

# Teen News

I hope you all are having a good time being out of school, I know Tripp is enjoying not having to go. Last Sunday's devotional was a lot of fun and I was glad most of you got a chance to go. Tonight there will not be a devotional as I will probably be out of town. Merry Christmas to you all!

Blake

## RESPONSES

### MEMBERSHIP

Karen Brown  
2092 ACR 385      903-723-1975  
Palestine, TX 75801

We will have our annual New Year's Devotional next Weds. Night at 7 P.M. in the auditorium. Please plan to be with us.

REMEMBER OUR  
REGULAR SERVICE WILL  
BE TONIGHT AT 5 PM.



## Those to Serve January 2012

### A.M. Opening

- 1 Guest
- 8 Henry Baker
- 15 J.B. Matlock
- 22 David Sparks
- 29 Owen Perry

### A.M. Closing

- 1 Guest
- 8 Kyle Lock
- 15 Bernie Baur
- 22 James Singleterry
- 29 Jim Hahn

### P.M. Opening

- 1 Bill Chandler
- 8 Steve Camp
- 15 Blake Baker
- 22 Johnny Jenkins
- 29 Jack Thomason

### P.M. Closing

- 1 Billy Lane
- 8 Bob Stech
- 15 Alex Lowe
- 22 Dwight Franklin
- 29 Brandon Franklin

## Serve Communion

Fred Freeman	Jacob Britton
Ike Weatherly	Ben Rohne
Caleb Ellison	Charles McCullough
Robert Duzan	Jerry Sturgess

## Communion Preparation



- 1 R.D. Prince
- 8 J.B. Matlock
- 15 Pam Galloway
- 22 John Mottern
- 29 Ed Compton

## DOOR GREETERS

**Jan. 1, 2012**  
Jerry Thompson

## COMMUNION PREPARATION

**Jan. 1, 2012**  
R.D. Prince

# Gospel Worker

## Crockett Road Church of Christ

1717 Crockett Road; P.O. Box 288  
Palestine, Texas 75802  
903/723-6291  
www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org

### MINISTERS

Dan D. Manuel  
*Pulpit Minister*  
Blake Baker  
*Youth Minister*  
Bernie Baur  
*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  
5:00 PM Evening  
Wed: 7:00 PM

# Merry Christmas 2011





*Merry Christmas Church  
We're glad you're here!*



**From Dan's desk:**

We knew that this weekend many would be gathering with friends and family for the holiday, and that is something we all should do, but you have chosen to put God first and assemble with us this morning. We are glad you did. We hope and trust that you will want to join with us in worship again this evening at 5 P.M. Many are away for the holidays and we want to remember them in prayer, for their safety as they journey to be with their families. If you are visiting with us this morning, we are glad you have come and we hope you will come again. It is hard to believe that the year 2011 is almost history. The year has witnessed a lot of good times for us and sad times, because many have gone to be with their Lord. It has been a great year in many respects. We will give you an update on the progress of the church in next week's bulletin. Our thanks to David and Jennifer Sparks for opening their home last Sunday night. It was wonderful. I know that we had over 100 in attendance. Thanks to Charles McCullough for driving the bus to the Sparks home. Charles is always willing to be helpful and we are grateful to him. It was a great evening filled with good food and laughter and sharing old times. Last Sunday morning we announced that KAREN BROWN expressed her desire to place membership with the church here. We welcome her into our fellowship and are glad that she has made this decision. We were saddened by the death of her mother IDA EDGE who was a patient in Cartmell Home. She was buried in Moody, MO. last Monday. We will miss her. Our sympathy is extended not only to Karen, but also to Sandra Ives, in the death of her father PAUL WORLEY who passed away last Sunday night. Memorial services were held last Wednesday. And our sympathy goes out to the family of RUBY GURGANUS who passed away on Monday. Her services were held on Thursday. Also Dennis Homan lost his step-father, JACKIE RANDALL. Let's continue to remember these families in our prayers. I know that during this time of year, it makes it even more difficult. We hope to see each of you tonight at 5 P.M.

DAN

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**



**TO KEEP  
IN OUR PRAYERS**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN  
YOUR PRAYERS:**

**JEREME GIPSON** has suffered a bad back problem and is in a great deal of pain.

**MARLENE THOMPSON** has returned from the hospital in Houston and is recovering at home.

**SHANNON SPENCER** remains a patient in the East Texas Medical Center in Tyler, undergoing treatment.

**Continue to remember those who are at home with continuing illnesses.**

**REMEMBER our U.S. Servicemen Blaine Kline, David Sims, & Jason Mottern.**

Sympathy is also extended to Karen Brown in the death of her mother SIS. IDA EDGE who passed away last week. Memorial services were held last Monday in Moody, MO.

Our sympathy is extended to Sandra Ives on the death of her father and our member, PAUL WORLEY. Bro. Worley passed away on Sunday night. His services were held on Wednesday.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of RUBY GURGANUS. She passed away on Monday night. Her services were held on Friday.

Sympathy is also extended to Dennis Homann on the death of his step-father, JACKIE RANDALL. A memorial will follow later.

**WE NEED TO GROW UP**

“And He Himself gave some... for the equipping of the saints... to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine,... but,... may grow up in all things....” (Ephesians 4:11-15, NKJV) The apostle makes patently obvious the fact that a Christian *must grow*, in order to please his Lord. Paul states quite bluntly that we must be “perfected” (i.e., *matured*) unto the stature of Christ. This simply means that each one of us must grow up to His standards, and not be contented with less than He knows we are capable of doing. To really grow spiritually, we must apply ourselves *daily* (Lk. 9:23) to *practicing* what we learn from the scriptures. Growth ought to be a steady process, Phil. 3:13-15: We must press on a bit further each day, to achieve the goal. Very often, however, it is easy for us to slack off from the constant pursuit of (spiritual, Phil. 1:10) excellence, and thus fall from consistent growth into stagnation. The Hebrews penman wrote to correct just such a problem; in chapter 5:12-14, those saints were not growing as they should have. We learn there that they had been Christians long enough to have become teachers of the lost, yet they had not. Paul also faced this problem at Corinth, in 1 Cor. 3:1-5. There, the lack of maturity in the Corinthian Christians threatened the very existence of the church. They could do no more in the kingdom until they themselves left spiritual infancy and began to grow toward spiritual maturity. The possibility of “spiritual stagnation” was for them, and is for us today, a great and ever-present danger. We often confuse real spiritual growth with good habits, such as reading a chapter or two from God’s word each day: But this is **not** the definition of *growth*. The key to spiritual growth does *not* lie in simply building “good habits,” nor even in acquiring a great store of biblical knowledge! Rather, it lies in the *application* of what we learn from the scriptures. Bible knowledge is of very little value to a Christian *until* it is put to use in the Kingdom! This simple fact makes real spiritual growth a hard, and often, a *slow* process. Yet *this* is the sort of *single-minded exertion* necessary to “grow in the grace and knowledge of ... Jesus Christ” (2 Pet. 3:18). In many ways, the Christian life is an exhausting, challenging life to live! **MAY WE ALL BE FOUND GROWING in 2012**