

NEWS

Christine Davis is still not doing well and has not felt like being out. Because of this, she has not been in our services for the past couple of weeks—**Mary Helen Foster**, Paul's mother, is still recovering from her fall. Paul and Carla are periodically going to Houston to stay with her because she needs someone with her at all times. They were not in our services this past Wednesday because of that trip—**Buford Guthrie** is scheduled to have tests run this coming Wednesday to determine where the radiation tablets will be inserted and how many will be necessary. He will have surgery to insert those sometime in October— (cont. on 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:

August 19, 2012

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: **Ken Johnson**

Ken Ferguson **Pat Marshall**
Tom Davis **Richard Tapparo**

Sunday Evening

Ken Ferguson **Pat Marshall**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**James Johnson** (Opening)

—**Phil Brown** (Closing)

PM—**Willie Don Davis** (Opening)

—**Luke Arnold** (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—**Bob Arnold**

P.M.—**Paul Chapman**

(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

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(903) 572-2148

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Which Church Is Right?

By *David A. Cox*

As one goes about his daily activities, he cannot help but notice the numerous religious groups. Throughout our society, slogans such as: "Attend the church of your choice" or "Join the church of your choice" are very popular. As I begin to contemplate these statements and the implications made, I wonder if the majority of our society has forgotten that it is God's choice that we should be concerned with. In Isaiah 55:8-9, we read "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." The choice that we make may not necessarily be the choice that God has made and God's choice should be our only concern.

As one begins to consider the church that God approves of, the questions may be asked, "Which church is right, since all churches claim to follow Christ?" Or, "Could all of the denominations (with the conflicting doctrines they teach) be pleasing to God?" To answer this, let us look to the Bible to see what the mind of God has revealed to us. First, we will notice the church God approves of is the church that Christ built. In Matthew 16:18, we learn that Christ said, "Upon this rock I will build my church." We can clearly see that Christ said that He was going to build His church, not churches. The apostle Paul stated that Christ did exactly that when he said that Christ gave himself for the church and purchased the church with His blood (Ephesians 5:25; Acts 20:28).

Notice what Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus. Speaking of Christ he said, “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body” (Ephesians 1:22-23). Then, as we look at Ephesians 4:4, we learn that there is one body or one church. Therefore, we can see that the Bible only speaks of the church in the singular sense and that the one church spoken of belongs to Christ. Since the church belongs to Christ, it should wear His name. In Acts 4:12, Peter speaking to the rulers of the Jews concerning Christ said, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” Therefore, a church that claims to have been built by someone other than Christ or follows the teaching of some man other than Christ, is not the one church approved of in God’s sight.

The question then follows, “How can one identify the New Testament church?” The church that God approves of will be the church that we read about in the Bible. It will be the church that began at Jerusalem, on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ (Acts 2). Therefore, the church that is pleasing to God will be one that uses only the inspired word of God as its rule of faith with regard to its practices. It is evident that conflicting doctrines are taught by the various religions

that exist. These conflicting doctrines do not originate with the word of God, but by the creeds and traditions of men. In Matthew 15:9, Christ said that the Jews were worshipping Him in vain because they taught for their doctrine “the commandments of men.” The gospel of Christ is sufficient; we see this is Paul’s statement to the Galatians that “though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed” (Galatians 1:8). God is pleased with those that abide in the pure gospel; those who “speak as the oracles of God” (1 Peter 4:11). The church that follows the word of God, in all that its practices, can be identified from what we learn from the Bible about the worship, work and organization of the church in the New Testament. The church that uses only the Bible will bear fruit whereby it can be identified. Christ said in Matthew 7:20, “Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.” Any group that teaches anything that is not in keeping with what the Bible teaches, is not the one church that God approves.

There is no doubt that there is much confusion in the world concerning religion, but I want it understood that this confusion comes from men and not from God. God desires that men do His will. This is exactly what Christ taught in the sermon on the mount when he said, “Not

Doing the will of God is imperative if we are to be pleasing to Him. Many people may have good intentions, engage in works that they believe are good and attend a church that they have chosen by their standards, but Christ said that if they did not do the Father’s will, they would be classified as workers of iniquity (Matthew 7:22-23). We should never attend the church of our choice, but we should always insist that the church of God’s choice be attended.

Let us examine the scriptures to learn what the church of God’s choice is. May we never seek our own choice, but rather look for God’s choice.

via *Market St. Messenger*

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5 Things to Remember During An Election Year
By Rhodes Davis

1. God rules in the affairs of men. I vote. God decides.
2. My citizenship is in heaven. I’m sojourning through this world of kingdoms that rise and fall like the tides towards a city that has foundations whose builder and maker is God.
3. Our founding fathers gave us a

country with a balance of powers so no one person can destroy this country in a few years—it has to be a group effort.

4. I’d rather spend an hour in prayer or study than the same hour listening to biased talk radio or learning the tip of the iceberg of hundreds of issues that pass like fads. I was a political junkie and news addict for years but it didn’t change anything. I stay informed but not obsessed.
5. Legislation can criminalize behaviors but not create morality. I’ve witnessed the ability of the gospel to make a holy man out of a wretched sinner and change the immoral into modest, responsible, righteous individuals. Reform begins within.

-via *Anderson church bulletin*

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NEWS (cont. from back page)
 Let’s keep **Relda Marshall** in our minds and in our prayers as she continues to have chemotherapy treatments—Let’s also remember that **Catherine Moss** is on mandatory bed rest and will be until she has her baby—**Remember** our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Irma May, Lelda Thompson, & Joan Tosh.*