

NEWS

Yvonne White is to have a procedure to correct problems she has with heart rhythm—**Melita Rivers** is in North Carolina being checked out as to why she has not been feeling well recently. The doctor has taken her off of some of her medication and she is feeling better. She is to see another doctor in about three weeks—**David Willeford**, Zach's uncle, passed away and his funeral was conducted in Gladewater last Sunday afternoon—**Curtis Scroggins' sister in law**, who lives in Talco, at the first part of last week was reported (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:

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

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

March 9, 2014

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Ken Johnson

Zach Willeford **Bob Arnold**
Colton Fulmer **Stephen Hall**

Sunday Evening

Zach Willeford **Bob Arnold**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Pat Marshall (Opening)
—Randy Blackmon (Closing)

PM—Luke Arnold (Opening)

—Tom Davis (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson

P.M.—Bob Arnold

(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
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Website: www.thesouthsidechurch.com

Volume XXI

March 2, 2014

Number 9

Weekend Meeting

(Next Weekend March 7 — 9, 2014)

Speakers: Todd Banning, of Beaumont, TX

Marshall Reid, of Bulverde, TX

Themes: "Questions Young People Ask" —Marshall Reid

"The Sermons I Skipped at Sixteen" —David Banning

Schedule: 7:00 PM Friday, "Does God Care What I Wear?" —Reid

"Penitence is not Repentance" —Banning

7:00 PM Saturday, "Eat Solid Food" —Banning

"Are Members of the Church of Christ the only ones going to Heaven?" —Reid

9:45 AM Sunday, "God is Speaking to Me" —Banning

10:30 AM Sunday, "Is Gambling a Sin" —Reid

2:30 PM Sunday, "52 Days" —Banning

"What's the Big Deal With Instrumental Music in Worship?" —Reid

(Especially for Young People, but all ages are invited)

Southside Church of Christ

1220 E. Ferguson Rd.

Mt. Pleasant, TX

Is Instrumental Music Authorized in Worship?

Leon Goff

We have recently written concerning how beliefs and practices are authorized by the New Testament Scriptures. What God through Jesus Christ and His apostles have (1) **commanded or stated directly (Matt. 28:20)**, (2) given by **example (demonstrated) (Phil. 4:9)**, and (3) by what is **necessarily included** by those things commanded or demonstrated.

Do mechanical instruments of music qualify as being authorized by New Testament Scripture to be used in the worship of the church? They are not commanded in the New Testament to be used in the worship of the church. If they were commanded we would have to use them in order to be pleasing to God. And, every Christian would have to play an instrument unless the scriptures specified just certain ones to play the instruments. Do we have an example of their being used in the worship of churches by the approval of the apostles in New Testament? The answer is no. Is there any command, statement or example that would “necessarily include” them? Again, the answer is no. We can obey the command to “sing” without the use of the instruments, they are not “necessarily included.”

What Does the New Testament Authorize?

“...speaking to one another in

psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord...” (Eph. 5:19). “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*” (Col. 3:17).

Other scriptures that mention singing are: “*And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives*” (Matt. 26:30; Mark 14:26). “*But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God...*” (Acts 16:25). “*For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to your name*” (Rom. 15:9b). “*I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding*” (1 Cor. 14:15b). “*In the midst of the congregation I will sing praise to you*” (Heb. 2:12b). “*Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms*” (James 5:13).

These passages make it obvious that according to the New Testament the people of God were authorized to **sing** psalms, hymns and spiritual songs in praise and worship to God. Included in some of these passages this worship in singing was done when the church was assembled together. No one can question **singing in church worship!**

Where is the New Testament Authority for Instrumental Music in Church Worship?

The New Testament authorizes **singing** in worship to God. Where is the authority for playing instruments of music in worship to God?

One of the most common ways that some try to justify the use of instruments of music in the worship of the church is by saying, “Where does the New Testament say you shall not use them in worship?” This approach has very severe consequences. This would mean that Noah could have used any wood he wanted to instead of being restricted to gopher wood that God has specified (Gen. 6). It would mean that God was wrong in killing Nadab and Abihu because he didn’t specifically forbid them using the “strange” fire. He just specified what fire they were to use in the same manner God has specified **singing (Lev. 10:1-2)**.

And you could never ask why someone tried to add or substitute an item for what you had specified by saying, “you didn’t tell me not to.” If you go to a car dealership and make a deal for a new Cadillac. But they deliver a Chevrolet. You tell them that is not what you asked for. Are you going to accept the Chevrolet when they explain that you didn’t tell them not to deliver a Chevrolet. Do you say, that’s crazy! But do you demand God to specifically forbid instruments?

Gospel Meeting!

Mike Thomley is the speaker in the meeting at North Main and Gay in Gladewater, TX, this week, **Sunday through Wednesday, March 2—5, 7:30** weeknights. Brother Thomley is the local preacher at Rice Road in Tyler.

Monthly Ladies Class

Begins this next Thursday, **March 6, 6:00 PM at Jennifer Arnold’s** house. The class will continue to meet the first Thursday of each month. The participants have the opportunity to host the class in their home. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend and benefit from the Bible studies and the association. If you have questions see Jennifer Arnold.

Where Will You Be?

I encourage you to make plans to be in each of these services next weekend. Do your best to get your children and grandchildren to hear these lessons.

NEWS (continued from back page) to be near death—Remember **Relda Marshall, Michele Williams, Maurine Lee, Pat Brown, Dorothy Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, Shirley Ferguson, Howard Shelby, and Ronald Stringer**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Maurine Lee, Irma May, Lelda Thompson.**