



Living By Faith

“The just shall live by faith.” Romans 1:17

May 9, 2010

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:45 AM
Worship..... 10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service..... 2:30 PM
Redstone Service..... 2:30 PM
Worship..... 6:00 PM

Tuesday:

Redstone Class 9:30 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..... 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister Jim Moore
Don Smith..... James Thomas

Preacher:

Ryan Smithey

Works We Support:

Belize Mission & Kindergarten
Cherokee Home for Children
Eric Henry, SWSBS
Food Pantry
Gospel Broadcast Network
Gospel Chariot Missions
House to House, Heart to Heart
Lake Cisco Camp
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

Broken Ambulance

It is probably a more common scene than we like to think about, but for me it was a first. Heading out to check the mail on Thursday, I saw a local ambulance quietly coasting into our parking lot and it soon became apparent why — once safely inside the parking lot, the driver stopped the vehicle, and fruitlessly tried to get it started again. Try as he might, the engine would turn but never start; something was wrong and until it was fixed, that ambulance was not going anywhere! Of course, the next thought that entered into my mind was, I wonder if that ambulance was on its way somewhere important — and sure enough, just moments later, another ambulance whizzed by, sirens blaring, lights flashing, likely on its way to help whoever the broken ambulance was no longer of any use to. As I pondered the scene, I thought of some spiritual applications and maybe you can add some more:

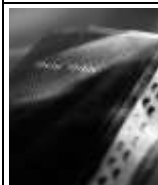


◆ **The Ambulance Was Worthless.** Here was an expensive piece of equipment that suddenly had little value to those who needed it. It was equipped to transport life-saving equipment and those trained to save lives yet in its current state it could help no one. Spiritually, we need to recognize that Christians have been equipped with that which is necessary to the saving of lost souls, but if not put to use where needed, they are of little value. It is like the words of the psalmist speaking of those that did not trust in God, *“The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle”* (Psalm 78:9) What is wrong with that picture? They were armed and trained and ready for battle, but they turned back as part of a *“generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God”* (Psalm 78:8). As Christians we are to, *“Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”* (Mark 16:15). For this task we are well equipped (Ephesians 6:10-17) but we have to decide to put on and use these tools. If we do not, we are like that ambulance, broken down and useless.

◆ **Sickness Did Not Stop.** Just because the ambulance broke down did not mean there was no longer anyone to help or that sickness would pause while crews were dispatched to repair it. Spiritually we are reminded that our *“adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour”* and so we are to be sober and vigilant (1 Peter 5:8). Satan does not stop in his attacks, he ever marches forward and so must we.

◆ **The Broken Put Work On Others.** What happened when that ambulance broke down? Others had to be dispatched to do its work and either had to work extra hard or were possibly unavailable to help others. Again this happens spiritually—if we are not doing the work that we should that work is either not accomplished or others have to do their part and ours. As individual Christians, we are to work together, just like a physical body (1 Corinthians 12:14-27). When one part of body does not work, it must be made up by the other members. Let us all strive to work together, and not be found sitting on the side of the road.

~Ryan Smithey



*Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all
your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.*

Proverbs 3:9-10

Successful Meeting

As I look back over the events of this past week, I can honestly say it was both exhausting and yet greatly rewarding. We had a **wonderful meeting** with John Moore who did a masterful job presenting seven great sermons concerning *Evidence That Demands A Verdict*. I think all of the lessons challenged us to grow deeper in faith and presented us with evidence to convince ourselves and others why we believe God exists and that the Bible is, as it claims to be, His inspired Word. As Paul penned long ago, still it is true today:

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. (Romans 1:19-20, ESV)

Indeed we are left with an abundance of evidence that supports the claim that there is an eternal creator; and one that will honestly search the claims of the Bible and evidence given in support of its inspiration has to come away with the verdict: There is a God and the Bible is His Word!

I want to **thank everyone who had a part in making this meeting such a great success**. Many people had a part in helping get ready for the meeting whether in passing out flyers, inviting others, keeping this effort in your prayers, cleaning the building and grounds, preparing food for the dinners, and many other ways. Many also put forth effort to attend every opportunity that you could and I hope that you can now say it was well worth your effort. Whatever part you took in helping out (whether known to others or not), know that is greatly appreciated and that our labor in the Lord is never in vain (1 Cor. 15:58).

Remember that **audio recordings** were made of all of the sermons given and are available for free both on our website in MP3 format and also on CD. I hope the CDs already requested will be ready this morning but if you still want a set, just let me know and we will get that to you as quickly as possible.

And one final note, mark your calendars in advance for October 3-5 when John's brother, Tom Moore, will be here for our **Fall Gospel Meeting** speaking on: *The Church Moving Forward (Philippians 3:12-14)*.

~Ryan Smithey

Maidee Wheeler

(1917-2010)



This week we buried a dear sister in Christ, Maidee Wheeler, following her death last Sunday night at the age of 93.

Maidee had been a member of the congregation for over 30 years and she was, I believe, greatly loved by all who knew her. She greatly loved meeting with saints and did so up until the time that she was no longer able due to health reasons. But even as she entered into the CARE, Inc. nursing facility some 3 years ago, she looked forward to those who would come and visit with her. During the year that I knew her, Maidee impressed me with her wonderful attitude. I cannot think of a single time in which Maidee seemed to be unhappy or complained of anything, even when surely in pain.

She now leaves behind a great legacy as a **mother**, to both Hank and Glenda as well as those that knew her as a grandmother, great-grandmother, and others she treated as if they were her children; a **worker**, both in the secular world where she labored hard to support her family and on the family farm as well as in the Lord's church; and as a **faithful Christian**, she provided a great example for others to follow that hopefully will impact many future generations.

I think of the memorial of King David and think it applies well to the life of Maidee as she "...died in a good old age, full of days, riches, and honour..." (1 Chronicles 29:28).

~Ryan Smithey

Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. (Philippians 3:17, ESV)

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Reading Schedule
The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB	Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).	Sunday... 2 Sam. 7-10; Luke 23:26-56
In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon) Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB	Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)	Monday... 2 Sam. 11-12; Luke 24:1-12
Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org	Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)	Tuesday... 2 Sam. 12-14; Luke 25:13-35
Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208	Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)	Wednesday... 2 Sam. 15-16; Luke 24:36-53
Radio	Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)	Thursday... 2 Samuel 17-18; John 1:1-34
Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3		Friday... 2 Sam. 19-20; John 1:35-51
		Saturday... 2 Samuel 21-22; John 2
		<i>Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)</i>

News & Notes



Happy Mothers Day

We wish all of our mothers a happy Mothers Day as our nation pauses in appreciation for all that you do.

The work of a mother simply cannot be overestimated, even as we see in the example of Timothy, his mother and grandmother had a great influence on him and his faith (2 Tim. 1:15), and thus the great work that he was to do in the Lord's Church. This influence surely came about because of their efforts in teaching him from a very early age, for Paul could say, "from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures" (2 Tim. 3:15). Sadly, many mothers exert a negative, worldly influence on their children that is passed on to future generations. Thank you for being a godly influence in your family and keep up the good work for you never know what may come of that influence.

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth. (Ephesians 6:1-3)



Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services in the fellowship hall.** Last week **29 contacts** were made. Remember next week is the 3rd Sunday and time for our finger-food supper once again.

Mark Your Calendars

- ◆ **May 9-12:** Gospel meeting with David Baker at the Mesquite & Rusk congregation in Ranger.
- ◆ The **Ladies Class** will meet for the last time before the summer break this Wednesday, May 12, at 10 AM. After class, those that can are invited to go out to eat with the group. The class will resume in the Fall.
- ◆ The **Summer Youth Series** will be starting again on Tuesday, June 8 at 7 PM hosted by Patrick Street in Dublin. (The Series continues through August 10)

Thank You... We again appreciate all who provided food for the Wheeler family on Thursday and those who helped serve and clean-up. The family is always complementary on the food and the efforts you put forth.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

May Birthdays: Barbara Bannister (10); Nita Boyd (14); Kami Hardy (14); Pam Teague (14); Caitlin Barnum (15); Billy Chism (15); Zelma Leslie (16); Peg Moore (17); Randy Brubaker (23); Ryan Smithey (23); Peggy Luker (28); Grace Hardy (30).

"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...

Hearing Assistance Available

Having a hard time hearing in the auditorium for class, sermons, prayers, etc.? You may be benefited by our new hearing assistance system which transmits the same sound coming out of the speakers to wireless receivers connected to headphones allowing you to regulate the volume as needed to suit you. If you would like to give this a try, please see Ryan.



Volunteer Opportunity Available

Are you looking for an opportunity to help young people and have a potential impact on their future for eternity? Don Smith has been informed there is a need for faith-based mentors at the Texas Youth Commission facility. Anyone (or a pair of volunteers) can be used, no special requirements are needed. If you would be interested and want more information, please see Don.

	Recent Records	April 25, 2010	May 2, 2010
Bible Class		56	69
AM Worship		69	95
PM Worship		52	65
Monday PM		NA	73
Tuesday PM		NA	78
Wednesday AM		NA	29
Wednesday PM		53	64
Contribution		\$1577	\$1930



Privileged to Serve	05/09/10 - AM	05/09/10 - PM	05/16/10 - AM	05/16/10 - PM
Greeters	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich		John & Tina Barnum	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Michael Fuller Ruth 1:16-18		John Barnum
Opening Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Billy Chism	Jim Moore	Don Smith
Wait on Table	Allen Griffith*, Don Smith Tom Wilcox, Garrett Barnum	Allen Griffith	Ken Maktua*, Michael Fuller James Thomas, James Fuller	Ken Makuta
Closing Prayer	Jim Moore	Gene Bannister	Hank Wheeler	Matthew Churchwell
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	May 12 Jim Moore	May 19 Don Smith	May 26 James Fuller	June 2 Ken Makuta

Studies For The Week of May 9th:

Sunday Class 1 Corinthians (Chap. 7)

Wednesday Class Jonah

Who's Interceding For Me?

An intercessor is one who comes between two parties, petitioning one on behalf of the other. Like Abraham did for the righteous of Sodom (Gen. 18:23-33) or Moses pleaded for the people (Ex. 32:11-14; Num. 21:7; etc). We gain strength by knowing others intercede for us:

1) Others

- a) We also serve as intercessors for one another as we pray one for another (James 5:16; 1 Tim. 2:1).
- b) Only refuse to pray for the unrepentant (Jer. 7:16) as cannot pray for that which is against God's Will (1 John 5:14-16).
- c) See this in Peter (Acts 8:24) and Paul (Rom. 10:1; Col. 1:3...).

2) Holy Spirit

- a) He also pleads for us before the Father's throne.
- b) He makes known to the Father that which we cannot even express ourselves (Rom. 8:26-27).

3) Christ

- a) Our only mediator (1 Tim. 2:5) — has legal authority as a go-between/arbitrator bringing reconciliation to divided parties.
- b) Our advocate (1 John 2:1) — one standing by another and pleading the other's case before a judge.
- c) Intercedes for us (Romans 8:34; Heb. 7:25); this is to be a source of strength and comfort (Heb. 4:14-16).

Let us take comfort in knowing others intercede for us and let us intercede one for another.

The Character of Ruth

We see in Ruth traits that should be in all of us; and traits we particularly celebrate in our mothers this day:

1) She was Faithful

- a. Faithful to Naomi, going with her and being obedient (1:8, 14-17; 3:5-6).
- b. Faithful to Mahlon, her husband (1:8-9; 4:10).
- c. Faithful to God (1:16-17; 2:12).
- d. So should we be (Matt. 5:37; John 13:34; Eph. 5:22-33; 1 Cor. 4:2; Matt. 25:21; Rev. 2:10).

2) She was Selfless

- a. Worked for her and Naomi's needs (2:2, 18).
- b. Not to proud to be thankful (2:10).
- c. Selfless love to Naomi that was noticed (4:15).
- d. Great NT examples such as Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35) and churches of Macedonia (2 Cor. 8:3,5); expected of all (Phil. 4:6; Luke 9:23).

3) She was Honorable

- a. Concerned with what was right (3:9-10).
- b. Known as a virtuous person (3:11).
- c. We too should be concerned with doing right (Prov. 22:1; Rom. 12:17; Phil. 4:8-9).

*Ruth did not do these things to be noticed of others; but notice that when she did them, others took note. (Matt. 5:16)
May the same be said of us.*

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