

## NEWS

**Mark Caldwell** has gone home from the hospital following his heart bypass surgery. He is doing well but he is still weak. Continue to pray for a successful recovery for him—**Kenneth Amerson** went through the preparation for the procedure he was to have last Monday, but when he got to Tyler he learned that the procedure had been canceled and they had failed to inform him. He goes to Tyler next Monday to have his heart shocked back into rhythm—**William White** has been having pain in his hands. He is schedule to have surgery (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:

**December 6, 2015**

#### Serving The Lord's Supper

##### Sunday Morning

Scripture: Phil Brown

**Luke Arnold**      **Andrew Arnold**  
**Kevin Kanaley**   **Thomas Hockaday**

##### Sunday Evening

**Luke Arnold**      **Andrew Arnold**  
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### PRAYERS

**Sun. AM—Bob Arnold (Opening)**  
    —**Richard Tapparo (Closing)**  
**PM—Ken Ferguson (Opening)**  
    —**Thomas Hockaday (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)

Volume XXII

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Number 48

# Song Worship Training

Directed by

## Tim Stevens

### December 6 - 9, 2015

(Sunday thru Wednesday)

**Sunday Class** -----9:45 am

**Worship**-----10:30 am

**Evening**-----6:00 pm

**Monday—Wednesday**—7:00 pm

## Southside Church of Christ

1220 E. Ferguson Rd.

Mt. Pleasant, TX

# Surrendering Our Birthright

By Matt Bassford

*And Esau said, "Look, I am about to die; so what is this birthright to me?" Then Jacob said, "Swear to me as of this day." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Genesis 25:32-33*

According to the inheritance customs of the ancient Middle East, the birthright of the eldest son was a big deal. Because of his place in the birth order, he was entitled to a double portion of his father's possessions when the father died. In other words, if a man who had two sons died, his estate would be divided into three shares. The youngest son would get one share, but the oldest son would get two. When we consider the estate of a patriarch like Isaac, this extra share most likely amounted to thousands of head of livestock, hundreds of servants, and riches of every description. As the Bible tells the story, this birthright may even have involved the blessing of God's promise to Abraham.

However, in what may be the most famous bad trade in history, Esau gave his birthright to Jacob in exchange for a bowl of bean stew. It's hard to dislike Esau from the Scriptural account. As the Bible paints him, he wasn't really a bad guy, just given to all kinds of bad decisions. This story reveals Esau at his worst. He knows perfectly well what giving up his birthright entails, but he doesn't care. The

immediate need of his hunger is more important to him than the future promise of blessing.

Jacob, on the other hand, isn't very lovable. Throughout his career, he passes from one shady deal to the next, and sometimes, we find ourselves cheering for him to get squashed. However, Jacob did get one very important thing right. He never sacrificed his future to get what he wanted in the present.

As Christians, this lesson is crucial for us too. Once we are born again, God grants us a birthright just like Esau had. We have the hope of the inheritance of eternal life in heaven. However, Satan isn't about to let us stroll through the pearly gates. Just like Jacob did, he wants to defraud us of our birthright, and that's his goal every time he tempts us to sin. He appeals to our lusts. He offers us something that seems so desirable in the heat of the moment, but is really worthless in comparison to the spiritual riches we have to give up to get it.

Too much of the time we make that trade. Some Christians come to their senses and appeal to God to forgive them. Others never do, and end up forfeiting their eternal home because of some carnal pleasure worth even less than a bowl of beans. We need to remember that in the

big picture, we are already the heirs of everything we could possibly want. Satan cannot add to our spiritual wealth. He can only take away, and even that only through trickery and deceit. Let's be undecieved. Let's hold on to our birthright with both hands.

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## Worship in Song Training

**Tim Stevens** will be with us **December 6th through 9th, Sunday through Wednesday**, to work with us in helping us how better to worship God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). While these principles will help in every aspect of our worship, emphasis in this series will be on our worship in the singing of Psalm, Hymns and Spiritual songs (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).

These four days of special services are for all of us who are members of Southside and also for any visitors who may want to profit from the studies. And Brother Tim is also interested in doing special work with song leaders.

Tim will be teaching the spiritual aspects of our singing as well as principles of music. Our singing has improved and we have good song leaders. This series will encourage us to continue trying to improve in both aspects of our worship in singing. *"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men"* (Col. 3:23). Let's look forward to Tim being with us. —Leon Goff

## Brother Clayton Bellamy Dies

Last Tuesday night near 9:30 our beloved brother passed from this earthly life. We believe his spirit was carried by angels to paradise (Luke 16:22; 23:43). He has been in poor health over the past few years and he has gradually declined though the years and months. He was a faithful Christian and husband. He had an optimistic, upbeat and humorous disposition. He will be missed by all who knew him and especially by his faithful wife, Peggy. His funeral service was Friday afternoon. We express our sympathy to Peggy and all of their loved one.

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## The Weekly Ladies Class

Will not be meeting again until after the first of the year.

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**NEWS** (continued from back page) December 8. He was not feeling up to be with us last Sunday and Wednesday—**Ron Traugher** was not feeling well Wednesday night and was not in our service—**Tannie Johnson**, Marion Shurtleff's sister, continues to be in serious condition in Pleasant Springs Health Center—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Dorothy** and **Charles Kyle, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**, and **Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson**.