

News

Thomas Hockaday had his knee surgery in Dallas Wednesday and came home Friday afternoon. He is reported to be doing fine in his recovery—**Donna Carson** is having shoulder surgery at the Pittsburg hospital tomorrow—**Samantha Krugh**, Vickie Brownlee's granddaughter who lives in El Dorado, AR, is having a procedure done and prayers are requested—**Paul Chapman** should be home this afternoon from his trip to the Bible Lands after being delayed because of heart problems—**Brandie Smith** passed away last week as a result of a heart attack and her service was Friday. (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

DEACONS:

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:

Jared Rogers 682-300-3602
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR: November 27, 2016

Serving The Lord's Supper Sunday Morning

Scripture: Paul Chapman

Jerry Wildman Duane McGough
Jeron McGough Dayne Stansell

Sunday Evening

Jerry Wildman Duane McGough

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Randy Blackmon (Opening)
—Kenneth Amerson (Closing)
PM—Bob Arnold (Opening)
—Alec Capel (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson
P.M.—Thomas Hockaday
(call 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
P.O. Box 242
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Thanksgiving

By *Rickie Jenkins*

Today is Thanksgiving. "On this day in 1863, expressing gratitude for a pivotal Union Army victory at Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln announces that the nation will celebrate an official Thanksgiving holiday on November 26, 1863.

The speech, which was actually written by Secretary of State William Seward, declared that the fourth Thursday of every November thereafter would be considered an official U.S. holiday of Thanksgiving. This announcement harkened back to when George Washington was in his first term as the first president in 1789 and the young American nation had only a few years earlier emerged from the American Revolution. At that time, George Washington called for an official celebratory "day of public thanksgiving and prayer." While Congress overwhelmingly agreed to Washington's suggestion, the holiday did not yet become an annual event.

Thomas Jefferson, the third president, felt that public demonstrations of piety to a higher power, like that celebrated at Thanksgiving, were inappropriate in a nation based in part on the separation of church and state. Subsequent presidents agreed with him. In fact, no official Thanksgiving proclamation was issued by any president between 1815 and the day Lincoln took the opportunity to thank the Union Army and God for a shift in the country's fortunes on this day in 1863.

The fourth Thursday of November remained the annual day of Thanksgiving from 1863 until 1939. Then, at the tail-end of the Depression,

President Franklin D. Roosevelt, hoping to boost the economy by providing shoppers and merchants a few extra days to conduct business between the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, moved Thanksgiving to November's third Thursday. In 1941, however, Roosevelt bowed to Congress' insistence that the fourth Thursday of November be re-set as the official Thanksgiving holiday" (www.history.com).

Let's pause just a little bit and think about being thankful. Thanksgiving reminds us we ought to be thankful. Let me share a few things for which I am thankful and then maybe you can add to your list.

I am thankful for My God who loves me so. He tells me and shows me daily. Without His love unending where would any of us be?

I am thankful I have two living, healthy parents. They are my stability. Dad just turned 89 this month. He still is sharp mentally, actively preaching and serving as an elder. Mainly he is a "door keeper in the house of God." Mom, also just turned 86. She is such a beautiful and self-sacrificing lady. They love me even when I don't get to visit them as often as they would like or I would like. But we talk often. However long I have them I will enjoy them. I know I am blessed to still have them alive and well in my life. Many of my friends miss their parents.

I am thankful for my wife and her loving devotion. Her beauty is more than outward. Her grace and dignity are inspiring to me. She is my heart and soul. She gives me life. No one excels her!

I am thankful for my children and their mates. In times of doubt, while raising them, they have shown to be awesome in character and respect for their parents. If my parents are my stability in life they are my motivation.

I am thankful for my eight grandchildren. It seems unbelievable that we have eight, seven boys and one girl. They are our richest blessing. As Solomon said, "Children's children are the crown of old men..." (Prov. 17:6). They tell us the future matters. They tell us we matter. They love us with a love only innocent babies and children can give. It is like the love of the Heavenly Father.

I am thankful for my health and the health of my loved ones. I cherish it. I nourish it.

I am thankful for bumps in the road. They remind me I am human. They tell me I am not perfect. They tell me this life is not what really matters. They are the equalizer in life.

I am thankful I work with brethren who love the Lord and show kindness and tenderness to me.

I am thankful for forgiveness and salvation. For without either, what else is there?

As you devour that turkey, ham and dressing remember God who has so richly blessed you. As you look into the faces of those little ones remember to smile. They are your heritage. As you look into the beautiful eyes of your mate thank God for his/her loving kindness. As you bow in prayer give God all the praise, glory and honor. Don't ask for anything today. Just give Him thanks.

—*Focus Magazine*

Amen, Brother Rickie. You express my gratitude, even though the people in my life and the numbers are different. And I am also thankful for you and numberless brethren around the world.

—Leon Goff

Selections from A Psalm of Thanksgiving

The Mighty One, God, the Lord, has spoken, And summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shone forth.

"Gather My godly ones to Me, Those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

And the heavens declare His righteousness, For God Himself is judge.

"For every beast of the forest is Mine, The cattle on a thousand hills."

"I know every bird of the mountains, And everything that moves in the field is Mine."

"Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving And pay your vows to the Most High; Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I shall rescue you, and you will honor Me."

"He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me; And to him who orders his way aright I shall show the salvation of God."

—*Psalms 50:1,2,5,6,10,11,14,15,23*

Sunday Evening Time Change

The elders have decided to change our Sunday evening meeting time from 6:00 to 5:00, starting **December 4**.

NEWS (continued from back)

She was great niece to James Johnson and Melita Rivers—**Carla Chapman** continues to struggle with sciatica problems—**Eula Owsley**, former longtime member of Southside, recently had a stroke that affected her eyesight and swallowing. She is under hospice care—Remember **James Johnson, Willie Don Davis, Ron Traugher, Judy Hinson, Vivian Stroman, William White, Catherine Moss, Wade Miller, David Chapman, Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Charles Kyle, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Loyd Clark, Maurine Lee, Wanda Sikes and Lelda Thompson.**