

**NEWS**

**Joyce Williams** had knee replacement surgery Thursday at ETMC in Tyler and she came through the surgery fine. When she goes to Rehab, the address is Providential Park, 5505 New Copeland Rd., Tyler, TX 75703—**Lenelle Latimer** was moved Thursday from ETMC in Tyler to Pleasant Spring Home in Mt. Pleasant, Room 167—**Shirley Duncan** spent Tuesday night in Pittsburg Hospital, tests were made Wednesday and she has reflux problems—**Judy Hinson** had (continued on page 3)

**ELDERS:**  
**Bob Arnold** 563-2977  
**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:  
June 29, 2014**

**Serving The Lord's Supper**  
**Sunday Morning**  
Scripture: Zach Willeford  
**Kenneth Amerson Phil Brown**  
**Colton Fulmer Austin Fulmer**  
**Sunday Evening**  
**Kenneth Amerson Phil Brown**  
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**PRAYERS**  
**Sun. AM—Andrew Arnold (Opening)**  
**—Randy Blackmon (Closing)**  
**PM—Leon Goff (Opening)**  
**—Charles Davis (Closing)**  
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
**A.M.—Ken Ferguson**  
**P.M.—Paul Chapman**

**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

1220 E. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455  
(903) 572-2148  
Website: [www.thesouthsidechurch.com](http://www.thesouthsidechurch.com)

Volume XXI

June 22., 2014

Number 25

## You are Invited to our Vacation Bible School

**June 30 — July 3, 2014**  
(Monday through Thursday)

**10:00 — 11:30 AM**

**Theme: Stories of Moses**  
**Lesson 1: The Baby in the Basket**  
**Lesson 2: The 10 Plagues**  
**Lesson 3: The Exodus**  
**Lesson 4: The Ten Commandments**

**Southside Church of Christ**  
**1220 E. Ferguson Rd.**  
**Mt. Pleasant, TX**

# Everything Happens for a Reason

By Greg Gwin

We often hear people use the expression: "Everything happens for a reason!" This saying is the postmodern, New Age version of the old religious saying: "It is God's will!" Is this true? Is there a reason for everything? Does God's will regulate all things?

First, some things happen because the Lord has placed certain 'natural' laws in place that cannot be violated without predictable results. For example: a man breaks his leg. Why? What was the reason? He stepped off of a ladder and the 'law of gravity' prevailed. In this sense, we can understand and acknowledge that this 'happened for a reason,' though we doubt that this is what the postmodern crowd means when they use that expression.

But, we must essentially protest the claim that God has totally predestined our lives, or that His 'will' controls every aspect of our existence. The Scriptures make it clear that God gives people choice. Joshua's famous statement makes this abundantly clear: "Choose this day whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15). We know that the invitation for salvation is open to all, but each one must decide: "The Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come'...let the one that desires take of the water of life without price" (Revelation 22:17). So, obviously, God has not predestined every-

thing, else these statements about our freedom to choose would be senseless.

Further, we know that some things do, in fact, happen as a consequence of the choices God allows us to make. Good choices typically bring good outcomes, and bad choices produce bad ones. Many are suffering the ill effects of things they chose to do or not do, while others are enjoying the benefits of wise selections. Moses advised the Israelites: "I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live (Deuteronomy 30:19). To put it simply, choices have consequences. And while this is a definite rule of God, the specifics are determined by us and our free will, not His.

Finally, we must note that there is not always a clear, one-to-one corollary to be seen in every event in our lives. Sometimes bad things happen to good people, and vice versa. Why? Frequently we can 'see' it, but often we cannot answer, other than to lay it to the reality of living in this present world with its physical suffering and death. We may not be able to explain them, but we can use even the 'bad things' to provoke us to do what is right and just--as we seek for a world where such will never happen again (2 Peter 3:13).

—Think On These Things, Franklin Dr., Texarkana, AR 5/25/14)

## Welcome to the Rogers!

Today Jared Rogers begins full time work with us here at the Southside church of Christ as our local evangelist. We are very pleased to welcome him, his wife, Stacy, and their little daughter, Maisy. For months we have joyfully anticipated this day. We have enjoyed his preaching on several Sundays over the past few months, but now they have moved here and they have become members of our spiritual family.

Jared is a young man and this is his first full time work as a gospel preacher. However, he has already demonstrated to us his excellent talent in communicating to us God's wonderful truth, and the good knowledge he has of that truth. I, personally, have already enjoyed and benefited from his lessons and look forward to the months and years ahead. I am confident he will do us good. Let's give him our support and encouragement. Jared, Stacy and Maisy, we are happy to welcome you to Southside. Their address is 530 CR 2360, Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455.

—Leon Goff

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## Men's Meeting

The elders have decided to have a men's meeting to discuss the work of the congregation and to receive suggestions. It will be on July 20, the third Sunday in July, at 4:45 PM. All male members of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

## Work Day for VBS

In preparation for Vacation Bible School, **Monday, (tomorrow) June 23 at 5:15 PM** has been set for a work day. Anyone who can help with preparing materials and rooms for the VBS are encouraged to come and help the teachers. This will be at the building. Vacation Bible School will be **June 30 through July3.**

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**Mike Pittman** is in a meeting at Bradley, AR this week, June 22-27, 7:30 PM.

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## Address Changes

**Kristen Craig's** new address is 2712 Silver Creek Trail, Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455.

**Emily Latson's** new address is 1505 S. Proctor, Mt. Pleasant, TX 75455.

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## NEWS (continued from back page)

another chemo treatment this past Thursday—**Christine Davis** has a problem with pain in her heel and getting around is difficult—**Kenneth Amerson** had irregular heart beat last Sunday morning and was not in our service—**Billy Joe Willeford**, Zach's grandfather, has kidney stone issues—Remember **Relda Marshall, Michele Williams, Maurine Lee, Pat Brown, Dorothy Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, Ronald Stringer, Boots Walker, Judy Hinson** and **Bob Arnold**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*