Folsom, CA. Alma and I had the privilege of working with and associating with Rich and Paula for eight years in the Valley church in Phoenix, AZ from 1979 to 1987.

R.J. is also survived by 7 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren

one on the way. All 7 grandchildren are married, and I believe I am correct in saying they and their spouses are all Christians. Their family is a great testimony to the godly influence of R.J. and Pauline.

His Work

R.J. preached the gospel for 65 years. The last 30 years, while living at Kemp, he has been in full time Gospel Meeting and Singing School work. He has also directed singing in lectureships and in singings over much of the nation, such as the one we have the third Friday night of each January.

He also directed the Oklahoma Singing School on the campus of the college at Wilburton, OK for a number of years. People would gather from all over the country to spend a week of intensive music study and singing. Tim, Dane Shepard and others assisted in the teaching in that school. I have seen the good fruits in many churches where I have visited. For instance, I have visited the small church in Bradley, AR twice this year, and 2 young men have led the singing and did such a quality job it was obvious they had been to the Wilburton school.

Most of us really have no idea of how much good R.J. has done in many churches throughout our nation in improving the singing among churches of Christ. I have seen much evidence of it. Also, someone has said, "R.J. taught us how to

worship, not just sing." And I know that he has helped us to know how to sing and worship here at Southside.

Our Annual Singing

R.J. will be missed at our eleventh annual singing the third Friday night January 18th. Tim Stevens, Dane Shepard and Todd Dennis are an important part of the legacy R.J. has left. They will be leading our singing again this January. There are a number of other song leaders that R.J. has influenced who lead in other singings in many places in Texas and a number of other states. These good brethren will continue to build the legacy started by R.J. "He being dead, yet speaks" is so true.

We believe that angels have carried R.J.'s spirit to "Abraham's bosom" (paradise). Let's follow the good example of R.J. Stevens as he followed Jesus Christ, so that we can sing with him and all the redeemed throughout eternity!

An Excellent Gospel Meeting!

Dee Bowman delivered 9 interesting and challenging lessons in 4 days in our meeting this past week. His sermons were very Biblical, practical and passionate in challenging us to live the life Jesus teaches us to live that we might save ourselves and influence others to come to the Lord. We were exhorted to live to glorify God and to fulfill the purpose for which

He created us and put us here (**Acts 17:24-28**).

We appreciate the good preaching Dee did, and I am thankful for the support that the members of this congregation gave throughout the meeting. We also had many visitors especially from our local community, but also a number of guests from congregations in other areas.

Dee's preaching is designed to storm the will, and it certainly does make me want to live better. He focuses our hearts on the goal of heaven. And as he says, "If we miss heaven, we miss all that there is!"

Let's love God and each other more, work together in unity, and help each other and others go to heaven.

Thank you, Dee and Norma for being with us. You have been good for us.

—Leon Goff

A Fly In The Ointment

It is incredible how many sayings have their origin in scripture: "By the skin of my teeth" (Job 19:20); a "house divided cannot stand" (Matt. 12:25); "At their wits end" (Psalm 107:27); "Out of the mouths of babes" (Psalm 8:2). And the one for this article, "a fly in the ointment," is a paraphrase of Eccles. 10:1. "Dead flies putrefy the perfumer's ointment, and cause it to give off a foul odor; So does a little folly to one respected for wisdom and honor." What a powerful image we see here!

Like flies in perfume cause a

stench, sin mars our lives, making them far more distasteful. For example, if you had been working hard in 100 degree weather, at break time you would be thirsty. But what if the glass of water you were given had a huge roach in it? Would you temporarily forget your thirst? How far different we feel when we are given cold, clean water on such occasions! Similarly, living a fulfilled life is made impossible by ungodly living. Sin brings a bitter aftertaste. Righteousness provides a sweet savor.

Our sins hurt us. Don't excuse them by over-emphasizing good things you have done. Rather, strive to live above sin...period! And when you fall short, rather than excuses, repent and pray (Acts 8:22-24). God will cleanse you from your sins (1 John 1:9) and restore sweetness to you life (Ps. 51:7,8).

Let's remove the dead flies from our lives and be a sweet savor to both God and man. —Shane Carrington

Monthly Ladies Class

Meets tomorrow night at 6:00 at Goffs!

NEWS (continued from back page) is to receive a total of ten treatments. Let's remember him and his family in our prayers—Continue to remember **Betty Mitchell, Relda Marshall, Pat Brown and Deborah Brown Reed**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Irma May, Betty Mitchell, Lelda Thompson and Joan Tosh.**