

4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
~ Matthew 16:18



July 28, 2013

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

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

Tuesday:

Redstone Class..... 9:30 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class On Break
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:

Cherokee Home for Children

Gospel Broadcast Network

Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)

House to House, Heart to Heart

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.

Life With A PURPOSE

J. Noel Merideth (deceased)

Our life upon this earth is of few days and full of trouble. Some days are the best of times; some days are the worst of times. There are moments that look like the spring of hope; others look like the winter of despair. Through it all we need to live a life with purpose and meaning. We all seek happiness as the world lashes about us.

SOMETHING TO DO

Paul wrote, "...this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Phil. 3:13-14). Paul says he was pressing toward the mark. He was pressing on with contentment. He had learned in whatsoever state he was in to be content (Phil. 4:11). To be happy in life we all need something to do; we need a mission to fill. Let us stand for the right and not lose sight of our duty to serve the Lord, do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

SOMEONE TO LOVE

"We love him, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). It brings happiness to love God. We are to love the Lord with all our heart. He first loved us and we should return our love. We also need our family and friends to love. To visit with friends and enjoy good times together brings sunshine into our days.

SOMETHING TO HOPE FOR

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2). The hope of heaven keeps us going through sickness, pain, disappointment, suffering and hardship. In fact, these present sufferings are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed. God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes; and there shall be no more death, sorrow, crying, nor pain. On that fair shore we shall serve the Lord with perfect bliss. There we shall be with and know our loved ones whom we have known in our life (1 Thess. 2:19).



Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us...

Hebrews 12:1

God's Insurance Policy

By Jason Sparks

Television commercials often say much about our society and about our mentality as a people. The advertisers study our every move and thought so know how to trigger our lusts for things, for feelings, for emotions, and for dreams. They know how to motivate us.

In a series of recent commercials, insurance companies have been trying to build their businesses by giving discounts or kickbacks to safe drivers. Nationwide is currently running a set of commercials stating they will knock a \$100 off of the deductible for a year of save driving. Allstate commercials show someone getting a check for a year without incident. Other insurance agencies have similar programs. The idea behind each program is that if you behave well and don't get into any trouble while driving during the year then you will be rewarded for it. The biggest benefit is to the company who saves thousands by not having to pay for automotive repair or damages from an accident to property or persons. The reward is the one who is "good." This only makes sense to our minds.

However, God's ways are higher than our ways and His thoughts are higher than our thoughts (Isaiah 55:8,9). In His love and mercy for man, His "reward" system isn't about us being perfect or not making mistakes. Instead, His system is built on His grace. Oh, we must change our lives when we obey the gospel and

strive to grow into spiritual maturity, but we aren't going to be perfect. We will stumble from time to time and when we do, when we repent of that sin, God forgives us (1 John 1:5-9).

Before we obeyed the gospel, we were dead in trespasses and sins, we once walked after the sinful ways of the world in disobedience, and we conducted ourselves after the lusts of the flesh fulfilling the desires of the flesh and the mind, putting us in a lost condition with God (Ephesians 2:1-3). But there is good news, and has nothing to do with what I save on my car insurance.

I need to get into a covenant relationship with God, or if you will allow the analogy, I need to become a policy holder of God's plan. I must believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, repent of sin, confess Him as Lord and Master of my life, and be baptized into Christ for the remission of sins. Once in this relationship, I have the blessing of being forgiven, even when I stumble from time to time.

"God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (By grave you have been saved)... For by grace you have been saved through faith" (Ephesians 2:4,5,8).

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Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)
Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB
In Search of the Lord's Way
Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB
Gospel Broadcasting Network
Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org and on Roku
TV: Sunday @ 6:30 am on
Dish: 267, DirectTV: 376

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)
Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

God's Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).
Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)
Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)
Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)
Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Study Schedule

Week 82 Psalm 15-20 & Galatians 3-4

Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.
Also anyone interested can join us at 5 PM each Sunday in the fellowship hall to discuss the questions and answers.

"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)



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Did you notice the difference? God doesn't forgive us our debt when we are perfect in our record for a year. He forgives us even when we are not perfect. We could not be "good enough" to be saved based on merit. We can never be incident free long enough to get debt forgiveness. We need the grace of God (unmerited favor) to save us from our sins. But when we repent of that sin, God is faithful and just and will forgive us of that sin (1 John 1:7-9).

Unlike the insurance company that keeps a record of our past mistakes and makes adjustments to our premiums, God forgets our past mistakes. Hebrews 8:12 tells us that in His mercy, God forgives our unrighteousness, sins and lawless deed and remembers them no more. He blots out our sins and remembers them no more (Isaiah 43:25).

Even if our spiritual "cars" (lives) have been wrecked and damaged and torn, God can restore us to a new, clean, show room fresh condition. Step one, get a policy: obey the gospel of Christ (Acts 22:16). Step two, as you live the Christian life, and are dinged up (though you strive for a great life in Christ), it isn't the end of the world. Pray to God and ask for forgiveness and God will restore your soul.

Visitation Meeting

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Last week **26 contacts** were made.

Upcoming Events: Mark your calendars in advance:

- ◆ July 31: Summer Youth Series at Rising Star. Contact Ryan if you need a ride, we will be leaving the Brownwood area around 6 PM.
- ◆ August 3: VBS at DeLeon from 9-2:30.
- ◆ August 7-9: VBS at Hamilton.
- ◆ August 13: We will be hosting the final Summer Youth Series here at 4th & Stewart.
- ◆ October 20-23: Our Spring Meeting with Rick Popejoy

David Harris—Update & Request: David was able to return home on Thursday and is doing well; he is looking forward to getting back to preaching starting today. So far all of his tests have been very positive; but they must wait until at least next week to get the final results of a test that show whether he is cancer free. He has to watch who he comes in contact with as his immune system is still weak but has been released from many of his other restrictions.

We know that David faces a lot of expenses following this transplant and the medication that he has been on following is quite expensive (\$2,000+ for some prescriptions and he has been on many). David has not asked for help, but if you would like to help David with these expenses you may do so by contributing to the church and marking the memo on your check as being for David and then the church will forward that on to David (**if possible, please do so by or on July 28th—that's today**). Thank you in advance for your support; also we received a note for David and Joy that is on the bulletin board.

Celebrate

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

July Birthdays: Jason Warman (06), Mariah Martinez (08), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), Steven Martinez (13), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26).

July Anniversaries: Priscilla & Ryan Smithey (26).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	July 14, 2013	July 21, 2013
Bible Class	49	62
AM Worship	61	84
PM Worship		69
Wednesday PM	40	56
Contribution	\$1656	\$1856

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1)

	This Week: 7/28/13	Next Week: 8/4/13		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	July 2013 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: The Smithey Family Clean Building: Jessica Stultz Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox August 2013 Make Announcements: Garrett Barnum Prepare Communion: Tom & Carol Wilcox Clean Building: Jim & Peg Moore Keep Grounds: James Fuller	
Greeters	John Barnum Family	Tom & Carol Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Allen Griffith		
Communion	John Barnum*, Jim Moore Don Smith, Kevin Wilcox	Ken Maninger*, Caleb Dennis Hank Wheeler, Garrett Barnum		
Closing Prayer	James Thomas	John Barnum		
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Billy Chism	Jim Moore		
Scripture Reading	Garrett Barnum <i>James 2:14-20</i>	Joe Dennis		
Communion	John Barnum	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Mike Bannister		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 31 Joe Dennis	August 7 Allen Griffith	August 14 Tom Wilcox	August 21 Kevin Wilcox

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

<i>Studies for the week of July 28, 2013</i>	Sunday Class Titus 3 Wednesday Class Redemption Through The Bible
<p>The Power of the Gospel (Gal. 1-2) Paul will seek to defend the gospel he has proclaimed as being from God; therefore it is that which they/we should follow.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Unalterable (1:6-10)—no one had the authority to change it; any attempts to do so would pervert the message and condemn the messenger (Deut. 4:2; Prov. 30:6.; Rev. 22:18-19; 1 Cor. 4:1; Matt 28:19-20; 2 Tim 2:2, 4:2-4; 1 Pet. 1:24-25). Of Divine Origin (1:11-22)—he did not receive it of men but of God as proven by his travels after his conversion (2 Pet. 1:21; Heb. 2:1-4; John 14:26, 16:13; 1 Tim. 1:11). Life-changing (1:23-24)—seen in Paul's own life, he preached the faith he once destroyed (Acts 26:9-20). Consistent (2:1-10)—it agreed with the gospel being proclaimed by Peter and others (Acts 10:34-35, 15:7-9; Eph. 3:6; 1 Cor. 1:10). Correcting (2:11-15)—it would oppose even the false actions of an apostle (Acts 10:28; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Gal. 6:1; cf. 1 Tim. 5:20). Life-giving (2:16-21)—by faith in Jesus Christ, as proclaimed in the gospel, one can be justified (Rom. 1:16; Eph. 2:1). <p>Notes: _____ _____ _____ _____</p>	<p>The Inconsistency of Balaam (Num. 23:10)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He prayed a good prayer... <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognized the certainty of death. (Ps. 90:10; Heb. 9:27; James 4:14) Noted the difference between the death of a saint and a sinner. (John 5:28-29; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:12-13; Matt. 25:41, 46) Expressed a worthy desire; who would not want to die the death of the righteous and receive the reward of the righteous? (Rev. 14:13; 2 Tim. 4:6-8; 1 Cor. 9:24-25; Luke 16:19-31) Focused on the spiritual; rather than earthly gain, he expressed desire for eternal gain. (Mk. 8:36-37; Col. 3:1) ...But he didn't live the good life. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> He had the wish but not the will (James 1:22; 2:14-17; Matt. 19:16-26). He wanted the reward without the work; living as a saint in heaven requires living as a saint on earth (Rom. 12:1-2; Col. 1:13; Rev. 14:13; 1 Thess. 4:13-14; Gal. 3:27; Rev. 2:10; Matt. 10:32-33; 7:21ff). He prayed for the reward of the righteous, but loved the wages of unrighteousness (2 Pet. 2:15; Jude 11; Matt. 6:19-21, 6:24; Rom. 6:16, 23). He prayed about salvation while causing others to be lost (Num 31:16; Rev 2:14; Matt 18:7-8; Jn 13:34; Phil 2:3-4) <i>Sadly he talked the talk but did not walk the walk; may we learn to talk and walk as God would have us to.</i>