

NEWS

Judy Hinson is waiting to be scheduled for exploratory surgery, and the results will depend on whether she has additional surgery. She was in our service Wednesday night—Kenneth Christopher Ferguson, Jr., grandson of Kenny and Karen Ferguson, is doing fine following his surgery to correct his heart valve problem—Boots Walker continues to suffer weakness as a result of his cancer—Bob Arnold had another chemo treatment this past Wednesday. He is about half way through his series of treatments. (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 717-3788
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:
September 7, 2014

Serving The Lord's Supper
Sunday Morning

Scripture: Andrew Arnold
Zach Willeford Alec Capel
Colton Fulmer Bobby Burns

Sunday Evening
Zach Willeford Alec Capel

PRAYERS
Sun. AM—Pat Marshall (Opening)
—Phil Brown (Closing)
PM—Leon Goff (Opening)
—William White (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS
A.M.—Ken Ferguson
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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Website: www.thesouthsidechurch.com

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The Danger of Erosion: Where Are We Headed?

By Dee Bowman

Erosion is a dangerous and very subtle process. "Erosion" is from a Latin word which meant "to eat away or gnaw off." (A rat is called a "rodent" because it gnaws.) Erosion describes a process where something is gradually diminished in size or quality. In many instances, erosion is not detected until it has already done its harm.

Where is our nation headed? Changes have come gradually. They are changes that in my opinion are leading slowly in the wrong direction. Mis-statements are made by men in power, cover-ups are tolerated, and religious freedom is being gradually taken away, I fear. Government is not what it once was in this country.

Where is the family headed? The family unit is not any longer a unit at all, but a group of individuals doing whatever they want. Fathers have gradually surrendered the spiritual headship of the home. No rules are made, no regulations imposed—just be happy, whatever it takes. (Read I Corinthians 11:1-3). Wives have abdicated their role as "keepers at home." (Read I Peter 3:1-7).

Kids regulate nearly everything in many homes today. They determine how time is used, they instigate what is to be watched, what is listened to—in fact, in many instances, even how we dress. Modesty has taken a holiday. The teenagers' room is a private teen-cave, a place where parents are not even allowed admission. Far too many young people—parents as well, for that matter—are addicted to social media. Family conversation has taken an extended vacation. And sadly, sexual experimentation is far too common

people today. (Read Ephesians 6:1-4; Romans 8:5-9; Romans 6:16; II Timothy 2:22).

Where is religion headed? Again, erosion has taken its toll. Religion has taken on a new meaning in our generation. Even the denominations that were once rather stern and somewhat biblically committed are now succumbing to what the public wants. It has happened gradually, almost without notice. I read recently about what is called “The Bar Church.” It meets in a bar—and while it restricts participants from drinking during services, it does not restrict it afterward. So-called “Cowboy Churches” now dot the landscape. Their participants ride where they want to go and claim go give new meaning to “casual.”

The religious world in general has submitted to the public insistence for more and more entertainment. Their messengers, called “televangelists” are little more than skilled actors—religious show people—who have become experts at promoting a feel-good religion, one which requires little, and makes little or no mention of sin and its consequences. After all, that’s unsettling to people.

Churches which once were considered and considered themselves to be biblical proponents are now accepting gay people into fellowship and their “pastors” are allowed to perform some-sex marriages.

Even Catholicism, with all its rules and regulations, has recently severely bent those rules and turned its head from viewing things among its clergy which would not have been tolerated only a little while ago. (Read Galatians 6:10).

Where is the church headed? The Lord’s people in many places seems to be playing a “follow the leader” tactic so as to gain public acceptance. The church of Christ in many places is not very different from the Community Church down the block. Their worship is meant to appeal to the members. Some-far too many, actually-now feature a “non-traditional service” (Read Ephesians 5:19-21). Some even allow women to participate in public worship.

The Lord’s people have gradually stopped demanding book, chapter and verse for all they do. In the 1950’s when the institutional fight was raging, there were only slight differences between the “liberals” and the “conservatives.” Gradually the call for apostolic approval slipped away and now many liberal churches of Christ have all but done away with the call for the ancient order and scriptural precedent. Erosion, gradually moving away from Scripture, just a little at a time over the past 60 or so years, has taken some churches away—far away. (Read Ephesians 4:11-16; II Peter 4:11; II John 9; Hebrews 2:1-3).

Where are we headed? It can

happen to us. Erosion is not easy to detect. We can begin to give in to a few things and in too short a time be far away from truth and scriptural order. Let us never cease to call for Bible authority for all we do. Let us keep our determination to enforce individual growth among our people. Let us make sure that our young people are not gradually moving toward their peers, or being unduly influenced by the wrong people. Let us continue to not only recommend, but demand regular attendance at the services. Erosion can happen to us.

—Southside church, Pasadena, TX website.

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One Confession

Sandra Kay came forward at our service last Sunday night and made confessions of unfaithfulness and sins. She asked for our prayers for her forgiveness and her life as a Christian. She also made it known that she wants to be a member of Southside and worship with us. Her address is 1002 W. 8th St., Mt Pleasant, TX 75455. We welcome her into our spiritual family here at Southside.

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Directory Information

There are new sheets ready for you to pick up on the table in the foyer. And there will probably be more sheets in the near future when more pictures are taken. And if you need your picture taken to be put on our picture board, please see Amanda Willeford.

Worldliness James W. Adams

A soldier was once overcome in battle by his enemies and fled. The victorious soldiers followed in swift pursuit. The fleeing soldier reached into his purse and drew forth several gold coins and cast them upon the ground before his pursuers. They immediately stopped to retrieve the coins and their vanquished foe escaped. They were robbed of the fruit of their victory by their greed for gold.

Many a child of God will miss the “prize” of the great Christian race because he has become enamored along the way with that which has to do with this life only. Shall the Christian soldier stoop to gather the gold coins of worldliness and neglect to “lay hold on eternal life?”

—*Good News* 6/29/14

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“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the World, the love of the Father is not in him.”

—1 John 2:15

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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, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*