

Teen News

Thanks to all the youth and those who helped with L.T.C. this year. We are proud of you. We will be honoring our graduating seniors two weeks from today on May 15th. We have FIVE seniors this year. **Kristen Beil, Hannah Bell, Austen Evans, Alex Lowe, & Taylor Ricard.** We will have a luncheon following the worship services that day. More about this next Sunday.



I've heard it said in several ways. An old seaman said a worthy ship had to have both great sails and a strong anchor. A family counselor writes that it is the task of parents to give their children both roots, so that they will know who they are, and wings so they can soar to heights of accomplishment. An auto maker stresses both the power of a car's engine and the safety of its steering and brakes. In each case the point is the same. Things that work in life have on the one hand energy and imagination and enthusiasm, and on the other hand something which guides and controls them. It's true in the life of every individual. A person needs the spark of hopes and dreams and aspirations. He needs also a solid foundation of convictions and principles and faith. Where either of these is missing, the person's life suffers. It's also true for the church. A congregation must be grounded solidly on Christ and what His word says. But it also needs high purposes and goals which inspire it to action and guide its work. Without the former it will lose sight of the truth and get off track; without the latter it will lose interest and die on the vine. There is no joy in being securely dead. Neither is there any merit in being in a hurry to crash. Our aim must ever be to accomplish great things for our Lord while standing firmly upon His word.

Doing Your Best

Many years ago in a textile factory there was a sign on the wall which read: "If your threads get tangled, send for the foreman." One woman who was fairly new was a diligent worker, but her threads got tangled one day. She tried to disentangle them, but her efforts only made matters worse. Finally she gave up and called the foreman. He came and looked for a few moments and then asked: "You have been trying to untangle them yourself, haven't you?" "Yes," she replied. "Why didn't you send for me, according to the instruction?" She shrugged her shoulders and said: "I did my best." With much tact, yet, with great insight, he quietly said: "Remember that doing your best is sending for me." How often in life have we tried to straighten out our own messes, only to make things worse, and certainly not to solve things? We think that a little more human effort, a bit more human wisdom, and a touch of human ingenuity are the solution. But mankind in general and individuals in particular tend to make the same mistakes over and over again. Bad habits remain in place. Errors are repeated. We may even excuse our conduct by saying: "I did my best." Then God gently, yet firmly, reminds us: "Doing your best is calling for me." Paul did the best that he could do, but it was not good enough. He mused: "I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate....I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do....Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?" (Rom. 7:15-24). But Paul had learned that to call on the name of Jesus was the best he could do and the solution to his problem (Rom. 10:9-13).

DOOR GREETERS

May 8, 2011
Sue Grubbs & Lois King

COMMUNION PREPARATION

May 8 2011
Bob Stech

Gospel Worker

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Pulpit Minister
Blake Baker
Youth Minister
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Personal Evangelism

ELDERS

Dan D. Manuel
Dale Sparks

DEACONS

Henry Baker
Sam Ellis
Dwight Franklin
Adam Harding
Kyle Lock

SECRETARY

Lorelee Reeder

MISSIONS & OUTREACH

Brown Trail School of Preaching, *Bedford, TX*
Jose Cuadras—*Mexico*
School of Preaching
Hershel Bearden
India Mission
Ken Upchurch
Tanzania Africa Work
Central TX Children's Home—*Buda, TX*
Tipton Children's Home
Tipton, OK
Gospel Broadcast Network
ASSEMBLY TIMES
Sun: 9:30 AM Class
10:30 AM Worship
6 :00 PM Evening
Wed: 7:00 PM

"LEFTOVER RELIGION "

I read somewhere of a strange custom found among natives in the New Hebrides Islands in the South Pacific. They prepare a feast with pig as the main entree. They devour the entire pig, except for its tail. After the feast they offer the tail as a sacrifice to their god. Their god must be content with leftovers. However, it occurs to me that this is not really so different from what a lot of people think 'Christianity' is all about. Like the islanders of New Hebrides they are content to give God their leftovers. We can see this happening in a number of ways...

Some give what is left of their loyalty. Jesus taught that God must come first in our life. (Matt. 6:33). But many people place God way down on their list of priorities. They are more loyal to their job, or family, or friends, or favorite ball team than they are to their Creator.

Some give what is left of their time. Next to our soul, time is the most precious possession we have. Benjamin Franklin said that time is "the stuff life is made of." We are commanded to redeem the time because the days are evil. (Eph. 5:16). But so often, we are content to give God what little time we have left over from our jobs, hobbies, TV, and other pursuits and pleasures. We give God an hour or two a week and squander the rest on ourselves.

Some give what is left of their money. After taking out the car payment, house payment, utilities, grocery money, entertainment allowance, etc., etc. they grudgingly give whatever is left (if anything) to God. Giving to God ought to come first! "Let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, Paul commanded. (I Cor. 16:2). Twenty thousand for my brand new car. Fifty thousand for a piece of sod. A hundred thousand to purchase a house. Ten dollars I give to God. Yet, there is one big question – For the answer I still search with things so bad in this old world, "What's holding back our church?" Some give what is left of their lives. Some have concluded that religion is for old folks. While they are young they intend to "eat, drink and be merry – sow a few wild oats." And then they plan to turn to God after they've had their fun. – they'll give Him the empty worn-out shell of a wasted life! "Taint Right"



Blake and Brandy Baker to begin work with the Youth Today.



From Dan's desk:

I am away today in a Gospel Meeting near Waco. I will return on Wednesday night. My thanks again to Bernie for preaching this morning and tonight. He always does a great job and we appreciate his efforts. Many of you know by now that JOSH SHELLNBARGER has taken a job with Wal-Mart in Mexia. The Leadership has asked Blake Baker to begin work with the Youth. He and Brandy will do a great job. Blake and Brandy are always faithful and present when the church meets. I have always been impressed with their attendance at Monday Night For The Master and on other occasions when called upon. They will do a tremendous job in leading our youth. They are workers. We also appreciate Josh and what he has done over the last five years. He will be taking a job as an assistant manager in Mexia with Wal-Mart. We wish him the best. We also appreciate our youth and their parents and those who helped with L.T.C. this year. The youth did great and awards were given last Sunday night. They mean so much to the church here at Crockett Rd. We have some wonderful young people and a lot of young children who will be teens before you know it. We have a lot of plans for them in the future. We are looking at the possibility of bringing in a full-time intern to work with Blake and the youth this summer. We will keep you abreast of decisions concerning this possibility. We would like to thank each of you who came to the Monday Night For The Master program last Monday night. So many give of their time and effort to help with various areas of ministry. We are so grateful for you and what you do. The month of May is filled with numerous activities planned for the congregation here. Mother's Day, the honoring of Graduating Seniors, Memorial Day, additional periods of fellowship prove to make this month a wonderful month for God's people here.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES



TO KEEP
IN OUR PRAYERS

PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

HANNAH GLENN, 6 yr old daughter of Frank & Laura Glenn, was released from the hospital on Monday. She is doing much better.

VONOLGA ROBERSON is still a patient in the East Texas Medical Center.

BETTY WRIGHT, sister of Carolyn Jenkins, had neck surgery on Thursday in Humble, TX.
JACK ROSE, son of Daphne Prince, had a heart attack on Monday. He had a stent put in and is doing well.

LINDA GANTT, daughter of R.D. Prince, has breast cancer.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER: Dennis Ellison, Bill Hogan, Gary Oliver, Mary Ann Chapman, Gerald Wilcher, Wendell Bean, Gene Hergenreder, Toby Williams & Hunter Sheridan.

SERVICEMEN OVERSEAS: Jason Mottern, Adam Keck, Jeremy Dixon, & Blaine Kline.

Our sympathy is extended to Lanova Mitchell who lost her brother-in-law, **RICHARD CARROLL** of Athens and to Debbie Meritt who lost her father **CARL MOWER** of Port Lavaca.



The Tuesday Ladies Bible class and Visual Aids group will not meet this week as Dan & Mary Jo will both be out of town.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH



When the preacher mentions "visitation."

A young man was at the end of his rope one day. He felt as though he had tried everything he knew to remedy his situation. Seeing no way out, he dropped to his knees in prayer.

"Lord, I can't go on," he said. "I have too heavy of a cross to bear."

The Lord replied, "My son, if you can't bear its weight, just place your cross inside this room. Then, open that other door and pick out any cross you wish."

The man was filled with relief. "Thank you, Lord," he sighed as he did as he was told. Upon entering the other door, he saw many crosses, some so large that the tops were not visible. Then he spotted a small cross leaning against a far wall. "I'd like that one, Lord," he whispered.

And the Lord replied, "My son, that is the cross you just brought in."