

NEWS

Relda Marshall was scheduled to come home from the hospital in Houston this past Friday. She will begin chemotherapy treatments in the near future—**Wanda Sikes** has been released from her doctor and is free to do whatever she is able to do—**Lelda Thompson** has had bronchitis throughout the week. She was taken to the hospital for it last Sunday and was sent back to the nursing facility with antibiotics—June Guthrie's mother, **Ruby Choate**, will have surgery on Monday. She lives in Duncanville and suffers with dementia—**Arlene Harkrider**, Robert Harkrider's wife who just held a meeting for us, had (cont. p. 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:

May 6, 2012

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: **Ken Ferguson**
Andrew Arnold **Luke Arnold**
Ricky Davis **Tom Davis**

Sunday Evening

Andrew Arnold **Luke Arnold**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Willie Don Davis** (Opening)
—**Austin Fulmer** (Closing)

PM—**Ron Traughber** (Opening)
—**William White** (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Leon Goff**
P.M.—**Ken Johnson**

(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

Southside
Church of Christ
P.O. Box 242
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

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

Bulletin

815 S. Jefferson St. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455

(903) 572-2148

Website: www.thesouthsidechurch.com

Volume XIX

April 29, 2012

Number 18

A Little May Go A Long Way

By Dee Bowman

A young man preached his heart out. He was barely 23 years old and this was his first gospel meeting. How his heart did beat when he received the invitation to come and preach for the small group of brethren in this little community. Visions of huge crowds, high excitement, lots of responses filled his head as he contemplated the coming event. When the time came he was almost out of breath with excitement.

Although the crowds were fair, there was seemingly very little excitement during the meeting. Brethren listened attentively, but their reaction was basically one of quiet politeness. He preached his heart out for two weeks. When the meeting was concluded, one person—a little girl 12 years old—obeyed the gospel. He was discouraged, disappointed.

Before returning home, he called together the Elders of the little congregation and apologized to them. "I guess I'm not as far along as I thought I was," he said, "I'm sorry for the fact that only one person responded to the invitation." "I'll try and do better the next time—that is if there is a next time," he said. The Elders sought in vain to console him as he went on his way.

Years past. The little girl grew up. She married a fine Christian man. To this union was born five sons. All five of the sons became gospel preachers. Through their efforts thousands of people learned about Jesus and obeyed the gospel.

All this, because of the effort of one young, inexperienced gospel preacher.

Influence is interesting. You never know how much you have or what that influence may accomplish. Even people who think themselves to have very little of it have been known to have a profound effect on the lives of others. And influences are not always huge, either. Lots of times it's little acts that impress us. And many times we don't even realize our influence is being felt.

One thing is certain: we need to learn that there's power in influence—power for good, power for evil. You have such power. So do I. For instance, if you're an older person, chances are younger people are watching you and some of them are apt to follow your example, whether you know it or not. If you are younger, there are still kids who are younger still who may well be patterning their lives after you. So it's important to "watch out where you're going" as my Dad used to say. How sad it would be to lead some person down the wrong path.

Paul, in I Corinthians 11:1, said, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." The best following you will ever do is following Christ. And the best example you can possibly be is one where Christ is the dominant feature in your life. Lead yourself well and you'll lead others well.

And you don't have to be a gospel preacher to preach the gospel. All you need is a love for the souls of men, coupled with a burning desire to make the words of Jesus known. We need to be so fascinated by the gospel that we can hardly keep from telling people about it. Further, that gospel should have such an effect on us personally that it's obvious to all that we belong to the Lord, and that He alone guides our footsteps.

"And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles... therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8). I fear the gospel message doesn't influence us like it did them. One small rejection and we're apt to quit. And our folding up in our obligation may well cause someone else to do so as well. We can do better. We must do better. We have to be like the early saints and keep on teaching.

How's our influence for good? Do others see Jesus living in us? Do they see the joy we have in seeking and serving Him? Do we shrink back at the slightest set-back? We may not know how much influence we're having, but we do know that it's right to keep on trying. It might turn out like the young preacher, who knows?

-via Anderson church bulletin

=====

Sister Ruby Bell

Mrs. Ruby passed away last Monday, April 23, at about 9:00 PM at the age of 94. She was staying at the Villas due to her serious breathing problems and was under hospice care. Both Alma and Shirley were with her when she died. Her graveside service was yesterday at the Forest Lawn Memorial Park. Leon and Brian Goff preached her service.

Ruby was a very faithful Christian throughout her life. She still faithfully attended all the services of the church until she had to enter the Villas a few weeks ago. Leon and Alma were so good to take care of her at their home for as long as they could and diligently cared for her while in the nursing home. She was a loving mother, grandmother, and sister in Christ.

We will dearly miss Mrs. Ruby Bell. She was a staple in our congregation and a wonderful influence to all of us who knew her. Her mind was sharp and she knew her Bible. She was full of wisdom and experience that was beneficial to us all. Her faith in the Lord and her love for the truth should encourage all of us as we continue to live on earth as Christians. We continue to pray for her family and hope that they can find comfort in the wonderful memories that they have of her.

I am so thankful to have known her for the past two years. I enjoyed so much sitting and listening to her tell sto-

ries about her past and talking about life. It was a blessing to receive her special hugs and to see her smiling face. May we all live in such a way that we can have a glorious reunion with our faithful loved ones in heaven someday!

-Ronald Stringer

=====

Gospel Meeting

The Rice Rd. church of Christ in Tyler is having a gospel meeting April 29-May 2. Jerry King from Allen, TX will be there. They will meet at 7 PM each evening.

=====

Ladies Class

The ladies will be meeting Monday, April 30, at 6:00 PM. The class will be at the home of Jennifer Arnold. Please bring your scissors to help prepare material for Vacation Bible School.

=====

Thank You

Thanks to all of our members who supported our gospel meeting last week. If you would like to have CD's of the sermons, please sign the list in the back.

=====

NEWS (continued from back page)
surgery on Thursday to remove cancer from her breast. The surgery was successful and she will now undergo several sessions of radiation—Let's remember **Pat Brown, Deborah Brown** and **Tammy Willeford** as they have ongoing health issues—**Remember** our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Irma May, Lelda Thompson, & Joan Tosh.**