

DISDAIN FOR DOCTRINE

Some among us have begun to develop an avowed distaste and an implied disdain for doctrinal matters. A preaching brother recently observed that he had not preached a doctrinal sermon in over two years! Another is quoted as having said that he never brings up doctrinal matters in assemblies which are composed primarily of non-Christians!

Has our thinking become so closely bound to that of denominationalists that we now desire to be thought of as "one of the crowd"? Do we want to preach the same sermons as denominational people delight in hearing, i. e., collections of polite platitudes that make about as much of an impression on sinners as a drop of water on the ocean tides. Shall we abandon the distinctive sound of authoritative gospel preaching?

Perhaps many do not understand it, but there can be no preaching apart from doctrine. Doctrine is "something that is taught". Can any man profess faith in the One God or in the Scriptures without making a doctrinal statement? Preach love, joy, peace, and similar matters and you are still dealing with matters of doctrine (teaching). It is absurd to think that there can be any religious discussion or statement without involving doctrine.

We nevertheless understand those who profess to have left off doctrinal preaching. They mean that they do not preach on such controversial subjects as baptism, the one body or instrumental music. But still the question remains, WHY? Is there no objective truth to be sought in regard to these and similar subjects? Or, are some afraid to teach things with which the unsaved will take issue and disagree?

This question should be asked of those who disdain doctrinal sermons: "Why do you preach at all?" If they do not tell people of the distinctive nature of New Testament Christianity as opposed to denominationalism, they imply that their present status is acceptable before God and that they fellowship them in their error. Why not share their pulpit with some sectarian preacher in town? He doesn't preach "doctrinal" sermons, either!

"But if we preach doctrine we will drive those people away. They will stop listening. Then we will never reach them," one objects. If you are not preaching the clear commands of the Gospel, with what do you hope to reach them? Are you trying to save them or to convince them that you are a nice fellow?

Rubel Shelly
Nashville, TN



News & Notes

HOSPITALIZED

NEW BOSTON GENERAL: Vesta Cox remains in room 213.

WADLEY: Jo Harmon continues to mend from her recent surgery in room 469 (she hopes to be dismissed soon).

DALLAS: Theo Johnson has returned to Dallas for additional tests.

AT HOME: Steve Higginbotham has had a bout with strep throat; Weaver Mills was ailing with an allergy; Richard and Winnie Tucker have been ill with a virus.



Loran Mocny; Tommy Mocny

On Thursday, March 12, at 5:00 p.m. Loran and Tommy were immersed into Christ and His church. Our prayer is that they might always be obedient to His every will.

NURSING HOME DEVO

A group will gather at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, March 23rd for a devotional and singing at the Nursing Home. We need YOU to help us on this occasion.

FIRST SUNDAY SINGING

Don't forget! April 5th -- here at New Boston -- we host the area singing. I hope each one will make an extra effort to participate between the hours of 2:30 and 4:00 p.m.



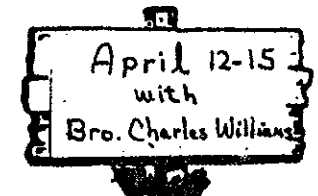
I would like to thank each of you for the visits and cards while I was in the hospital. They were deeply appreciated.

In Christian love,
Nancy Shirley

NEW VAN PURCHASED

As was announced last Sunday, we have purchased a new 15 passenger Dodge Van to facilitate our work here. This will be a tool that we really need, and will be used in numerous ways. We plan to serve both young and those not so young, and hopefully will be attending seminars, lectures, meetings, singings, rallies, etc. as a group whenever possible.

GOSPEL MEETING



SONGLEADER: GEORGE STEGALL

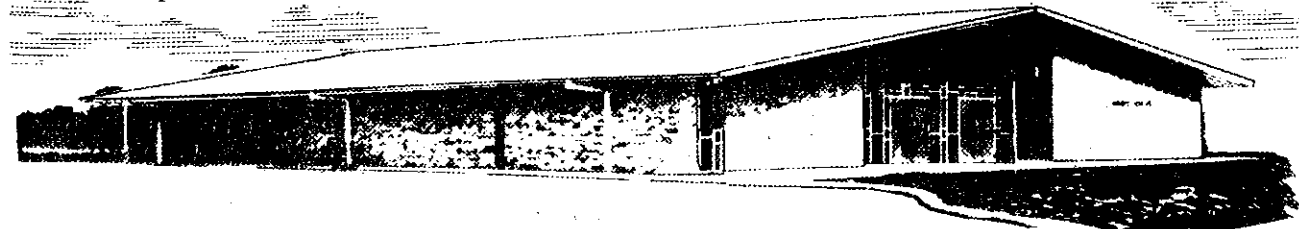


A.M. "Serve One Another"

P.M. "Formula For Peace"

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

HAPPENINGS in God's Family



Vol. 7

March 22, 1981

No. 10



OUR NEW TAPE MINISTRY

We are now recording both sermons each Lord's Day for the benefit of our members. If you miss a sermon or would like to share a lesson with a shut-in or friend you may check out the tape at the church office. This could be so meaningful to so many -- the potential and possibilities are many.

Our special thanks goes to Grady King who volunteered to share a sermon with those at the Nursing Home every Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m. We are trying to reach out to the needs of others; let's all resolve to do whatever we can to glorify our God!

Plan Ahead So You Can
Enjoy Every Service Of the Coming

GOSPEL MEETING
GOD IS COUNTING ON YOUR
PRAYERS AND PRESENCE

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY, March 15, 1981

Bible Study	153
Morning Worship	176
Evening Worship	113
Contribution	\$ 1082.40

WEDNESDAY, March 18, 1981

Bible Classes	100
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THOSE TO SERVE MARCH 22, 1981

A.M. PRAYERS:	P.M. PRAYERS:
John Inman	Jerry Yates
James Williams	Elliott Raney

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

OUR VISITORS

Mr. & Mrs. Neal Lancaster of De Kalb worshipped with us Sunday morning; Merna Bethany of Stamps, Arkansas was visiting with the Duke's. Sis. Connie Robertson was visiting with Wyndell and Marie.

BUS REPORT	SUNDAY, A.M. -----	24
	SUNDAY, P.M. -----	17
	WEDNESDAY -----	17

Christ Is Calling You to



**PRESS TOWARD
THE
MARK**

Attend Every Week
Invite Others to Attend
Run the Race with Patience

Follow Christ's Call

"So Run That Ye May Obtain." 1 Cor. 9:24

Elders:
Weaver P. Mills, Jr. 629-2980
Wyndell Robertson 628-2244
Ernest Shelton, Jr. 628-2201

Minister:
Marvin L. Weir 628-3295

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Deacons:
Ben Doolley
DeWayne Hardage
Russell Tyndell
John Inman
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.

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