

News

Catherine Moss had day foot surgery Friday morning at the hospital in Winnsboro. They put a pin in her foot—Amanda Willeford will have tests done March 17 because of pain she is having. She possibly has kidney stones—Reve Hockaday had bronchitis this past week was not able to be in our service Wednesday night—Marion Moon, Peggy Bellamy’s brother-in-law, has congestive heart failure and is not doing well—Jamie Moore, Alec Capel’s mother, had foot surgery in Dallas Friday morning to put a pin in her (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:
Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 717-0265

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 5:00 PM

Wednesday
Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:
Jared Rogers 682-300-3602
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:
March 12, 2017

Serving The Lord’s Supper
Sunday Morning
Scripture: Kenneth Amerson
Bob Arnold Duane McGough
Kevin Kanaley Dayne Stansell
Sunday Evening
Bob Arnold Duane McGough

PRAYERS
Sun. AM—Ken Ferguson (Opening)
—Richard Tapparo (Closing)
PM—Alec Capel (Opening)
—Randy Blackmon (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS
A.M.—Kendall Johnson
P.M.—Jerry Wildman
(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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Number 10

The “One True Church”

By L. A. Stauffer

An expression that is anathema among Protestants today is “the one true church.” In the universal or general sense they agree that there is only one true church, and that its members are known only to God who adds them to his family. In this sense they accept the Biblical teaching that “there is one body” (Eph. 4:4). And to this we agree. But few, if any, believe there is “one true church” that is identifiable on earth.

Even many of our brethren have abandoned the idea of “restoring” the first-century church on earth. They scoff at the idea of studying the scriptures, identifying the church’s nature and character, and establishing it in every city throughout the world. They have given up on “restoring” the ancient order of things and are speaking of “updating” the church to meet twentieth century needs.

To them, talk about getting back to the first-century church and its practices is arrogant and they often arrogantly respond: “which one” — Corinth and its factional, immoral character; Ephesus and its departure from love and its first works; or Thessalonica and its controversial views of the second coming? Their rationale is that churches at the beginning had problems and practiced error and God accepted them. By this they rationalize error today and plead for the acceptance of all churches. And, of course, that’s where the premise of their plea leads.

The ultimate conclusion and foundation of their view is that no man can study the Bible and determine truth—therefore all men are doomed to accept error. What they ignore is that the teaching of what was

later written in scripture was considered the standard of righteousness and these churches were condemned and urged to correct these errors. And what they further ignore is that God not only condemned churches who practiced error, but He also threatened to remove the lamp stand of any church that refused to repent (see **Rev. 2:5**).

Jesus and the apostles again and again stressed the importance of truth: that the truth shall make man free; that one is sanctified by truth; that those who pervert truth will be accursed; that anyone who goes beyond truth is cut off from God; and that people who love not the truth and believe a lie will be condemned (see **John 8:31-32; John 17:17; Gal. 1:6-9; 1 John 9; 2 Thess. 2:11-12**). If Bible students cannot determine truth from error, then all are condemned to eternal damnation.

There is, for example, a way of worship that is in “*spirit and truth*” and there is a way of worship that is based on the doctrines of men and is vain (see **John 4:24 and Matt 15:1-9**). Since the word of God is truth and the scriptures are the basis of righteousness, one must as the Bereans search the scriptures daily to see what is true. Those that do will learn that brethren in the first century spoke to one another in hymns and spiritual songs, assembled on the first day of the week to observe the Lord’s Supper, gave into a treasury as they were prospered, continued steadfastly in prayer, and taught and edified one another by the teaching of God’s

word (see **Eph. 5:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 14**). Is there anyone who would affirm that any of these practices are not based on truth?

We learned these practices from the scripture and we can learn also from scripture what the “work” of the church is, how churches were “organized,” “how believers became members,” what “name” they exalted and honored, and what “purity” and “holiness” demanded of them.

What God taught and approved of in these matters is what we are devoted to and if we practice them we will be identified with the practices of the “one true church” that Jesus built through the work and preaching of the apostles. This we are committed to and invite all men to join us in these practices.

—from preachertraining-classes.com website via *Lenexa Edifier*
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The Inconsistencies of Atheism

I have asked atheists why it is more immoral to kill a man than to kill a rat or a snake. I have never received an answer that came close to being logical. And these are the people who boast that they decide things logically. One such fellow answered that the reason for the difference here is that man is more intelligent. This, of course, would make it more “immoral” to kill an elephant or a horse than to kill a porcupine or a dodo bird. But this still

leaves the atheist with a problem. What about people who are insane, or children who are born imbeciles, or people who are old and senile? Should they be destroyed like the snakes and rats? They don’t have this superior intelligence. And they can serve no worthwhile end in the world. Should the law make an exception and hold one guiltless who murders such unfortunate persons? As bad as atheism is, it has not come to that, not in this country anyway. Methinks the atheist would protest mightily if his child should be taken from him and destroyed simply because it happens to be a helpless imbecile. Like everything else peculiar to atheism, his argument is as full of holes as Swiss cheese, and inconsistent to the point of stupidity.

If I lost you back there at the start, here is the point: The atheist denies the existence of God. That is what the word “atheist” means—A (against) Theos (God). If there is no God, there is no right or wrong; no moral standard. Man has no moral standard. Man has no soul. There is no God to make him a soul, you see. Man is the highest thing, if there is no god, and since a stream cannot rise higher than its source, there is no place from which an “immortal soul” can come. Man cannot make himself immortal, so you see, man is the same as a rat or a snake, only bigger, and (he thinks) smarter....

On this platform, who can say that Hitler was wrong in his effort to purge out the weaklings and by selective breeding

raise a nation of super-men? That’s the way we do our horses and hogs, and horses and hogs are just as “spiritual” as men. Neither have souls. On this platform, who can say that it would be wrong to take old atheists (and others) when they are toothless, bent with age and senile, herd them together and ship them off to be shot and their bodies processed for the calcium, iron, potassium, etc. that are to be found in the human body. If this country should pass laws consistent with the theories of atheism, the atheists would move to Russia if they could...

—Luther Blackmon

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One Baptism

Madelyn Arnold obeyed our Lord Jesus Christ in baptism this past Wednesday evening. We welcome her as our new sister in Christ, and we commend her for her desire to serve the one who died so that we can be forgiven of our sins and live eternally in heaven after this life is over. We rejoice with Madelyn as she begins this journey.

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The Rogers

Are in New Caney, TX, where Jared is in a meeting. Pray for them and the meeting.

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NEWS (continued from back page)
foot—Remember **Phil Brown, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, William White, Catherine Moss, David Chapman, Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *James Johnson, Maurine Lee, Wanda Sikes, Vivian Stroman and Lelda Thompson.*