

**Those to Serve**

**Sunday 02-28-2010**

**Sunday Morning Worship:**

Announcements..... Wayne Charlton  
 Song Leader..... Hal Roper  
 Opening Prayer ..... Weldon Miller  
 Closing Prayer ..... Jerry Freeman

**Month of February 2010**

**Sunday Morning Lord's Table**

**South Side:**

Rance Robison  
 David Neal  
 Richard Hargrove

**North Side:**

Darrell Cooper  
 Frankie Sargent  
 Sid Charlton

**Sunday Evening Lord's Table**

Jody Sparks          Tim Jones

**Sunday Evening Worship:**

Announcements..... Ron Traugher  
 Song Leader..... Rance Robison  
 Opening PM Prayer..... Charles Kyle  
 Closing PM Prayer..... Bob Hedges

**Serving Wednesday Night—March 03, 2010**

Announcements ..... George O'Neal  
 Song Leader..... Weldon Miller  
 First Prayer..... Jimmy Jay Fox  
 Closing Prayer..... Roger Grimes

\*If you plan to be out of town or are not physically able to serve, please call someone to take your place ... or call the church office.

**Attendance for the week of 02-21-2010**

Bible Classes..... 92  
 Morning Worship.....113  
 Evening Worship ..... 75  
 Tuesday Ladies Class ..... 08  
 Wednesday Night ..... 83  
 Regular Contribution ..... \$ 4,291.30  
 New Construction Fund Contributions.....\$ 0.00

**Averages To Date This Year**

Bible Classes..... 98  
 Morning Worship.....139  
 Evening Worship ..... 97  
 Tuesday Ladies Class ..... 11  
 Wednesday Night ..... 92  
 Regular Contribution.....\$ 4,197.90  
 New Construction Fund Contributions to date..... \$ 80,515.88  
 (Also includes transfers and interest earned)

**PLEASE NOTE:** *This bulletin is formatted Friday morning each week. Any news items or articles you wish included must be submitted to the Editor no later than Thursday Night. You may call Rhodney Freeman at 903-572-1181 (home) or 903-572-1136 (Office)*

**Today's Sermons**



AM: "Serving the Lord with a Perfect Heart"  
**Kris Groda, Preaching**

PM: "Fundamental Truths: The Establishment of the Kingdom / Church"  
**Kris Groda, Preaching**

# North Jefferson Messenger

"As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him"  
 Proverbs 25:13



Volume 11 No. 53

Founded on the Word—Focused on the World

February 28, 2010

## Baptisms or Bible Studies?

By Kris Groda

Baptisms are important as are Bible studies. We all realize that if people aren't being converted there are no baptisms. But where we God's redemptive plan. Jesus thought baptisms were important. Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:15-16). Matthew's account says, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Mathew 28:18-20). Both of these passages indicate Biblical instruction resulting in baptism. It's what happened in Acts 2. Peter preached and some 3000 were baptized. No doubt, baptisms are part of God's redemptive plan (Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; Col. 2:11-12; 1 Peter 3:21).

We must be taught how to live, think, work and worship as Christians is the heart of Christianity. We must be taught how to live as a Christian and we must be taught how to teach as a Christian. If **we** are not teaching, who is?

When considering placing to much emphasis on the desired results rather than the work we've been commissioned to do, Paul reminds us to focus on the teaching aspect. We are reminded not to place emphasis on people and personalities, but on the message of the Gospel. Paul wrote to the church in Corinth stating, "Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other. For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to

In the churches of Christ, we inquire about the number of "baptisms" we've had within a certain period of time. We have judged the effectiveness of preachers, in times past, by the number of baptisms a congregation might have had during the year. Many congregations gauge their evangelical effectiveness by how many baptisms they've had.

For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to  
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**Assembly Times**

**Sunday**  
 Bible Classes .....9:00AM  
 Worship .....10:00AM  
   6:00PM  
**Tuesday**  
 Ladies Bible Class ..10:00AM  
 (September—May)  
**Wednesday**  
 Bible Classes .....7:00PM



Website:  
 www.njcofc.com  
 Email:  
 njcofc@sbcglobal.net

**Church Office:**  
 903.572.1136

**Elders**  
 Gene Campbell  
 Weldon Miller  
 Wayne Pickrel

**Deacons**  
 Grady Duncan  
 Jim Duncan  
 Jerry Freeman  
 Bob Hedges  
 Rance Robison  
 Hal Roper

**Gospel Preacher**  
 Kris Groda

**Secretary**  
 Rhodney Freeman

North Jefferson Church of Christ  
 P.O. Box 963  
 Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

Address Correction Requested

(continued from page 1)

*preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.*" (1 Cor. 1:12-17). We conclude that the church at Corinth had a touch of "preacheritis". We also conclude Paul's main concern is preaching. His focus is not on who actually helps to "dunk" the baptismal candidate in the water, for it is Christ they are being buried with and it is Christ who remits the sin (Col. 2:12).

Remember this, Paul said, *"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase"* (1 Cor. 3:6-7). We can't control the number of baptisms we have each year, but we can control whether or not we will teach and lead souls to Christ.

### **Commit to Submit**

*By Rance Robison*

Sometime ago, Faye and Walter, my aunt and uncle had an exchange between them that defined their commitment to their number one priority. Before I share this exchange that occurred several decades ago, I think it is important that we understand Walter's job and his relationship with his employer.

Walter worked for a large, Houston-based, equipment company. He had a talent for figuring things out by processing, evaluating, and "working out the numbers" – as he soon became known and valued as a troubleshooter. His job sent him around the world, as he was very instrumental in the success of the huge drill that bore tunnels through mountains. These tunnels became thoroughfares for motor vehicles.

One day, Walter came home and announced, *"They want me to go to Australia"*. Faye said, *"You can't go"*. Walter replied, *"I know, they don't have a church there"*. **This is the exchange that further defined their commitment and priority.**

Walter's commitment to worship on Sun-

day was set, established, and not up for debate. We read in Hebrews chapter 11 about those of great faith and how God rewards the faithful. Walter's employer valued his talents so much that every Sunday, they purchased him a round trip plane ticket from Australia to the nearest congregation he could worship with.

This is but one memory that was shared at his recent funeral, but speaks volumes of his love and service to God.

***"by faith . . . Yes – by actions . . . absolutely!"***

"Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" - James 2:24

### **A BRAVE SOLDIER**

*By Richard Massey*

A fine lad entered the army. On the first night in the barracks when he went to bed, he faced a real test. At home he had the habit of reading the Bible and kneeling down to pray before retiring. In the barracks, he was entirely surrounded by rough fellows. Many of them were cursing and joking loudly. The lad thought it might be wise to go to bed and read his Bible where nobody would notice him.

Then he thought and boldly decided, I'm a Christian! I ought to be an example for Jesus before the others. I won't pull down my colors. I will do here like I always did at home. So he took out his Bible and read it. Then he knelt down to pray. The barracks became as quiet as a church. After a while the talk began again, but it was more subdued. No one said anything about the young soldier's unusual behavior. The next night when he got out his Bible, eight other soldiers got out their Bibles.

Within a month every soldier in the barracks would have fought for the lad. They came to him with their questions and their troubles. He influenced more men in the barracks for good than a dozen preachers could have in a year of Sundays.

### **Please Remember in Prayer:**

Justin Barker, Rachel Barker, Doris Bell, James & Sue Browning, Billye Campbell, Gene Campbell, Suzanne Charlton, Randy Cooper, Jim Duncan, Barbara Duncan, Irene Duncan, Patsy Duncan, Wade Miller, Wayne Pickrel, Thelma Reed, Helen Roper, and Rebecca Tippit.

**Also:** Ozroe Bush, Carolyn (Katy) Cabell, Gary Duncan, Denise Hess, Cato Jones, Margaret Laurence, Mary Jo Lee, Janice Lineberger, Kent Stephenson, Kaitlin Taylor, and Charles Whitney

### **Congregational Shut-Ins:**

**Pleasant Springs Assisted Living:** Doris Jean Bell, Annah Brown, **Home:** Irene Duncan, **Villa Assisted Living:** Georgia Lide.

### **HEALTH UPDATES**

**Myrtice Grissom** is now at home and is doing OK, but still needs our prayers.

**Donny Anderson** of the Cookeville congregation has been pretty ill the past week with pneumonia and a kidney infection. His family requested that we keep him in our prayers.

**Keely and Elora McCary** are recovering from the virus but should be back in services today.

**Vicki Miller** has been confined to her home with the flu.

**Vernon and Ruth Garrett** have not been well for many days. Ruth had some tests done last week but we don't have the results from her yet.

**Doris Jean Bell** has been in the hospital, Room 402.

**No other news at the printing of the bulletin regarding any other sick folks or prayer needs.**

### **CHURCH HAPPENINGS**

**CHILDREN'S BIBLE HOUR** today after morning services ... 11:00 am to 12:15 pm. Parents are encouraged to allow your kids to attend while you have some time to yourselves.

To date \$3,162.62 has been contributed to the **Haiti Relief**. The elders sent a check in the amount of \$4,000.00.

The **Sweetheart Banquet** is scheduled for **March 14**—in the Multi-Purpose Room. All single ladies and widows are invited to attend. A sign-up sheet is provided in the foyer for you to sign if you plan to attend.

**Bible Bowl Practice** at 5pm today. This is for all young people from the 1st-12th grades. **Multi-Purpose Room (East). The next Bible Bowl is scheduled for Monday night, March 8 at 7PM.** Everyone is invited to participate and/or attend.

**Reminder for All Ladies ... Ladies Bible Class** this Tuesday at 10:00am. Studies in Titus Chapter 2 continues. All the ladies of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

**LADIES DAY** will be **April 17**. More details later. Donations would be appreciated to cover the cost of our Ladies Day. Please give your donations to Amy Jones or Veleta McFerrin.

### **Area Events**

17TH ANNUAL  
SHREVEPORT / BOSSIER  
LECTURES

CARRIAGE OAKS CHURCH OF CHRIST  
5661 SHED ROAD  
BOSSIER CITY, LA 71111  
318-741-3016

MARCH 5 THRU MARCH 7