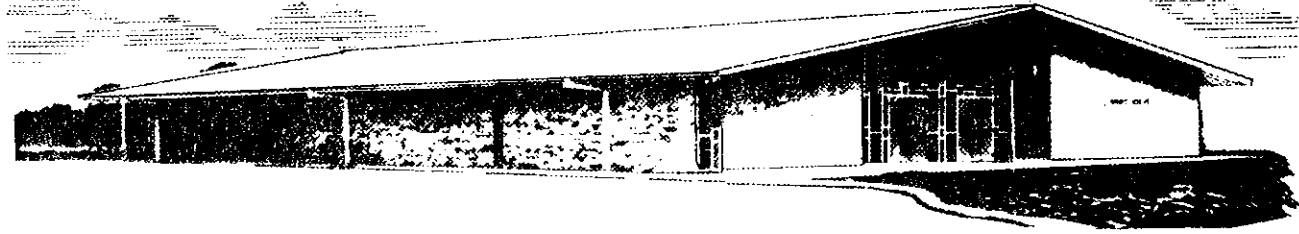


HAPPENINGS in God's Family



Vol. 9

January 9, 1983

No. 1



INFORMATION UPDATE

We certainly appreciate the people who have agreed to help in the following areas:

Jean Jones will make sure those to serve in the Nursery are available each week; and Russell Tyndell will be checking each week with those who are to help in Bible Hour.

Our Bible Hour is doing a great job of teaching the younger children. If you are in Grade 3 or below you need to attend Bible Hour on Sunday evenings.

CARE GROUP LEADERS

All Group Leaders are reminded that you need to contact members of your group regarding a meeting this month. We want to encourage everyone to help us get off to a good start in this area this year. Let's all become more interested in ways we can be aware of and help one another.



"I was sick, and ye visited me."

Matt. 25:36

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1983

Bible Study	120
Morning Worship	171
Evening Worship	NC
Contribution	\$ 1406.57

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1983

Bible Classes	NC
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THOSE TO SERVE JANUARY 9, 1983

A.M. PRAYERS:	P.M. PRAYERS:
Ben Dooley	Danny Johnson
J. D. Johnson	Elliott Raney

SCRIPTURE READING: R. Tyndell
(II Cor. 9:6-8)

BIBLE HOUR: Nena Clement

NURSERY: Virginia Parrish
Jennifer Crawford

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

OUR VISITORS

Mrs. Chas. A. Marburger of Mart, TX was a guest of Leland & Charlene Kerley; Keith Green of Idabel was a guest of Parks & Clara Fern Pitts; Cheryl Grisham & family of Simms were also our guests this past Lord's Day.

FT. WORTH LECTURES
JANUARY 9-13,
1983
 Theme: "The Person and
 Life of Christ"

 33 Speakers
 Open Forums
 Ladies Classes
 Leadership Dinner

Elders:
 Weaver P. Mills, Jr. 629-2980
 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 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 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

GIVING

AN ACT OF WORSHIP

The church is in financial difficulty in many places today. Most congregations are running well below their planned budgets. Part of this is naturally due to the economic crisis that faces people at all levels of society today. It simply is not easy to face hard times and still give freely to the Lord and His church.

There is another barrier to liberality in our day, however, and that is when Christians begin to feel that giving is not an act of worship. They readily admit that we have responsibilities toward the local congregation; but it is in the climate of "paying our dues" and "doing our part" rather than an act of consecrated service to a risen Lord.

I firmly believe, on the other hand, that giving to the church and to the Lord as He has commanded in His Word is, by the very nature of the act itself, worship to Him.

The "fellowship" of Acts 2:42 in which the early Christians continued steadfastly could well be applied to their joint participation in giving. Such giving is referred to as fellowship in II Corinthians 8:4. The very fact that this giving is to be done "upon the first day of the week" and is to be laid by "in store" i.e. put into a common treasury indicated that it is very closely connected with other acts of worship. (I Corinthians 16:2)

Because of this, I am happy to see a prayer offered in connection with the offering. I have no objection to seeing it closely connected with the observance of the Lord's supper.

Harvey Porter asks these pertinent questions: "What would be wrong in thinking about the suffering and death of our sweet Lord Jesus on the cruel cross for us individually as we drop our collection into the plate? What would it hurt to say to ourselves, 'God so loved that He gave His only begotten Son...' as we put a few dollars into God's collection? What harm in thinking about the New Covenant that we have entered into with Jesus that was sealed by His precious blood at that moment on that cross? That Covenant that guarantees us eternal life in eternity and joy and bliss right here and now? It is nice to think about what He has given us while we give to Him!"

Maybe if we had not gotten so concerned about keeping the contribution "separate and apart" from the Lord's supper, we would not have lost so much of its deep spiritual emphasis.

So today most of our appeals are for "meeting the budget" rather than giving oneself and his possessions to the Lord. This sometimes makes it appear that we are more concerned about the success of our programs than we are in Christians giving so as to meet God's approval.

Not many years ago our brethren everywhere spoke freely of the five acts of public worship. Small children could name them with ease. Giving was one of them. Then some began to look upon giving as a physical rather than a spiritual exercise, as important and necessary; but not really an act of worship. From that time, many Christians lost their greatest incentive to give liberally.

(Cont. on Page 3 "GIVING")



News & Notes



OUR SICK

DALLAS: Oda Mae Orrison returned for a check-up Jan. 2. Let's remember her in our prayers.

AT HOME: Vesta Cox; Elsie Noble; James Martin; Don Jones; Tom Steelman was dismissed from the hospital Tuesday; Julie Griffin.



new arrival!

Congratulations to David & Claudia Boswell at the birth of a son, Andrew Joel. He was born Sunday, Jan. 2, and weighed 7 lbs. 4 ozs. Jimmy and Janie Boswell are the proud grandparents.

NURSING HOME DEVO

All who can are encouraged to meet at the Nursing Home at 3:00 p.m. for the singing and devotional.

ELDERS/DEACONS MEETING

This meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 9, after the evening services.

AREA PREACHERS LUNCHEON

All area preachers are reminded of the Preachers Luncheon this coming Tuesday, January 11, at Bryce's Cafeteria.

Faith doesn't just stand there. It does something!

("GIVING, An Act Of Love" Cont'd.)

Our desire, therefore, is to refocus. Giving is an act of worship. You will never be any nearer to the Lord than when you participate in it in a meaningful way. Your gift will never be more acceptable than when it is given out of a grateful heart in response for what Jesus has done for you.

Baptism is a meaningless form if separated from the blood. The Lord's supper becomes empty and vain if not performed in memory of Christ's death. Likewise, giving will become more meaningful to us all if we forget about budgets and dues; and just worship God from a heart filled with gratitude when the collection basket comes by this Sunday.

--Jack Gray

WEDNESDAY EVENING TIME CHANGE

This is just another reminder that our Bible study on Wednesday evening will begin at 7:00 p.m. We will continue to meet at this time until Daylight Savings Time goes into effect. You will be reminded in advance before the change back to 7:30 occurs.

PANTRY ITEM
Canned Meat



A.M. "Presentation of 1983 Budget" (II Cor. 9:6-8)

P.M. "I've Been To Heaven" (II Cor. 12:1-6)

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