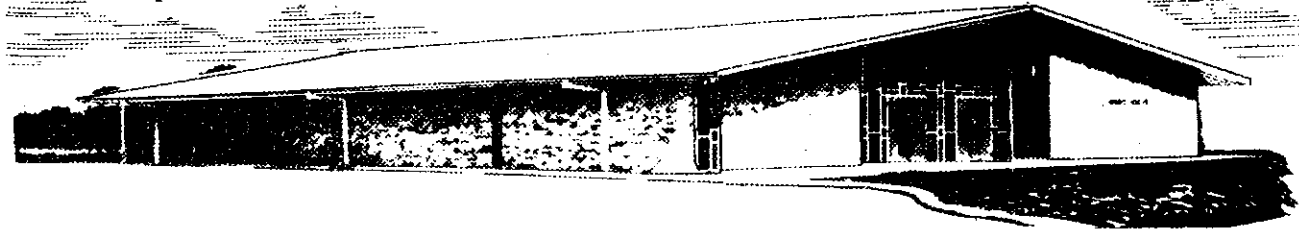


HAPPENINGS in God's Family



Vol. 7

January 25, 1981

No. 2



MOMENTS WITH MARVIN

I'm so thankful for the way you received the first lesson on the "one another" passages. I have never had so many people comment to me about a sermon. Brethren, these lessons get to the heart of Christianity! There are 11 more. Please do all you can to hear all of them. We'll talk about being "devoted to one another" this Lord's Day. Come worship with us, and encourage someone else to come!

The class on "The Family" will be delayed for one week. We will begin this class on February 8th. I'm looking forward to it, and hope you are. Invite someone to attend with you. Wives, your husbands must attend. Husbands, you will be the richer for doing so. Promise!

Let's all really pray for "one another." It will change things!

YOUTH SCENE

The annual Valentine Banquet for grades 7-12 will be February 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. You'll want to attend 'cause it'll be a fun time! Yours truly will be the guest speaker and you'll want to hear what I'm going to say. Fact is, I'd like to hear what I'm going to say! Wish I knew!

Sincerely Speaking

We do appreciate those who worked so hard cleaning our building. The janitorial crew worked hard stripping and waxing the floors. Let's all do our part helping make their job easier by placing our trash (Paper, gum, gum wrappers, etc.) in a waste basket. It will be appreciated.

NO BULLETIN LAST WEEK

We have been delayed on obtaining our mailing permit, and it contributed to our temporarily running out of bulletin jackets.

"If a hypocrite is between you and God, he is closer to God than you."

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY, January 11, 1981

Bible Study	138
Morning Worship	172
Evening Worship	106
Contribution	\$ 945.95

SUNDAY, January 18, 1981

Bible Study	122
Morning Worship	164
Evening Worship	113
Contribution	\$1143.83

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1981

Bible Classes	103
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THOSE TO SERVE JANUARY 25, 1981

A.M. PRAYERS: Weaver Mills
P.M. PRAYERS: E. Shelton, Jr.
Wilford Trickler W. Robertson

NURSERY: Cathy Weir; Valerie Martin

BIBLE HOUR: Grady King; Weaver Mills

NOTE: *If you are unable to serve on this date, please call Haskell Roberts at 628-3954.*

BOLES HOME TRUCK TO RUN

The grocery truck from Boles Home will be here the week of Feb. 1st. Juice, honey, and mayonnaise are some items that they have requested.

BUS REPORT

SUNDAY, A.M.	14
SUNDAY, P.M.	11
WEDNESDAY	17

Elders:
Weaver P. Mills, Jr. 628-2980
Wyndell Robertson 628-2244
Ernest Shelton, Jr. 628-2201

Minister:
Marvin L. Weir 628-3295

Office:
Suzette Tyndell, Secretary
610 McCoy Blvd.
Phone: 214-628-2891

Deacons:
Ben Doolley
DeWayne Hardage
Russell Tyndell
John Imman
Elliott Raney

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday:
Bible Classes . . . 9:30 A.M.
A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M.
P.M. Worship 6:00 P.M.

Tuesday:
Ladies Bible
Class 10:00 A.M.

Wednesday:
Bible Classes . . . 7:30 P.M.

WHERE YOU ARE
ALWAYS WELCOME

Church of Christ at New Boston
610 McCoy Blvd. - Hwy. 8 North
New Boston, Texas 75570

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MARVIN L. WEIR, Editor

SEEDS OF DISCONTENT

During these past several years I have observed a number of good works go sour. Relationships between congregations and preachers which had appeared to be the most permanent are suddenly terminated. Unmatched potential vanishes. Hearts are broken. Bitterness is obvious. Congregations may never recover what they once had, at least not for many years to come.

I certainly do not have all the answers. No one from a distance can fully determine what has gone wrong. We are only saddened by the knowledge that once certain corners are turned it seems nothing can be done to remedy the situation. Perhaps the following observations will help us create our own safeguards:

1. Preachers get sold on themselves. They sometimes become masters instead of servants. They become defensive of their own shortcomings. They begin to feel that the success of a work depends almost totally upon them, hence they think that all kinds of special concessions should be made for their personal benefit. Some of these dangers only increase with long tenure. This drives them to confrontations over matters of judgment.
2. Elders begin to deal harshly with members. They begin to exercise authority rather than leading by loving example. They begin to depend more and more on "position papers" by which they make known their wishes on any number of subjects, with the "big stick" of implied threat being always evident. They forget that even discipline must be administered with love and concern: and that they are able to guide only to the extent that a congregation is willing to accept their leadership. Thus a crisis develops.
3. Deacons become jealous for authority. They begin either openly or subtly to try to dictate to the elders. They begin to complain that they have nothing to do; but often are unwilling to carry out suggested assignments, until it becomes obvious that they do not really want a work to do but the exercise of authority. They contribute to the discontent of others by harping against a program or criticizing the elders or preachers.
4. People react in bitterness against one another. They have been hurt, so they want to get back at somebody. They feel that they have been mistreated, offended, or ignored, and they want everyone to know it. Others have not properly communicated with them. They were not consulted in advance about the plans being made. They get even for the wrong, real or imagined, by having nothing to do with the program.
5. All concerned think first of change rather than improvement. Preachers wonder how to get rid of an elder who makes life unpleasant. Elders wonder if all their problems would be solved by another preacher. Members think that moving their membership will place them in the Promised Land. All this is easier than facing the fact that we have common problems that demand common solutions and united efforts. It is less damaging to our ego to shift the blame rather than to face the fact that we may be a part of the problem.

The results: Preachers move. Elders resign. Members change their membership. The church is hurt. Marvelous potential is lost. The banner of Christ falls in the dust.

Jesus gave the solution for it all: "Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." Why can't we learn to live by it???

-Jack Gray



News & Notes

In the Hospital...

NEW BOSTON GENERAL: Irene Grider remains in room 202 while recovering from her recent stroke.

SAN ANTONIO: Gwen Canfield remains in a coma.

M.D. ANDERSON: James Martin will be in the hospital for 5 or 6 weeks as he undergoes special treatment.

AT HOME: Charlene Yates; Vesta Cox; Don Jones. Please remember all our ill in your prayers.

REQUESTING PRAYERS

Janie Boswell (1-11-81)

Frances Mills (1-18-81)

NURSING HOME DEVOTIONAL

There will be a group at the home at 6:15 p.m. this coming Monday. We hope you can help us by being present for the singing and devotional.

VISITATION/FELLOWSHIP REORGANIZATION

These teams met for a fellowship dinner and reorganized on the 13th. We do appreciate those that are helping us in this effort. Team captains are as follows:

- Team I -- Jimmy Boswell
- Team II -- Elliott Raney
- Team III -- John Inman

Any one who would like to be a part of this program is invited to join one of these teams. Any group would be delighted for you to meet with them.

Our Sympathy

We do extend our deepest sympathy to Sister Opal McGright at the recent death of her son, Owen Anglin. Our prayer is that God might continue to be her source of strength.

Library Gifts

The church has placed the book entitled, Paul, Apostle Of The Heart Set Free by F. F. Bruce in the library in memory of Sis. McGright's son, Owen Anglin.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I want to thank you for the prayers and thoughts during my stay in the hospital. Thanks to Cathy for driving so far & visiting me in the hospital. It is great to be a part of such a wonderful family.

In Christian love,
Martah Rust

(The mother of Marlene Watkins)

ASSIGNMENTS

Russell Tyndell will be the deacon in charge of literature & supplies. This was James Martin's responsibility while serving as a deacon. We are glad James will continue to help in this area as he does a great job!



A.M. "Devoted To One Another"

P.M. "Filling The Woodbox"

"Come . . . let us reason together"
Isa. 1:18