

NEWS

Joyce Williams has been admitted to the Good Shepherd Hospital in Longview, Room 2331, with pneumonia. When she gets out of the hospital she will be returned to the new facility she was recently moved to: **Highland Pines, 1100 N. 4th, Room 122, Longview, TX 75601**—Lenelle Latimer saw her doctor last Monday and she was informed that she will have more surgery on her ankle, next Friday, July 11 at Tyler—**Judy Hinson** and **Bob Arnold** are continuing their chemo treatment for their cancers (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:

July 13, 2014

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Willie Don Davis

Paul Chapman Zach Willeford
Tom Davis Ricky Davis

Sunday Evening

Paul Chapman Zach Willeford

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Alec Capel (Opening)
—Richard Tapparo (Closing)
PM—Luke Arnold (Opening)
—Colton Fulmer (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Leon Goff
P.M.—Kendall Johnson

(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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Volume XXI

July 6, 2014

Number 27

A Successful Vacation Bible School

By Leon Goff

We completed our four days of Vacation Bible School this past Thursday. It was one of the best, if not the best, since we have been having Vacation Bible Schools here at the Southside church. I did not get an exact count the first day, but we had 75 Tuesday, 73 Wednesday and 76 Thursday. The attendance on Monday had to be near those figures.

The success of this effort was due, in a large part, to the work done by the ladies in the preparation for the school. Jennifer Arnold, as she does every year, did the organizing and subject selection. Amanda Willeford and Emilee Capel spent many hours of hard work in decorating the classroom hallway to emphasize the theme of "*The Life of Moses.*" And their work was a splendid and very interesting display. All the teachers worked diligently to prepare their rooms and lessons. The interest and excitement of the students testified to the good work the teachers did. And there were a number of other women who helped in the preparation and in different ways. We appreciate very much all the work done by everyone involved in making this Vacation Bible School successful.

A very important ingredient in the success of this school was the attendance, as mentioned above. In addition to the children and grandchildren of our members, we had a number of visiting children. We also had good attendance in our adult class, which included some visitors. We appreciate all who attended, and we invite the children and their parents to visit our services at any time. Thanks to all who had a part in this Vacation Bible School and let's look forward to an even better one next year.

Refusing To Enter The Ark

By Mike Thomas

Can you imagine what it was like for those outside of the ark once the “fountains of the great deep were broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened” (Genesis 7:11)? What were they thinking as the flood waters rose? Did they have time to think? If so, did any of them suddenly realize how right Noah was and how foolish they were for not entering the ark?

The tragedy of Noah’s story is being repeated today. Jesus said, “For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (Matthew 24:38-39). The devices that occupy our attention are different than that generation, but the acts of being distracted and ungodly are still the same. The majority of the world refuses to fear God and keep His commandments; choosing rather to dismiss His promise of an upcoming judgment (Acts 17:30-31). When He does finally bring this world to an end, the majority of people will be doing the same thing as Noah’s generation: living for everything except God.

What Noah’s ark was to his generation is what Christ is to our generation, in terms of salvation. The only ones who

survived the flood were those in the ark. The only ones who will survive the fiery judgment of hell are those in Christ. For, “Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior or the body” (Ephesians 5:23). Salvation and eternal life are in Jesus (Ephesians 1:7; 1 John 5:11).

Noah had to trust God’s word to build the ark, long before the flood waters encompassed the earth (Hebrews 11:7). The same is true today regarding Christ. It takes faith to believe in His saving power and to enter His body, before the final judgment. “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:26-27). Unfortunately, many are dismissing these words by clinging to manmade doctrines instead. “just ask Jesus into your heart and you’ll be saved,” say many, “baptism will not save you.”

Those who reject water baptism for salvation to enter Christ are the same who would have criticized Noah for building and entering the ark. “We’re saved by faith through grace, Noah, not by works!” But, Noah ignored his critics and walked by faith in God’s blueprint. Anyone who expects to be saved from sin must fear God more than man and walk by faith in Jesus’ blueprint, which clearly requires faith, repentance, confession and baptism

for salvation (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 8:35-39). Thus, if you are wise you will enter the ark before it’s too late. Forget what your family and friends might think of you. Think about God and how much you should love Him more. Your family can’t save you from your sin and its eternal, fiery consequences. You need Christ to do that. Be wise and submit to God in faith by moving with godly fear in obedience to His will. It may not seem like it now, but one Day you’ll be glad you trusted in God to enter the ark of Christ—as the flames of death encompass the earth.

—Meditate On These Things, June 2014

Unconditional Love is Not Fellowship

It is not God's unconditional love that I long for or desire! I have that whether I am a saint or sinner (John 3:16; Romans 5:6-8). What I long for is God himself, namely, communion/fellowship with Him! And that my friend is NOT unconditional. Think about the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-24. What did the prodigal long for? His Father's love? No! He knew that was unconditional. His Father loved him even in the far country! However, what he longed for was his Father's companionship (presence): "Make me like one of YOUR hired servants." He wanted to be wherever the Father was even if it meant being treated like one of his servants! Like the Psalmist, the prodigal understood, "For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would

rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness." (Psalms 84:10)!

—written by Bill Robinson, Jr.

One Confession and Membership

Mike Rogers made confession of unfaithfulness last Sunday and made request to be accepted as a member of the Southside Church of Christ. We welcome him into our spiritual family here at Southside. Mike is the father of Jared Rogers, our new preacher. Mike lives in Winnsboro, and we will try to get his information in the bulletin next week.

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.

No Monthly Ladies Class in July

NEWS (continued from back page)
—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.