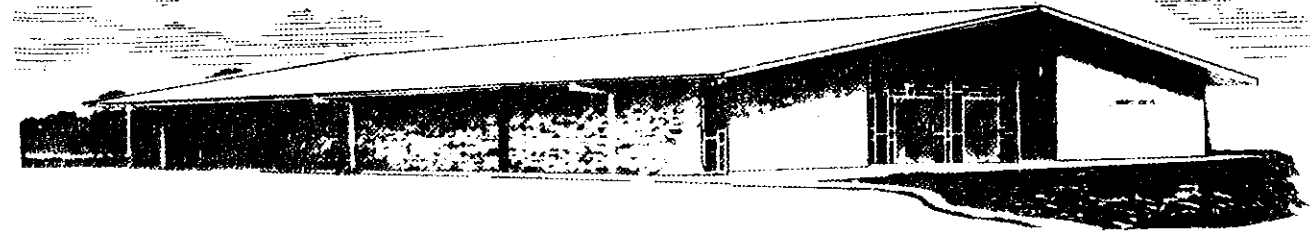


HAPPENINGS in God's Family



Vol. 8

November 14, 1982

No. 46



I still hear people saying good things about our recent meeting. If each one will take seriously the lessons that were presented on discipleship, it will make a tremendous difference in this congregation! Will you accept the challenge?

If you missed last Sunday's sermon on **Church Discipline** you need to make arrangements to listen to it. We will continue with the second lesson in this special series this coming Lord's Day.

Our attendance was good the Sunday of our meeting, and it was good again last Lord's Day. Let's keep it up! It should really hurt one to have to miss assembling together with the saints each week.

This column is being written on Tuesday as I'm leaving early Wednesday morning for San Antonio to see a friend who is ill. I'll return late Friday night. See you in worship Sunday!

ON BEING LIKE JESUS

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Phil 2:5). Jesus left us an example so that we might "follow in His steps" (1 Pet. 2:21).

We want to be like Him as He walks on the water, but we don't want to walk the dirty floor of a poor man's hovel.

We would raise the dead, but will not hold the hand of the sick.

We would turn water into wine, but will not turn our own money into food, clothing and shelter for the needy.

We would still a storm on Galilee, but will not calm the troubled heart of a neighbor.

We would open the eyes of the blind but will not share the light with those who live in darkness.

We would miraculously heal crippled bodies, but will not aid the handicapped.

We would restore the deaf man's hearing, but will not share with him what they need most to hear.

We want to be like Jesus, but we prefer to walk with Him in triumph over palm branches, not under the weight of the cross. We want the crown, but not the cross. We would like to have a scepter, but not a shepherd's staff. We prefer to be robed in a royal garment of purple, not girded with the towel of lowly service.

We want to be like Jesus as King and miracle worker, but not as a servant.

— Max Hughes

WHY NOT RESOLVE TO STUDY
.. With The LORD'S People
.. From The LORD'S Book
.. In The LORD'S House
.. On The LORD'S Day?

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1982

Bible Study 119
Morning Worship 174
Evening Worship 143
Contribution \$ 1219.25

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1982

Bible Classes 104

THOSE TO SERVE NOVEMBER 14, 1982

A.M. PRAYERS: Rickey Bureson
P.M. PRAYERS: DeWayne Hardage
Allen Freeman B. Higginbotham

SCRIPTURE READING: James Boswell
(I Cor. 5:4-7)

BIBLE HOUR: Jean Raney

NURSERY: Nena Clement
Glenda Mills

NOTE: If you are unable to serve on this date, please call Jerry Yates at 628-2441.

OUR VISITORS

Billy Johnson & family of Irving, TX; Neal & Joye Lancaster of DeKalb; David, Marie, Jon & Shannon Dooley of Plano, TX were guests of Ben, Alicia, Kyle & Todd Dooley; John-Fletcher Raney of New Boston was a guest of Justin & Blake Tyndell; Terry Emerson of DeKalb was a guest of Pat & Lora Blanks.

**Together,
we can
do MORE.**

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

Minister:
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Deacons:
Ben Dooley
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
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Church of Christ at New Boston
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MARVIN L. WEIR, Editor

PREACHERS AND CHURCHES

Over the years there has been much discussion as to why preachers move so often. There are a multitude of reasons, but one which seems to always be an underlying factor is the relationship between the preacher and the church. When preachers and churches can accept each other for what they are and not what each wishes the other were, a long relationship can be sustained. Otherwise, two to four years will be the maximum.

After a preacher has been with the church two years, he has had time to find out what is beneath the surface. He has rattled all the skeletons and knows the problems and personal foibles of everyone. As he begins to wrestle with the sins of the congregation in his preaching, friction begins to develop. Not everyone is willing to face their sin and do something about it.

At the same time, the congregation has discovered the weaknesses and failures of the preacher. He, too, has sins. Not everything about his personality is pleasing to everyone. He has personal traits that some dislike. The congregation knows everything about him and has already decided what they like and dislike in his personality.

In this same two years, the preacher has had time to offend all the people that had better not be offended. He has made a bushel of mistakes and is reaping the consequences of them in strained relationships.

In other words, "the honeymoon is over." Now it is down to the daily business of working and growing together. This period of time is much harder than the period when everybody is nice just because of new relationships. It is by no means a problem that cannot be solved, but it does require a greater patience and determination than earlier times together.

The challenge is for preachers and churches to accept each other for what they are. Neither will ever be perfect. But, if they will work together and strive together to serve the Lord, great things will happen, but if each turns from the other to look for better things, the relationship together will not last more than one or two years. The preacher who is always on the lookout for a "better church" will not get much done where he is. A church which assumes they will change preachers every two or three years never does work 100% with their present preacher, whoever he is. Thus, what could be done for the Lord is severely limited.

Preachers and churches need to work together on the assumption that they will be together forever. Probably they will not. But, if they operate on this assumption, so much more will be done in the interim. Preachers and churches are just people. People with a common goal -- the saving of as many souls for eternity as possible. If they will mutually accept each other for what they are and put their strongest efforts into serving the Lord together, churches can make great growth. And that is what it is all about!

--Lynn Rhodes



News & Notes

Hospital Notes

SHREVEPORT: Neal Kyles, Jo Harmon's son has been transferred to the Veterans Hospital and has improved some.

WADLEY: Lola Feazell, Lillie Freeman's sister remains hospitalized.

AT HOME: Beth Shelton and Bo Johnson were both sick last week.

RESPONSES

Marlene Watkins - prayers - 11-3

Lou Johnson - prayers - 11-4

Blanche McClung - prayers - 11-4

THANK-YOU NOTE

*Brothers and Sisters,
You never realize what good Christian friends mean until you are in the hospital. I want to take this opportunity to thank all my Christian friends for the prayers, visits and cards while I was undergoing surgery. And a special thanks to Elliott Raney for driving me to Dallas last Thursday.*

*In Christian love,
Don Bagwell*

APPRECIATION

The adult outing last Saturday was great fun -- just ask Steve! We appreciate the Jones' volunteering their farm for us to use. Thanks also goes to Miles Inman, Russell Tyndell and Don Jones for gathering the wood for the bonfire. We also want to thank Weaver Mills for driving the tractor.

NURSING HOME DEVO

The Nursing Home Devotional will be this Sunday, November 14, from 3:00-3:30 p.m. Can you help?

ELDERS/DEACONS MEETING

The elders and deacons are scheduled to meet this Sunday after the evening service.

CARE GROUP MEETINGS

CARE Group 6 will meet November 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the home of Grady King.

CARE Group 3 will meet November 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the home of Lillie Freeman.



The Youth Hayride/Weiner Roast is this Saturday, Nov. 13, at the Jones Farm. Don't forget to give your \$2.00 to Jean Jones.

Also, if you plan to attend the Youth Evangelism Seminar you need to sign the list on the foyer bulletin board by this Sunday.



A.M. "Church Discipline: Why Practice It?" (1 Cor. 5:4-7)

P.M. "Great Decisions From God's Word"

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