

**NEWS**

**Judy Hinson** was not able to have her reconnection surgery because of scar tissue that resulted from previous surgeries and chemotherapy. But the good news is that they found no evidence of cancer—**Mark Caldwell**, Joyce Williams’ son-in-law, had his appointment in Dallas Wednesday, and they are planning to do three bypasses sometime in November—**Clayton Bellamy** continues in Mt. Pleasant Healthcare Center on Hwy 67, and seems to be doing reasonably well—**James Johnson** was not feeling well Wednesday (continued on page 3)

**ELDERS:**  
Bob Arnold 563-2977  
Leon Goff 572-6809  
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

**DEACONS:**  
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:  
October 25, 2015**

**Serving The Lord’s Supper**  
**Sunday Morning**  
Scripture: Bob Arnold  
Kenneth Amerson Thomas Hockaday  
Dayne Stansell Jerry Don Davis  
**Sunday Evening**  
Kenneth Amerson Thomas Hockaday  
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**PRAYERS**  
Sun. AM—Phil Brown (Opening)  
—Ken Ferguson (Closing)  
PM—James Johnson (Opening)  
—Ricky Davis (Closing)  
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**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

1220 E. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455  
(903) 572-2148

Website: [www.thesouthsidechurch.com](http://www.thesouthsidechurch.com)

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## You are cordially invited to the Gospel Meeting Wilson Adams, Speaker (from Murfreesboro, TN) October 25 — 30, 2015

*“Trusting God In Times Like These”*

Sunday Bible Study 9:45 am: The Verse That Will Change Your Life  
10:30 am: “Lord, Do You Not Care?”  
6:00 pm: Jesus — “Follow Me!”  
Monday 7:30 pm: Saved and Certain  
Tuesday 7:30 pm: Do You Believe in...Angels?  
Wednesday 7:30 pm: God, Heaven, and the Wonder of It All  
Thursday 7:30 pm: The Promise: Exceeding Abundantly Beyond  
Friday 7:30 pm: Pray BIG  
Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 10:00 am — God’s Amazing Women — Eve, Sarah & Rahab

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

# Lost, But Found

Dan Richardson

The word “lost” can strike terror in our hearts. I still recall the night my six year old brother was separated from our family and was lost at a local fair. I was ten, but old enough to see the horror on my mother’s face. The search continued for over an hour until a friend of our family found my brother in a rescue tent eating an ice cream. My family went from horror to immediate joy. My brother was lost, but found.

Jesus taught a parable which relates these feelings of losing and finding a child (Lk. 15:11-32). His parables were earthly stories which conveyed spiritual truth about God’s kingdom. Please consider the following lessons concerning the loss, the search, and the return of the prodigal son.

**1) Lost In Sin.** The parable suggests three matters as it relates to being lost in sin. First, this son was lost to his father because of selfishness: “Father, give me the portion of thy substance that falleth to me” (12). He wasn’t concerned with his father’s feelings, but only himself. Therein lies the cause for many of our choices to sin (James 1:14). Second, this son made provision to be separated from his father, as he “gathered all together” for his journey (13a). The Bible warns, “make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof” (Rom. 13:14),

nor to “give place to the devil” (Eph. 4:27). Many make provisions to commit sin by the places they choose to go, the people they associate with, etc. Third, the separation from his father is described as a waste: “he wasted his substance with riotous living.” Nothing productive or advantageous comes from a sinful life. Separated from the Father (which is what sin does, Isa. 59:1-2), we thwart our Creator’s purpose for our life, to “fear God and keep his commandments (Eccl. 12:13).

**2) Searched By Love.** In this parable, the love of the father for his lost son is without question: “But while he was yet afar off, his father saw him, and was moved with compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him” (vs. 20). This love is further evident by the great blessings bestowed on his son (vs. 22-23).

God loves us when we are “yet afar off” in sin. Such love gave the world a Savior (John 3:16), a revelation of God’s will for man (2 Timothy 3:16-17), which communicates how a sinner can be forgiven and maintain fellowship with God and access to every spiritual blessing in Christ (Ephesians 1:3; 1 John 1:7-9). By love our Father searches to save the prodigal lost in sin: “For the eyes of Jehovah run to and fro throughout the earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him” (2

Chron. 16:9). The gospel in His Son (Heb. 1:2), continually invites the lost to “come unto Me” (Matt. 11:28-30).

**3) Found With Joy.** As the prodigal son was lost by his deliberate choosing, so is his recovery conditional as well. He must choose to return, as seen in these three steps taken. First, “he came to his senses” (vs. 17, NIV). He realized how empty his life had become apart from his father; and that he could not survive on the “husks” this world offered. So must the lost now see their hopeless state in sin (cf. Eph. 2:11-12). Second, he had godly sorrow for his sins: “I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight” (vs. 18-19). So now must the sinner mourn for his sins and genuinely repent (2 Cor. 7:10-11). Third, he arose and came to his father who received him with great joy (vs. 20). So now may God’s prodigal return to Him according to the terms the Father sets forth in His word of truth (Acts 8:22). The Father will forgive and receive us in great joy.

—*Search*, September 2015

## Our Gospel Meeting October 25 — 30, 2015 Wilson Adams, Speaker

Begins one week from today. In the next week it is time to make specific preparations for October 25 –30. (1) Every one of us should make plans and preparations to attend every service possible. (2) We can talk to our relatives, friends and acquaintances about the meet-

ing and invite them to attend, and (3) we should be praying for the meeting—praying for the speaker, praying for our efforts, praying for receptive hearts to the gospel, and praying for the salvation of souls.

Wilson Adams will be preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ, God’s power to save us (Rom. 1:16). We should be interested in our own salvation as well as the salvation of as many souls as we can reach.

Do we want to go to heaven? Do we want to help others go to heaven?

## Meal List for Wilson Adams

Is on the bulletin board in the foyer. If you wish to enjoy the company of brother Wilson and treat him to a meal in your home or by taking him out, please put your name in the appropriate time slot.

**NEWS** (continued from back page) and he and June were not in our service—**Dorothy Kyle** has been having another one of her weak episodes and was not in our services last week—**Kreston Willeford**, Zach’s brother, is having much pain from kidney stone problems—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Dorothy** and **Charles Kyle, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**, and **Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*