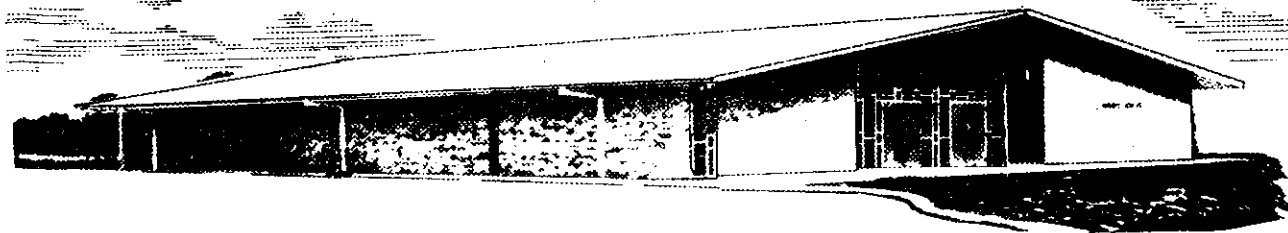


HAPPENINGS in God's Family



Vol. 9

October 30, 1983

No. 43



This Sunday morning we will be discussing the church and its worship. Every member is encouraged to be present. We must understand this essential area if we are to be well-pleasing to God. The evening lesson will continue to focus on the life of Jesus.

You will certainly want to attend our gathering at the Shelton Farm this Saturday evening. The weather should be just cool enough so that the stew will taste its best! We will try and begin around 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited, and it will be a fun time for all.

Don't forget the items you signed up to provide for the stew. These need to be at the building by 10:00 a.m. this Saturday. The meat needs to be pre-cooked, and we can use several volunteers to help prepare the vegetables.

Don't forget the time change! Run your clocks backward one hour!

TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACKWARD
One Hour This Saturday Night.

Be On Time
For Sunday
School
and Church

Punctuality is a good
Sunday trait, too.

Yes, Daylight Savings Time ends this Saturday night, October 29th. If you are going to be on time for Bible study and worship, you must not forget to set your clocks backward one hour before retiring.

You are also reminded that next Wednesday, November 2nd, evening Bible classes will begin at 7:00 p.m. Our mid-week service will continue to meet at 7:00 until Daylight Savings Time goes into effect in the Spring.

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

This meeting is for all the men of the congregation, and will begin immediately after services this Sunday night. You need to be present as there are two or three important matters to be discussed.

Don't forget; plan to attend!

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1983

Bible Study	127
Morning Worship	169
Evening worship	121
Contribution	\$ 1,358.72
Contribution to Date . .	\$ 54,747.29
Budget to Date	\$ 58,437.00

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1983

Bible Classes	110
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THOSE TO SERVE OCT. 30, 1983

A.M. PRAYERS: Ben Dooley
P.M. PRAYERS: Bo Johnson
Ernest Shelton, Jr. W. Robertson

SCRIPTURE READING: R. Burlison
(I Pet. 3:15)

BIBLE HOUR: Sylvia Williams

NURSERY: Virginia Parrish
Wendy Williams

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

OUR VISITORS

Ed & Janet Polk of Little Rock, AR; Jim & Virginia Bloxham of De Soto, TX were visiting J. M. Bloxham, Sr.; Christy Williams of New Boston was a guest of Jana Johnson.



Second Class
Postage
PAID
at
New Boston,
Texas
75570

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

Ministers:
Marvin L. Weir 628-3295
Steve McIntosh 628-3032

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

Deacons:
Ben Dooley
DeWayne Handage
Russell Tyndell
John Imman
Jerry O. Yates
L.A. Wright

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
C.S.T. 7:00 P.M.
D.S.T. 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

HAPPENINGS published every Thursday, except the weeks of Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 by New Boston Church of Christ, 610 McCoy Blvd., New Boston, Texas 75570. Second Class postage paid at the Post Office in New Boston, Texas. Publication No. 473490. POSTMASTER: Please send Form 3579 to HAPPENINGS, 610 McCoy Blvd., New Boston, Texas 75570.

MARVIN L. WEIR, Editor

WHERE ARE THE SERVANTS?

In a recent Leadership Meeting one of our deacons gave some acute observations concerning the church in our time. His suggestions were thought provoking and challenging. They may also indicate some reasons why church growth has been stymied in our generation.

Church work is now a hired activity. Members are not doing it. Most congregations have one full-time man for every 150 to 200 members. Neither are their activities centered in soul winning; but often on directing social activities.

The church is no longer a place to worship and serve. People go to services to have their own needs filled. They want to be entertained, so that the social image of a congregation now accounts for much of its growth. The church is simply no longer a place to serve.

If these observations are true, and I am seriously afraid that they are, they become a serious indictment against the church as it exists today. This may also indicate why God is not blessing our efforts as we feel that He should. Maybe He simply cannot stomach how far we have drifted from the New Testament concept of commitment and sacrifice and service.

We see parents who want the church to take over the rearing of their children; and then stand ready to blame the church if they do not turn out well. They want someone else to provide activities for them; and even to provide food and rides so that they will not have to be bothered. So most congregations have their plays and games, their hired youth workers; but still face a dearth of spirituality on the part of their youth. Could it be because we have had the wrong emphasis; for because we have given the church tasks that it was never designed of God to have?

We see members running from one congregation to another because of better fellowships, more charisma from the preacher or more specialized services to fill their needs. Yet in all of their church-hopping they remain miserable because they have never learned the principle of service or the joy that it brings.

I am affirming in language easy to be understood that our attitude is sick. That our focus is wrong. That our expectations for the church is not of God's design. Neither can we anticipate God's blessing our efforts until we come back to His plan.

The charge is serious. I urge you to evaluate it carefully to see if it is true. If it is not, please forgive me for causing you undue concern. If it is, let's join prayerfully together in making our congregation what it needs to be: a caring, serving ministry.

Let us come back to three basic questions: 1. Who gives the increase? Is not our part faithfully planting and watering, and leaving the rest to God? 2. What does it take to save souls? Do we believe that it can be done by better programs, more entertainment and greater social activities; or are we fully convinced that only the Gospel---faithfully preached and lived---will save? 3. What kind of church do we really want? Are we more concerned with growth than we are with being what God wants us to be?

I have become convinced of two things in my own soul searching concerning these matters: 1. "Spectatoritis" is killing the church! This coming to be entertained is not going to get the job done. So our attitude toward the church and its services must be changed. 2. I, for one, am not willing for the church to become a middle class social club. It has a far greater purpose for being in the world than that.

Jesus came "not to be ministered unto; but to minister" (Matthew 20:28). I am renewing my commitment to do the same. Will you join with me? --Jack Gray



News & Notes



OUR SICK

NEW BOSTON: Julie Griffin suffered a stroke and is in room 211.

AT HOME: Bradley Higginbotham is recovering from near pneumonia; Vesta Cox.

Continue to remember Oda Mae Orrison, and also Chad Raney (nephew to Elliott & Jean Raney).

CARE GROUP LEADERS

Group leaders are reminded that the group meetings for the month of November will be the last gathering of this nature for the year. Our Christmas Party at the Community Center will substitute for group meetings in December. Keep this date in mind -- Friday, December 9th.

HALLOWEEN STEW

The date is October 29th at the Shelton farm at 5:00 p.m. Don't forget the list on the bulletin board of items you volunteered for the stew. Bring ingredients to the building before 10:00 Saturday morning. In case of inclement weather, the stew will be at the building.

MONTHLY YOUTH GATHERING

The Youth Fellowship for November is scheduled to be in the home of Don & Jean Jones -- date and time will be set later.



Dear Fellow Christians,
I deeply appreciate your prayers and concern for me during my eye troubles.

I am doing fine now. Thank you so much.

-Oreta Turner

GROCERY PICK-UP

Our pantry is low, and the Boles Home truck will come by soon. Let's restock our pantry, as well as have a good load for the home. You may bring your groceries to the building or the van will run Saturday, Nov. 5th, to pick up your items. Please sign the list on the bulletin board if you want your groceries picked up. The van will begin its run at 9:00 a.m.

A Special Thanks

"Thank you" is in order to Roberta Harmon for opening her home to the youth last Sunday evening.



Time Change

Yes, it's time again to move your clocks back one hour. We'll see you at 9:30 Central Standard Time Sunday morning!



A.M. "The Church And Its Worship" #1 (I Pet. 3:15)

P.M. "The Childhood And Humanity Of Christ" (Luke 2:41-52)

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

NOVEMBER

LORD'S TABLE: J. D. Pierce; Wyndell Robertson;
Haskel Roberts; Elliott Raney

PRAYERS:	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>
	A.M. Grady King H. L. Vance	Herman Lynch R. B. Turner
P.M.	James Collins James Williams	Danny Johnson L. A. Wright
A.M.	<u>November 20</u>	<u>November 27</u>
	Russell Tyndell Jerry Yates	Steve McIntosh Doug Taylor
P.M.	Weaver Mills Don Bagwell	Ernest Shelton, Jr. James Boswell
SCRIPTURE READING:	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>
	James Boswell	John Inman
	<u>November 20</u>	<u>November 27</u>
	Bo Johnson	Grady King
BIBLE HOUR:	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>
	Charlene Yates	Jerry Yates
	<u>November 20</u>	<u>November 27</u>
	Oma Maxey	Betty Brown
NURSERY:	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>
	Meg Shelton Tresa Brown	Juanita Shelton Oma Maxey
	<u>November 20</u>	<u>November 27</u>
	Joy Terral Jennifer Crawford	Renee Wright Danna Johnson

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 J. D. PIERCE JOSIE MEGASON	2 JAMIE OLIVER	3 MR. & MRS. H. L. VANCE	4 ORETA TURNER	5 LILLIE FREEMAN GROCERY PICK-UP
6 JANIE MARTIN RUSSELL TYNDELL ELDERS MEETING AREA SINGING - WESTSIDE	7	8 PREACHERS LUNCHEON	9	10 PEARLIE TERRELL	11	12 MR. & MRS. MELVIN WATKINS
13 NURSING HOME DEVO ELDERS/DEACONS MEETING	14 GRADY KING	15	16	17 MR. & MRS. ROBBIE MCKEE	18	19 JIMMY BOSWELL ALICIA DOOLEY
20	21	22 IRIS PIERCE KIMBERLY ELLIOTT	23 BLANCHE MCCLUNG RENEE WRIGHT BULLETIN TO BE PUBLISHED DUE TO HOLIDAY TOMORROW!	24 BRENDA COX	25	26
27	28	29	30 SINGING JAMES WILLIAMS			

NOVEMBER, 1983