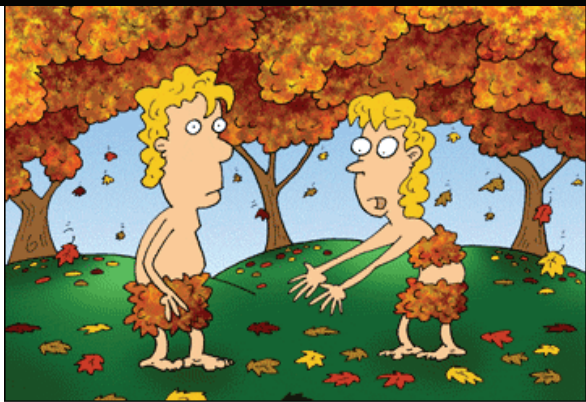


# Teen News

Thanks to all the teens that helped on our service weekend this past Friday and Saturday. We were able to help out a lot of widows and widowers with their yards. We also were able to go out to the nursing homes and give blankets to our members out there. Today will be our annual Widows and Widowers thanksgiving luncheon. We hope that all of our widows and widowers are planning on attending.

December 5th we will be preparing fruit baskets for the widows and widowers. Please plan on being at church earlier that morning so we can get all of them finished before worship.



WILL YOU PLEASE PICK UP ALL YOUR CLOTHES?

## TOO FUNNY!!

The preacher was walking down the street when he saw a very small boy trying to press a doorbell on a house. The boy wasn't very tall and the doorbell was too high for him to reach. After watching the boy's efforts, the preacher stepped across the street, walked up behind the little fellow, and placing his hand kindly on the child's shoulder, leaned over and gave the doorbell a solid ring. Crouching down to the child's level, the minister smiled and asked, "And now what, my little man?" The boy replied, "Now we run!"

## "Leaven"

In Luke 13:20-21, Jesus told this parable: "To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened."

Leaven, for the non-cooks among us, is the substance used to make bread dough rise. Commonly we use dry yeast today. In Biblical times, people used an actively fermenting dough, much like our sourdough starter. The Lord uses the figure of leaven to make a positive point: that the kingdom of God can have a pervasive influence if that influence is provided opportunity. The leavening agent had no effect on the meal used to make the dough until the leaven was "hidden" within the meal. Think of trying to make bread dough by dropping an unopened packet of yeast into the mixing bowl! As citizens of the heavenly kingdom, we can have a powerful effect on those around us. But we can't have that effect in isolation. We have to be "hidden" among the people of the world. We have to associate with and exercise our influence on others. Many times we might think we would be better off if we gathered together with other Christians and established our own community somewhere far from the evils of society. And perhaps in some selfish ways, that might be so. But we have a responsibility to Christ to carry the gospel forward, to "make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19). We can't accomplish that work if the only people we ever see are those who are already disciples. It's akin to trying to catch fish at the fish market: those fish have already been caught! To catch new fish, one must take line and tackle and rod and bait and go where the fish are. But how then do we observe the instruction of God that says, "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord; do not touch what is unclean and I will receive you" (2 Corinthians 6:17)? If we're to be separate, how can we associate with the world to the degree that we become like them? What we have to understand about leaven—or to apply this metaphor, the power of influence—is that it works in two directions—(Matthew 5:13). Be "salt of the earth." we must maintain our unique character. If we take on the character of our environment, we cease to be "salty."

**DOOR GREETERS— November 28 2010**

**Mark & Linda Johnson**

**COMMUNION PREPARATION**

**November 28  
Marty Nash**

# Gospel Worker

## Crockett Road Church of Christ

1717 Crockett Road; P.O. Box 288  
Palestine, Texas 75802  
903/723-6291  
[www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org](http://www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org)

### **MINISTERS**

**Dan D. Manuel**  
Pulpit Minister  
**Joshua Shellenbarger**  
Youth Minister  
**Bernie Baur**  
Associate Minister

### **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

# Nov. 25th



## From The Church Staff

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**HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING**

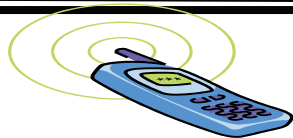


**FROM DAN'S DESK..**



This coming Thursday November 25th is Thanksgiving Day. I am grateful that the world pauses long enough to say "Thank You" to the God who made us and gives us freely of all things. Remember that we will be having our midweek service on Tuesday night. This is our annual Thanksgiving service in the auditorium. We will have a power point devotional service and we hope you will join us for this special service. I hope you will join us also on Thanksgiving Day for a meal here at the building. I know that there are many who will not be with their family and some in the church who have no family who would be lonely otherwise on Thanksgiving Day. We decided several years ago to have a meal here at the building. If you would like to join us, please sign your name on the list and plan to be here. We would love to have you. It is a wonderful day of fellowship and good food. If you are traveling to be with family and friends, please drive safely and we will pray for you over the holiday that you will be safe and secure. We will look forward to having you back with us on Sunday, if you are back in town. God bless you and your family this special time of year.

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES  
OR PUT THEM ON VIBRATE.**



**TO KEEP  
IN OUR PRAYERS**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE  
IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:**

**MARY ANN CHAPMAN** is in Room 310 at Palestine Regional with breathing problems.  
**RUTH COX** has received good news on her biopsy's. No cancer found.  
**ELAINE FULCHER**, former member here, will have surgery in Dallas to determine if she has cancer.

Continue to remember: Ida Lee Parkman, Maggie Larsen, Danny Sumrall, Mary Brown, Carlos Blanco, Hunter Sheridan, Toby Williams.

**RESPONSE:**



**FOR PRAYER  
& REDEDICATION  
BILLY MASON**

**Our Christmas Holiday fellowship will take place on December 7th in the activity building . A list has been posted on the glass outside of the office of our menu for that night. If you will be attending please sign the sheet on the bulletin board near the office.**



**"The Sacrifices of Thanksgiving"**

It's always seemed to me a sad commentary on human nature that we have to organize a holiday to encourage people to be thankful. Doesn't it seem reasonable that if we were genuinely grateful for all that God has given us, we wouldn't need to mark it on the calendar? **"Fourth Thursday in November — be sure to thank God today."** But such creatures we are. We have to be poked and prodded and constantly reminded to do the very things we should be eager to do. We have birthdays so we don't forget to tell people at least once per year that we're glad they're alive. We have anniversaries to compel us to tell our spouses at least once each year that we love them. We have national holidays that nudge us one day out of every 365 to acknowledge our country (Independence Day), our leaders (Presidents Day), our honored dead (Memorial Day), our jobs (Labor Day) and our civil rights (King Day). If we didn't have these annual reminders, we'd let some of these things slip until one day we'd forget them completely. The Bible teaches us that true gratitude has a price: *"Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare His works with rejoicing"* (Psalm 107:22). At first glance, that command may seem peculiar to us. *"Sacrifices of thanksgiving? I thought we were thankful because we don't have to sacrifice."* In the first century of the church, the Christians in Macedonia were very poor. Yet, when they heard about the desperate material needs of suffering saints in and around Jerusalem, the Macedonian Christians enthusiastically pleaded with Paul to take their offering to Judea for the benefit of their brethren in Christ. Paul was amazed that people so poor themselves would be eager to give from their meager substance to help others. But he said of the Macedonians, *"The abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality"* (2 Corinthians 8:2). Though they had little, these godly people were so thankful for even that small amount that they were anxious to give sacrificially. Paul instructed the wealthy Corinthian church to follow the Macedonians' example, telling them that gift-giving demonstrates gratitude: *"For the administration of this service not only supplies the needs of the saints, but also is abounding through many thanksgivings to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:12).