

NEWS

Ricky Davis and **Kenny Ferguson** continue their chemo treatment for their non-hodgkins cancer, and they seem to be doing well—**Gene White**, former member of Southside, has been diagnosed with cancer. Gene and his wife Cathy live on the gulf coast—**Courtney Marshall**, Pat's daughter-in-law, will have reconstructive surgery on her jaw June 17 in Tyler—**Judy Hinson's** chemo treatments have been suspended for the time being. The doctors think that she has had so much that it is not doing that much for her anymore—**Kelly Carrington** had her cancer surgery Friday at M.D. Anderson in (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 717-0265

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 5:00 PM

Wednesday

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

PREACHERS:

Drew Nelson 254-541-3815
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

June 9, 2019

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Pat Marshall

Matt Harrel Dale Rockett
Jesse Carillo Carlos Garcia

Sunday Evening

Matt Harrel Dale Rockett

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Ken Ferguson** (Opening)
—**Andrew Arnold** (Closing)
PM—**Jimmy Lewis** (Opening)
—**Terry Jordan** (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Leon Goff**
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
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Volume XXVI

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Number 22

Unlikely Faith

Luke 1:35-38

By Drew Nelson

“And the angel answered her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.’ And Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her.” (Luke 1:35-38)

The two main characters of Luke 1 are Zechariah and Mary. Zechariah was a priest who served in the Temple (v5). He and his wife Elizabeth “were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord” (v6). Zechariah was mature in age and faith, having been well acquainted with the holy and divine for many years (v7). Likely barely a teenager, Mary was a young and unmarried virgin (v27). She would have been poor and uneducated. Betrothed to Joseph, her future prospects of prestige rose to the level of a carpenter's wife from Galilee.

These very different people were given a similar promise. Both received a visit from an angel who promised them a son. To Zechariah the angel said, “Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John” (v13). To Mary the angel said, “You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus” (v31). Who would you expect would more readily accept the angel's promise? The silver-haired priest or the teenage girl? The righteous man who works

in the temple or the indigent from Nazareth? Which is more unlikely: for an older couple to conceive a son or an unmarried virgin? The safe money is on the righteous, mature, and married priest. Surely he has every advantage in the faith department.

Yet when Zechariah receives the news, he does not seem to believe the angel. *“Zechariah said to the angel, ‘How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years’”* (v18). He is made mute for the duration of his wife’s pregnancy because of his unbelief (v20). Contrast Zechariah’s doubt and sign seeking with Mary’s faithful acceptance of the more unlikely promise. *“And Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word’”* (v38). The mere presence and word of an angel of God was enough for Mary to believe God’s promise. Mary even goes on to praise God in a beautiful psalm of her own composition (vv46-55).

What do we learn from Luke 1? A nobody with big faith is greater than a credentialed priest with little faith. You don’t have to be a priest to trust God. You don’t have to be mature in age to be mature in faith—and sometimes the mature in age don’t have the faith to match. To credit Zechariah, by the end of the chapter he comes to a Mary-like faith in God, expressing complete faith in God’s promises about the mission of his son, John the Baptist (vv67-79). But it is Mary, the unlikelier of two, who leads the way in faith.

Considerate Brethren

By Frank Himmel

The author of Hebrews said Christians should consider one another (10:24). How considerate of your brethren are you?

Considerate brethren are concerned about how their example affects others. They are willing to “bend over backwards” to maintain a good influence. They say, *“If food causes my brother to stumble, I will never eat meat again...”* (1 Corinthians 8:13).

Considerate brethren patiently seek to restore those who are caught up in sin. They notice who is absent from assemblies and find out why. They sense when others are discouraged and do something to boost sagging spirits. They guard their tongues that *“no unwholesome word proceeds from their mouths, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, that it may give grace to those who hear”* (Eph. 4:29). They give timely words of encouragement.

Considerate brethren pray for each other, privately as well as publicly. They think about what others need and entreat God on their behalf. And their prayers are accompanied by deeds, doing what they can to help.

Considerate brethren do not dis-

tract others in periods of study and worship. They do not habitually come in late. They take crying babies out in a timely manner. They do not talk, pass notes, or parade to the water cooler, nor do they permit their children to do so. That supervision includes before and after services as well. The kids who run wild and tackle bystanders do not belong to them.

Considerate brethren gladly take their turn at whatever needs to be done. They do not depend on a few to shoulder all the load. They are conscientious about doing what they can financially as well.

Considerate preachers and teachers try to make their lessons interesting. They have something more to offer than what students could read at home in a workbook or a commentary. They try to challenge more advanced students without completely losing the beginners. Yet they never seek to entertain. They also respect reasonable time restraints.

Considerate song leaders do not limit themselves to personal favorites. They select songs based on meaningful words, not just warm melodies or catchy rhythms. They wait for appropriate times to try new songs, when it is not a distraction. They do all they can to help the congregation make melody in their hearts to the Lord.

Are you considerate of your brethren?

Vacation Bible School

Will be June 10-13, 2019 this year. Be

looking forward to this. The Theme of this years VBS will be the *Parables of Jesus*. Teachers and helpers will be making preparation. **This starts just 1 week from tomorrow and will go through Thursday, June 13.**

Pictures To Be Taken

Today and next Sunday Derinda Lambert will be taking pictures of all members. That can be done either Sunday mornings or evenings. Our picture board and directory need to be updated. Please have your picture made today or next Sunday. If needed we can add more Sundays to the effort.

Monthly Night Ladies Class

Remember that these classes will meet the last Thursday evening of each month. All ladies, including guests, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring a dish, and there will be a Bible study after the meal. The class will meet at different homes from month to month.

NEWS (continued from back page)
Houston—Remember **Kenny Ferguson, Marion Shurtleff, June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Teresa Tate, Frank White, William and Yvonne White, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, Catherine Moss, Deborah Brown, and Duane McGough’s father**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Carlos Barnes, James Johnson, Betty Rust and Wanda Sikes.**