

## From the Preacher's Desk...

It is good to be back home after a very pleasant - and we believe profitable - week with the church in Gunter, Texas. There was good attendance throughout the week with ten people responding to the invitation - asking for prayers and restoration.

There were many who attended the meeting from nearby towns and communities. Since Gunter is located in Grayson County - the county of my birth - there were many people in attendance who have been friends of ours for a long time. It was good to visit with some whom I baptized in the past and to know that they are very useful citizens in the Kingdom of Christ.

The Gunter church building is located in the very heart of Hilltop Haven, a home for the elderly. This home has been in existence for thirty years and is on the site occupied by the Gunter Bible College from the years 1903 to 1928. Hilltop Haven has been under the oversight of the elders of the Garland Road church in Dallas for nine or ten years. During the thirty years of its existence, the home has provided care for thousands of elderly Christians including many preachers and elders and their wives.

It was an inspiration to see numbers of elderly people present at every service of the meeting, many of whom were in wheel chairs. Some were very severely handicapped, but their faith and courage encouraged all of us.

Not all of the members at Gunter are from the Home nor are all of them elderly. There are a number of very fine young couples with small children in the membership. We were very pleased that some of these young couples had us in their homes for meals. It was a joy to be associated with them.

I am glad to know that there was good attendance here Sunday for Bible school and worship. We are in the middle of vacation season - and thus far have not had the usual "summer slump." We hope this continues and we look forward to even greater attendance in the fall. We want to plan now for 600 in Bible School on November 6 - the first day of our Gospel Meeting. Harvey Porter will be the preacher in that meeting and we are praying for a great one. We look forward to seeing you Sunday.

GEORGE H. STEPHENSON

The *Amazing Grace*

Bible Class  
Each Sunday 8:00 A.M. - KLTV

# West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

*Church of Christ*



## CALENDAR OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 W. ERWIN  
TYLER, TEXAS 75701

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75701. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

SERVING SUNDAY - July 31, 1977

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements..... Wilmer Little

Prayer ..... W. S. Little

Dismiss ..... Fred Kniffen

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements.....Leon Welborn

Prayer..... Ira Wright

Dismiss ..... Sam Sevier

Serving Communion Sunday

Jim Franklin Joe Carroll

Rocky Chambless Dale Blackstone

Ron Jones Paul Montandon

Shayne Bennett David Fears

Greeters For Sunday

Jim Franklin Harold Browning

D. C. Jones



Budget for 1977 - Weekly -\$3,825.00

Bible School Contributions

July 24.....412 \$3,980.29

July 17.....413 \$4,340.70

Year Ago...419 \$3,388.88

RESPONSES

Cindy Rowe came Sunday morning asking for the prayers of the church.

Shannon Hughes, son of Hillard and Jeanine Hughes, came Sunday evening to be baptized into Christ. He was baptized by his father. Shannon will be in the 7th grade this fall.

Thank You

Thank you for the prayers for Carl and us, for your visits, calls, flowers, food, cards, books and memorials. Your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. Please continue to pray for us. We love you.

The Ray Lott Family

Thank you for the beautiful cards, calls, flowers and prayers in my behalf while in the hospital and at home. Special thanks to the church for the book and the card signed by the 20's Class.

Jo Metcalf

Many thanks for the visits, cards, and prayers during my recent stay in the hospital. Your Christian love means much to me.

Laneva Turner

I am grateful for your prayers, the flowers and your thoughtfulness of me during my time of sorrow.

Mrs. R. M. Mayo

A NEW GRANDSON

The Harold Brownings are the happy grandparents of a baby boy, Michael Stephen, born Saturday to Phillip and Brenda Browning. The Lonnie Taylors are the great grandparents.

A smooth sea never made a skillful sailor.

Sometimes the Lord calms the storm; sometimes He lets the storm rage and calms His child.

Ten Rules For Improving The Church

- 1. Tell yourself over and over that since you are not perfect, you would not fit into a perfect congregation if one existed, Phil. 3:13.
2. Instead of picking out the worldly members to point to, pick out the sincere, dedicated, spiritual members and thank God for them. You will find what you seek, Acts 6:3.
3. If you are old, treat the young with consideration you desired as a young person. If you are young, treat adults with the respect you will want when you mature, Titus 2:1 - 8.
4. When you are tempted to criticize others, be sure to pray earnestly for them first. This may not totally change them but it will do wonders for your attitude, Matt. 7:3 - 5.
5. When you see a work being neglected, instead of being critical, offer to help, Col. 3:23.
6. Never, never blame others for your own failures. Every individual can be fruitful in spite of the bad examples and discouraging attitudes of others if he is determined to be, Ezekiel 18:20.
7. Remind yourself every day that the only way you can improve the world or church is to begin with self, Rom. 12:1.
8. Consciously look for the good qualities in every brother and sister in Christ. When you think of a brother or sister, make a quick mental note of the good points each possesses, I Cor. 13:4 - 7.
9. Constantly strive to increase your circle of associates in the church. Try to do something good for each, Rom. 12:10.
10. Every church has problems. Constantly ask yourself, "Am I a part of the problem or part of the solution?" Gal. 6:1.
JOE BARNETT

ZONE 1 MEETING

Zone 1 will meet Tuesday evening at 6:30 at the home of Bud and Louise Caskey. All zone members are encouraged to be present and bring a salad.

youthshine

The Summer Youth Series will meet Tuesday evening. The Shiloh Road Church will host the meeting at the Omen Road Church building.



SYMPATHY EXTENDED

Jack Marlin, a brother-in-law to Mrs. Harley Turner was buried Sunday in Kilgore, Texas. We express our sympathy to the family.

IN THE HOSPITAL

Brother O. C. Becker continues to be a patient in Mother Frances.

REMEMBER BIBLE CLASS!



*From the Preacher's Desk...*

We had a fine audience present for worship Sunday in spite of the fact that many of our people are now on vacation. We hope and pray that our meeting this week in Gunter, Texas will be successful and that the services here will be successful also. We are glad to have David Anderson to preach here Sunday.

We hope that our lessons on the "Christian Graces" given to us in 2 Peter 1:5-11 have strengthened all of us. We must cultivate these graces if we expect an "abundant entrance into the everlasting kingdom." We have one final lesson in this series which we plan to present on Sunday, July 31.

From time to time we are saddened when we learn of the death of some great worker in the Lord's vineyard whom we have known. Such a one was Ellis McGaughey who recently died in Oklahoma City. He was a man who was loved and respected for his work as a gospel preacher throughout the United States. For many years he devoted his time to evangelistic work in gospel meetings all over the country. More recently he served as the local evangelist for the church in Honolulu, Hawaii. Ill health forced him to retire to his home in Oklahoma City. Brother McGaughey preached the gospel in a very simple way and he won thousands to the Lord. In his preaching he was able to project to his listeners his own sincerity and love for the Lord in such a way that his listeners wanted to love the Lord also. He was especially effective in working with children. Wherever he preached he conducted classes for children called "Pew Packers" preceding the regular services. These classes generated enthusiasm for his meetings and were a great inspiration to children and their parents. The brotherhood has sustained a great loss, but brother McGaughey has gained the victory. He has fought the good fight, kept the faith, and finished his course. The church needs more preachers today who preach the gospel with the simplicity and earnestness of such a man as Ellis McGaughey.

GEORGE H. STEPHENSON

THE MEDINA Children's Home has asked that in the future we concentrate on a particular food item for their grocery truck. They have given us choices and we have agreed to furnish canned peaches for their next grocery pick-up in November. Our Bible classes have been invited to participate by bringing peaches each week to their classrooms. A container will be placed in the south foyer. Will you please help fill it with canned peaches?

**YOU ARE INVITED**  
to hear John H. Banister, of Dallas, preach in a Gospel Meeting in Ben Wheeler, Texas July 24 - 28. Evening services Monday thru Thursday - 7:30 p. m.

When God seems far away,  
Read Psalms 139



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CALENDAR OF SERVICES

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

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Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

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SERVING SUNDAY, July 24, 1977

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements Ray Womack

Prayer Wallace Gayle

Dismiss Rocky Chambless

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Hillard Hughes

Prayer Joe Willis

Dismiss Wade Weathers

Serving Communion Sunday

Jim Franklin Joe Carroll

Rocky Chambless Dale Blackstone

Ron Jones Paul Montandon

Shayne Bennett David Fears

Greeters for Sunday

Milburn Cook Wallace Gayle

D. C. Jones



Budget for 1977 - weekly \$3,825.00

Bible School Contributions

July 10....369 \$4,172.64

July 17....413 \$4,340.70

Year Ago..389 \$3,354.83

BAPTIZED - Mark Gowen, 912 West Rusk, telephone 593-4963, came Sunday to be baptized into Christ. We rejoice with Mark and his wife, June. We want to commend this very fine young couple for their good influence.

WE ALL KNOW  
WHY MADALYN MURRAY O'HAIR  
DOESN'T ATTEND BIBLE CLASSES,  
BUT - WHY DON'T YOU?

## Congratulations!

Miss Terri McCord and Rodger Young were married July 1 in Dallas. Rodger is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Young.

## Report of Our Sick

O. C. Becker had surgery Tuesday in Mother Frances.

A. E. Bedford entered Medical Center Monday for tests and possible surgery.

Katie Heath had surgery Thursday in Medical Center.



WATCH for a "New Look" in The Visitor, August 4, 1977.

WE ARE HAPPY to have many guests in our classes and worship services this summer. We hope you will return and worship with us at every opportunity.

It is easy enough to be pleasant  
When life flows by with a song,  
But the man worth while is one who  
will smile

When everything goes dead wrong;  
For the test of the heart is trouble,  
And it always comes with the years;  
And the smile that is worth the praise  
of earth

Is the smile that shines through tears.  
... Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Deborah Sue Potts

and

Lewis Bradford Spradlin

together with their parents

Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Potts

and

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Spradlin  
invite you to share in the celebration

when they exchange marriage vows  
and begin a new life together

on Saturday, the thirtieth of July  
nineteen hundred and seventy-seven

at six o'clock in the evening

Glenwood Church of Christ

Tyler, Texas

Reception at seven o'clock

Red Carpet Inn

## Thank You

I wish to thank Christian friends for their prayers, visits, flowers and many cards while I was in the hospital. A special thanks to the 20's class.

Katie Heath

Thank you for your thoughts of us, your prayers, and the lovely pot plant at the time of the death of my sister.

Mack McCarty

Your comforting expression of sympathy will always be remembered with deep gratitude.

The family of Obal Woolverton  
(Ed and Vernon Naul)



## david cord anderson

Congratulations to Dr. Joe Schubert and the Bammel Road church in Houston on their contribution of over \$1,100,000. Joe tells of some marvelous, sacrificial events over the last few weeks.

Last Tuesday Jim Hackney, minister at the Overland Church in St. Louis spoke to 500 young people on Total Commitment. I appreciate Jim and the message he shared.

Saturday 34 young people journeyed to Llove in Dallas for a different and fun day.

The Abilene Christian University Teacher's workshop is next week. I'm looking forward to inspiring classes and devotionals. Doug Kostowski will be the speaker for a special program for youth.

There are many activities that are being planned for an exciting fall. Details will be announced soon.



## SYMPATHY EXTENDED

Brother H. McCarty's sister was buried Saturday in Dallas.

Johnny Cheek, a brother to sister R. M. Mayo was buried Tuesday in Waxahachie, Texas.

We extend our sincere sympathy to each family in their loss.



## From the Preacher's Desk...

There are great things happening among many churches of Christ today. Recently the Broadway church in Lubbock had a contribution of over \$900,000 for an expansion of their building. And now, the Bammel Road church of Houston has topped that! Sunday they had a contribution of \$1,100,000. They plan to pay cash for a \$900,000 building program and have \$200,000 for an enlarged mission program. It is wonderful to know that while they are providing for their home needs they are still trying to spread the gospel in other areas.

It is encouraging to know that there are Christians who have been blessed by the Lord and who are willing to give sacrificially. Paul spoke of the sacrificial giving of the Macedonians who gave out of their poverty as a source of encouragement to the Corinthians to give, (1 Corinthians 8). When we hear today of those who have given in such generous amounts it should inspire all of us to do more.

Since the great sermon by Jack Paul on June 26 we have exceeded our budget each Sunday. We are grateful for the response you have made to the teaching of God's Word on the important topic of giving. We can do more and more for the Lord if all of us use our God given talents as we should. Let us continue to give as we have been prospered. This will show we truly love the Lord, (2 Corinthians 8:8) and let us remember that it is more blessed to give than to receive, (Acts 20:35).

\* \* \* \*

We hope that you read the articles on marriage which we have featured for several weeks. One preacher who receives our bulletin wrote us expressing appreciation and stated that he planned to use the material in a sermon. There is no greater need today in the church than more teaching on Biblical teaching concerning marriage and the home. It is truly alarming to know of so many broken homes among members of the church.

GHS

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1977 by George H. Stephenson  
A. M. Godliness P. M. Brotherly Kindness

### GOSPEL MEETING

Brother Stephenson will begin a meeting Monday evening at Gunter, Texas. It will continue through Sunday.

### youthshine

The Summer Youth Series will be Tuesday evening, July 19 at the Quitman & Center St. Church in Glade-water. The bus will leave at 6:15.

LITHOGRAPHED BY MWM COLOR PRESS, AURORA, MO 65005 - A. D. THORNTON, P.O. BOX 220, DUNCANVILLE, TEXAS 75116

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SERVING SUNDAY - July 17, 1977  
 Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements ..... K. Max Haws  
 Prayer ..... Tom Humphrey  
 Dismiss ..... Ben Young  
 Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.  
 Announcements .... Francis Bullard  
 Prayer ..... Bill Butler  
 Dismiss ..... Paul Knight  
 Serving Communion Sunday  
 Mack Bynum Harold Browning  
 Ben Young Henry McRuiz  
 Tommy Parrish Francis Bullard  
 Dick Higginbotham Mike Munn  
 Greeters for Sunday  
 Don Chaffin Faber Cauthen  
 D. C. Jones

*The Record*

Contributions	Bible School
July 3.....\$3,961.42	.....413
July 10....\$4,172.64	.....369
Year Ago..\$2,925.59	.....413

BAPTIZED - We are happy that Amanda Munn, daughter of the Mike Munns, was baptized July 3 at Camp Deer-Run. She is in the 7th grade.

NOTES OF APPRECIATION

Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered by the loved ones of Bill Billingsley.

Thank you for the pretty purple chrysanthemums at the time of our sorrow. It helped to be remembered. Thank you again.

Lerah Williamson

OUR SYMPATHY

Carl Lott suffered a severe head injury in an automobile accident last Wednesday afternoon. He passed away Tuesday of this week and funeral services were conducted for him on Thursday morning. He was the son of Dell and Ray Lott. The 4th of last month Carl and Laurie White were married here at West Erwin. We extend our sympathy and share in the sorrow of the family.

Mrs. Ed Naul's brother, Obal Woolverton, was buried Saturday in Wills Point, Texas. We extend our sincere sympathy to the Nauls.

NEW GREAT GRANDDAUGHTER

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Shuford of Houston are the parents of a girl born July 6. Earnesene Shuford is the very happy great grandmother.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." Prov. 3:5

MARRIAGE ADJUSTMENT

No. 6: Time

Beset on every side by increasing demands, time has become a precious commodity for modern families. Three factors have seriously eroded the quiet family evenings of only a decade or two ago - modern mobility, growing time pressures, and television. MOBILITY: Whether boon or ban, cars have changed our lifestyle radically. Two and three cars per family allow every family member to scatter each evening. (Continued next page)

Marriage Adjustment (Contd.)

TIME DEMANDS: Increased transportation capabilities have subsequently led to a second problem - the growing demands on our time to join clubs, organizations, attend school functions, etc. Sometimes there is the helpless irritated feeling that others are filling up our calendars for us.

TELEVISION: Should we find an "incommitted" evening, often we collapse into an evening of weary stupor before the television. Even these few hours are not often marked by activities which promote and deepen family ties but by families members' relating to an electronic device, perhaps even increasing the emotional distance between them.

What are we to do? These factors are recognized among most families, and many feel helpless in the face of these powerful challenges. Of course, it will take some will power and tough decision-making, but we can change this pattern in our family routine if we wish to. Start this week by discussing frankly with your family the following challenges: (1) Priorities of time. What activities are most important in the training of my family? Which could be eliminated? At what point should I say "no?" (2) Quantity of Time. How can we reduce our commitments to free us time for family relationships? (3) Quality of time. How can we maximize the hours we can spend together?

Controlling our schedules rather

*Mr. and Mrs. Jim A. Paul  
and  
Mr. and Mrs. Faber Cauthen  
invite you to share in the joy  
of the marriage uniting their children*

*Janie  
and  
Mark  
on Saturday, the twenty-third of July  
nineteen hundred and seventy-seven  
at seven o'clock in the evening  
West Erwin Church of Christ  
Tyler, Texas*

*Reception  
immediately following ceremony  
The Woman's Building  
911 South Broadway  
Tyler, Texas*

IN THE HOSPITALS

Laneva Turner underwent surgery last Friday in Medical Center.

Mrs. Averyt Smith had foot surgery Monday in Medical Center.

Marriage - Continued

than allowing them to control us is one of the most important ways we can reduce a major source of tension in the family and the rewards will be great! As Christian stewards of our time, we can also then fulfill Jesus' teaching, "Seek ye first his kingdom and his righteousness." Matt. 6:33

Lynn and Joy McMillon





**david cord anderson**

Jack Paul made an impact on us this past week. Our young people have been inspired and motivated. Tuesday night there were over 300 young people from 17 East Texas congregations. Thirteen responded to the invitation including one baptism. Jack taught a combined junior high - high school class Sunday morning. And the sermons were great. Thank you, Jack.

Our VBS draws to an end this week. Thank you is so little to say to our fine teachers. I'm thankful for each of them: Lynn Jones, Cindy Rowe, Sandie Henderson, Nettie Potts, Tawana Stewart, Martha Powell, Sherry Bray, Maxine Freeman, Carolyn Blackstone, Amanda Munn, Linda Marts, Carolyn Welborn, Elaine Roberson, Fleta Butler, Lee Roberson, Ricky Gambrel, Barbara Montandon, Pam Wells, Angel Carpenter, Kay Parrish, Jill Rowe, Diane Humphrey, Carolyn Womack, Holly Womack, Virginia Graf, Sher Sevier and Sherryl Miles. Special thanks to Marshall Phillips, Kelly Womack, Lee Roberson and Ricky Gambrel.

The "thank you's" wouldn't be complete without thanking the ladies and all my girls for the cookies that were brought to VBS and the youth meeting. Thanks for your marvelous response.

**THE INVESTMENT OF A SMILE**

Most people feel intuitively that the simplest things in life are the most important. The most important things in life are the simple things. This profound discovery helps us put life in its proper perspective. What is more important to us than breathing? Until recently fresh air has been taken for granted - yet the air we breathe doesn't cost us a penny. Deprived of air we will die in a few minutes.

Another important but simple thing is a 'smile.' A smile costs nothing in money, time or effort; but it can be of supreme importance in one's life. A smile affects your whole body from skeleton to skin including the nerves and muscles and blood supply. It affects the functioning of every organ; it influences every gland. You cannot smile without affecting your whole body favorably. Even one smile relaxes a surprising number of muscles. When smiling becomes a habit you cannot imagine the effect it has on you or those who know you. Last year's smiles are paying you dividends today!

The effect of a smile on the other people is remarkable. It disarms suspicion, melts away fear and anger and excites what is best and noblest in the other person. This is immediately returned to you.

A smile is to a Christian what oil is to machinery - no intelligent Christian ever neglects lubrication!

"The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable..." Proverbs 10:32.

Howard Mahle Via The Good Omen



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Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
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SERVING SUNDAY, July 3, 1977

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements ..... Elwin Crow

Prayer ..... James Phillips

Dismiss ..... Guy Potts

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Paul Montandon

Prayer ..... C. E. Caskey

Dismiss ..... Joe Carroll

Serving Communion Sunday

C. E. Caskey J. C. Payne

Tom Williams Sherrill Little

Averyt Smith Harvey Grier

Cullen Gilliam Ike Gaiser

Greeters For Sunday

Ed Bullard Francis Bullard

D. C. Jones

ZONE 1 will meet Tuesday evening,  
7:30 at the Henry McRuiz home.

*Report of Our Sick*

Brother O. C. Becker had surgery last week in Mother Frances.

Mrs. Marie Skeeters has been in Glenwood Hospital for tests.

Mrs. Evelyn Denton remains in the Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. W. D. Metcalf is in Mother Frances for eye surgery.

Contributions

June 26....\$3,714.03

June 19....\$3,737.13

Year Ago..\$3,388.88

Bible School

.....429

.....387

.....419

**T H A N K S**

Thank you for the visits, flowers, and every kindness shown to me while I was hospitalized. A special thanks to the Chapel class for the plant.

Mrs. Titus Holland

**WELCOME TO TYLER**

We want to welcome Don Kleppe the new minister for the Northwest Church of Christ, to Tyler. He and his family recently moved here from Rusk, Texas.

The East Texas Summer Youth Series will meet Tuesday, July 5 at Big Sandy, 7:30 p. m.

**NO "VISITOR" NEXT WEEK**

Due to our mailing permit regulations the "Visitor" will not be printed next week.

**RESPONSES**

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby (Judy) Wilbanks, 103 Casa Grande #1030, came Sunday evening to place membership. They also asked for the prayers of the church. They have formerly worshipped with the church in Henderson. We welcome them and their small son, Benji, to West Erwin.

**NEW BABY GIRL**

Charles and Sherryl Miles are the happy parents of a baby girl born Tuesday morning in Mother Frances Hospital. Charles and Velma Lemons are the proud grandparents.

**KINDNESS** is like snow - it beautifies everything it covers.

*From the Preacher's Desk...*

Marriage Adjustment No. 5: Sex

Perhaps as many as 90% of the clients a marriage counselor sees may blame the source of their marital conflict upon sexual problems, at least initially. Yet, only about 10% of these difficulties are actually rooted in sexual matters. Nonetheless, its role in a healthy marriage is most vital.

Sex was God's idea, part of his design: "And God blessed them and said to them 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it. . .'" (Gen. 1:27,28). The Scriptures affirm the holiness of marital love: "Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled." (Heb. 13:4).

Even so, sexual adjustment is hindered by many factors such as guilt, fear, stress, fatigue, personal hostility, etc. Undoubtedly one of the greatest barriers to intimacy is the abundance of misinformation and ignorance which shrouds the subject. For instance, today the media as well as a proliferation of "technique manuals" suggest that the real key to sexual happiness can be summed up in the word "variety." Sexual encounters with single partners, they also contend, will not only add this variety but also enhance the relationship of married people.

This is absolute falsehood, and recent research has proved it to be so. Ten years ago medical researchers Masters and Johnson initiated a study of human sexual response. While their earlier studies were highly publicized, their most recent conclusions are perhaps not as well known. After thousands of hours of interviews and scientific study, they contend in their latest publication that the single most important element in sexual fulfillment is a lasting commitment between one man and one woman.

The wisdom of God's pattern is inescapable. Because it is the intimate relationships that give life its meaning and richness, God created this exclusive bond between a man and a wife to enable them to meet this deep need. There are needs met in this level of intimacy which are not met in any other way.

"Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife, and they become one flesh."

Lynn and Joy McMillon  
Oklahoma Christian College



## From the Preacher's Desk...

### Marriage Adjustment No. 4: Communication

Of the five major sources of tension in marriage: money, leisure time, male and female roles, sex, and communication, this column will deal with communication this week.

Perhaps we should start by defining communication. Some people think that it refers only to talking, discussion, or writing. Though these are indeed aspects of communication, it also has a broader definition. Communication is any behavior that carries a message which is perceived by someone else. The behavior can be verbal or nonverbal (gestures, facial expressions, body stance, etc.). Incredibly enough, 94% of all communication is nonverbal! The message may be intended or unintended, but if it is perceived it has, in fact, been communicated.

This being true, it may help to explain why so many families are disharmonious and why love among the family members is often hidden by chronic bickering and resentment. Surely the answer doesn't lie in the fact that people are just mean and hateful. The vast majority of people are well-meaning toward other family members. At least, their deliberately destructive actions against other members of the family seem to be done in anger which has been provoked, they feel, by another person.

In the great portion of cases, then, where there is discord, the problem lies in the fact that the consciously felt love and good will harbored by the family members are not communicated in such a way that they are recognized.

Typical communication problems often involve such factors as: lack of real listening; avoidance of true emotions, ambiguous statements, and destructive word games, among others.

The Bible has much to say about this matter of communication: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver." (Prov. 25:11) "A word in season, how good it is!" (Prov. 15:23). Christ also offered the perfect model for "all spoke well of him and wondered at his gracious words" (Luke 4:22). Not only will his "gracious word" judge us on the last day (Luke 12:48), but our own words will either "justify us or condemn us." (Matt. 12:36-37). As Christians, then, we must be concerned with out communication since the "words of our mouth" must be acceptable unto the Lord. (Psa. 19:14)

In a series of succeeding columns we hope to deal with some guidelines intended to help husbands and wives put their consciously felt love and positive good intentions into practice in such a way that other family members will recognize them. Following these suggestions will hopefully enable individuals to discuss problems without "falling into" destructive patterns such as those described above.

Lyn and Joy McMillon - Oklahoma Christian College

# West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

*Church of Christ*



### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 W. ERWIN  
TYLER, TEXAS 75701

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420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75701. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.







**GOING  
SOMEWHERE  
THIS  
SUMMER?**

*Have A Great Vacation,  
But Please . . .*

Remember our work at West Erwin  
Make arrangements to leave your  
**CONTRIBUTION**  
for the number of Sundays  
you will be gone  
And pray for us every day while you're away  
**GOD BLESS YOU!**



*West Erwin Visitor*  
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**CALENDAR OF SERVICES**

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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 June 16, 1977 No. 24

## Men to Serve

### Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements F. C. Carpenter  
Prayer Ron Jones  
Dismiss Wayne Reynolds

### Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements George Kester  
Prayer Dwaine Thedford  
Dismiss Marshall Phillips

### Serving Communion Sunday

Ron Campbell Roy Roberson  
Jack Stringer Travis Fletcher  
Henry McRuiz Charles Miles  
Clark Lemons Roy Lane Roberson

### Greeters For Sunday

Joe Willis Ben Young  
D. C. Jones

## The Record

Contributions	Bible School
June 12....\$3,246.37	.....394
June 5....\$3,611.89	.....402
Year Ago..\$2,925.59	.....413

## Sympathy

A sister to brother James Massey was buried in Dallas on Monday.

Mr. John Luce, a brother of sister Lillie Knight, was buried Saturday in New Harmony.

We extend our sincere sympathy to each family.

ZONE 3 will meet at 6:30 p. m. Tuesday evening for a covered dish supper at the home of Hillard and Jeanine Hughes, 3704 Birdwell.

## THANKS

We want to express our sincere appreciation to everyone at West Erwin for your expressions of sympathy. Thank you for the food, flowers, the memorial gifts to the church library and all that you have done to help us bear our sorrow.

The Family of Jewell Pickle

## Report of Our Sick

Ralph Lowrance continues to be a patient in Methodist Hospital in Dallas.

Kenneth Bennett did not have his surgery until Monday of this week. He is in the V. A. Hospital in Dallas.

Mrs. Evelyn Denton suffered a heart attack and is in ICU in Medical Center.

Mrs. Katie Heath continues to be a patient in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. Vannie Lee is in Glenwood Hospital.

## MOVED TO KAUFMAN

Frances and J. B. Gray have moved to Kaufman, Texas. They will be greatly missed here.

REMEMBER the All Church fellowship Friday evening, 7:00 o'clock, at the Rose Building.

## Congratulations!

Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Wiggains of Houston are the proud parents of a baby girl born Saturday. Ferman and Lucille Carpenter are the happy grandparents.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL every Thursday morning in June - 9:30 until 11:30.

# EAST TEXAS SUMMER YOUTH SERIES



"How to Tell if You're  
in Love"

Jack Paul

Tuesday

West Erwin Church of Christ

420 West Erwin

Tyler, Texas

592-0809

June 21 7:30



### Marriage Adjustment No. 3: Role

Male and female role conflict is the topic for this third in a series of articles on typical marital tensions. How a man and a woman understand their respective roles and functions in a marriage greatly affects their performance and happiness.

Society's changing views of the respective roles of women and men have left many women feeling confused and many men threatened. Women feel torn between a desire to remain in the home or to "use their minds and develop themselves into a person," as some women activists chide.

The successful impetus of the women's liberation movement as well as strained family economics have pressured many women into seeking employment outside the home. In 1977, 42% of all husband-wife families (19,800,000 families) have both mates working as breadwinners as compared to 29% in 1960. Source: U. S. Dept. of Labor.

On the other hand, the departure of women from the home and their subsequent flooding into the job market has made many men uneasy as they feel women "encroaching" upon their previously all-male world. There can be no doubt that this "confusion" and "uneasiness" produces tension and arguments in many homes which until then seemed to have few problems.

How many of the daily tasks ascribed to men or women have arisen from social traditions and how many have arisen from Biblical teaching? This is the relevant question for all of us as we try to understand our roles.

The Bible speaks to five areas of emphasis in its delineation of roles:

1. Nature. Men and women are by nature equal as creations of God, "fellow heirs in the kingdom." Gen. 1:26, and they are mutually dependent on each other, I Cor. 11:11 - 12.

2. Honor. Women are to receive "greater honor" according to God's instruction in I Peter 3:7.

3. Order. Men are to lead the home and the church so that orderliness and not chaos will prevail, I Tim. 2:8; Eph. 5:23.

4. Homemaking. Women have the primary responsibility for seeing that the functions of the home are maintained, Titus 2:5. The picture of the "worthy" or "ideal" woman in Prov. 31:10-31 is one of a woman performing a wide range of homebased activities on her family's behalf.

5. Livelihood. Men are responsible for providing a living for the family, I Tim. 5:8. Such a role, however, does not exempt them from a responsibility of child-rearing, Eph. 6:4.

A closer examination of the Biblical pattern will help restore a proper perspective on male and female roles in marriage.

Lynn and Joy McMillon - Oklahoma Christian College

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**THOSE TO SERVE**

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements ..... Carroll Magee  
 Prayer ..... Phil Marts  
 Dismiss ..... Ray Magee  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.  
 Announcements ..... Jamon Kirby  
 Prayer ..... Tommy Parrish  
 Dismiss ..... Henry McRuiz  
Serving Communion Sunday  
 Ron Campbell Roy Roberson  
 Jack Stringer Travis Fletcher  
 Henry McRuiz Charles Miles  
 Clark Lemons Roy Lane Roberson  
Greeters For Sunday  
 Elwin Crow Dick Higginbotham  
 D. C. Jones



Contributions	Bible School
June 5.....\$3,611.89	.....402
May 29....\$3,484.38	.....429
Year Ago..\$3,455.14	.....388

**OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY**

We share in the sorrow of the family of Louis J. Jones. Brother Jones suffered a heart attack on Wednesday and passed away on Thursday. He had served the church here for many years as a deacon. He was the chairman of the finance committee and was very active in the benevolent work of the church. We shall miss him greatly. His funeral service was conducted last Saturday afternoon. We extend deepest sympathy to Modena, the children and other relatives.

**T H A N K S**

During a time like this we realize how much our friends really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered by the loved ones of Jewell C. Pickle.

Thank you Christian friends at West Erwin for your prayers, visits, cards, the pot plant and book of verse during my stay in the hospital.

Jesse King

The family of Louis Jones would like to express our deepest appreciation for your kind, loving thoughts and deeds during the loss of our beloved husband and father. Our Christian friends gave us comfort and strength which helped to sustain us in our loss. May God's blessings be with you.

Thank you so much for your prayers and your concern for us while Mike was in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Vardeman (Mr. Vardeman was hospitalized here following an automobile accident. He lives in Mount Enterprise, Texas.)

**MOVING FROM TYLER**

Because of a promotion in his work David and Pat Cooper are moving to Beaumont, Texas. We are sorry to see them leave but hope they will be very happy in their new home.



Remember the get-together for the congregation, June 17 at the Rose Building. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the FELLOWSHIP.



*david cord anderson*

"As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him." Mark 9:15.

When we see Jesus for whom he really is we will be filled with wonder. Jesus came to "seek and save the lost." What joy and hope and confidence we find in the one who saves us. It causes us to run to him, to greet him with trust and reliance, and to live for him.

We behold in wonder a crucified Savior raised by the power of God. A man who promised life to a disillusioned people and delivered it. A man who gathered a group of selfseeking individuals that would turn the world upside down.

In a world of uncertainty he proclaimed himself as Truth. Those who

hungered were offered the Bread of Life. Those who were thirsty were promised living water. For those who fumbled along through time in search of meaning, he simply stated "I am the way." For those who desired to know God, he said, "No man comes to the Father but by me." For those who feared the curtain of death he proclaimed, "I am the Resurrection."

Jesus offered himself to God as a sacrifice for our sins. He purchased our pardon with his blood. Let us honor our Lord with our faith. Let us proclaim him with our lives "as both Lord and Christ."

"From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." John 1:16,17.

**Our Sick**

Kenneth Bennett will undergo major surgery Friday in the Veteran's Hospital in Dallas.

Mrs. Titus Holland remains a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

Mrs. Olen Holland is in Mother Frances for tests.

Mrs. Katie Heath had surgery Thursday in Medical Center Hospital.

Ralph Lowrance had surgery at the Methodist Hospital in Dallas Wednesday.

ZONE 2 will meet Tuesday evening, 7:00 o'clock at the Wallace Gayle home.

**AREA MEETINGS**

The Broadway church of Christ will have Johnny Ramsey in a gospel meeting, June 12-16, 7:30 each evening.

A meeting for the deaf and hearing will begin at Glenwood Sunday. It will be held at Troup on Monday, Overton on Tuesday and back at Glenwood thru Friday. Loyd Williams, preaching.

BUSINESS MEETING . . . Sunday, 1:30 p. m. in the Chapel.

The East Texas Young People's Meeting will be in Palestine at the Queen & DeBard church, June 14 - 7:30 p. m.



Marriage Adjustment No. 2 Money

Marriage adjustment for many people is challenged by attitudes and uses of money. All of us are familiar with the problems created by too little money, or as one person commented, "there's too much of the month left at the end of my check." In addition to this obvious stress, more subtle ones may be at work in a marriage beset by tensions over money—control, trust, and role. Who controls the money in your family?" This question probes the three common underlying issues--control, trust and role.

**CONTROL** The husband or wife that insists on handling all of the family finances and reluctantly permits their partner any knowledge or role in family finances, may be controlling the other person through money. A marriage in which one dominates the other through money or in which a constant struggle for control is waged, cannot progress toward deeper understanding.

**TRUST** Money may also raise the issue of trust between husband and wife. For instance, a wife who does not trust her husband in other matters may insist upon handling the finances or upon a complete accounting of all money spent. A mate may even rigidly enforce a strict budget on a spouse as a means of retaliating for having had his or her trust violated by the other person.

**ROLE** People tend to handle money in ways similar to those of their parents. Therefore, a man may dominate the finances because he deems it the role of the man in the family to do so, not recognizing that he is really just imitating the way his father did things. A wife may intentionally remain uninformed of family financial matters because she saw the same in her mother. Problems often arise when both partners unconsciously expect each other to be like their mother or father.

Biblically, the handling of family finances should be guided by the two principles of stewardship and mutual sharing of responsibility, Matthew 19: 5-6 and Ephesians 5:21.

(This is number two in a series of six articles)

By Lynn and Joy McMilan of Oklahoma Christian College

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*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements ..... Bill Butler  
Prayer ..... Leon Welborn  
Dismiss ..... Francis Bullard  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Ray Lott  
Prayer ..... Tom Humphrey  
Dismiss ..... Jeff Munn

Serving Communion Sunday

F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Harold Browning Gerald Montgomery  
Mike Munn Wilmer Little  
Wayne Reynolds David Cooper

Greeters for Sunday

John Teague Dwaine Thedford  
D. C. Jones

OUR SYMPATHY . . .

is extended to the family of Mrs. Percy (Leora) Tate. Funeral services were held for her Saturday afternoon.

Pleasant Grove Church of Christ

Dallas, Texas

SOUL WINNING WORKSHOP

June 9 - 11, '77

(more information on bulletin board)

PICTURES will be made Sunday of our new members - following worship.



Contributions	Bible School
May 29...\$3,484.38	.....429
May 22...\$4,440.22	.....423
Year Ago.\$3,030.58	.....392

**T H A N K S**

We want to express our sincere appreciation to all of you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and visits during my long illness. Also, we would like to thank the young people's class for the pretty card. A special thanks to brother Stephenson for the book that you gave.

Odell & Louise Malone

We would like to take this opportunity to express our heart felt thanks to all the members of the West Erwin church for all the prayers, cards, telephone calls, food, and for every act of kindness performed during the illness of our beloved Leora Tate. May God's richest blessings rest upon each and every one of you.

The Family of Leora Tate

**Congratulations**

Ferman L. Carpenter, son of F. C. and Lucille Carpenter, has been included in the 1977 edition of Outstanding Young Men of America. The awards program is co-sponsored by the United States Jaycees and other men's civic and service organizations of the nation. Ferman teaches a New Converts class and leads singing at Web Road Church of Christ in Corpus Christi, Texas.

NEW GRANDDAUGHTER

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cockrell have a new baby girl, Sara Elizabeth, born Saturday in Bowie, Texas. Mary and Max Haws are the happy grandparents.

Please join our family  
on this joyous occasion  
when our daughter, Ann

will be married to Rick Chitwood  
on Saturday, June eleventh  
nineteen hundred and seventy-seven  
at seven in the evening

West Erwin Church of Christ  
Tyler, Texas

Your presence at this celebration of love  
will be of special importance to all of us

Margaret and Gerald Montgomery

Reception  
immediately following the ceremony  
(this is a change)  
Woman's Building  
911 So. Broadway



A GET-TOGETHER FOR ALL

Friday night, June 17 at the Garden Center Building. We will bring our meal and eat together. Mark your calendar and reserve this evening.

**HOSPITALS**

Ken Bennett is a patient in the V. A. Hospital in Dallas.

Mrs. Titus Holland is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

Mrs. Marvin Jones is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

Mrs. Evelyn Denton continues to be a patient in Medical Center.



**david cord anderson**

VOLUNTEERS ARE WONDERFUL. Our VBS has been completely staffed by volunteers! But isn't that the way it should always be? The church is a volunteer organization. For so long we have "drafted," arm-twisted and begged people for any program of work. That's not the way it was intended to be. Even a brief look into the early church shows such a contrast to what we find today.

One of the saddest comments is, "I'm not going to volunteer, I'll just wait to get drafted." What a contrast to what Jesus said. All through His ministry Jesus was thinning his crowds. He constantly warned people that they might not be ready for what he was offering. As the Hebrew writer said of Jesus, "for the joy set before him endured the cross." And that's what our Lord offers everyone who would follow him - a cross.

Yes, volunteers are wonderful! Have you volunteered to serve in some way lately.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Each Thursday in June 9:30 - 11:30 a. m.

Louis J. Jones is in Glenwood Hospital.



## From the Preacher's Desk...

### Marriage Adjustment

Beginning in our bulletin this week we plan to have a series of articles on Marriage Adjustment by Lynn and Joy McMillan of Oklahoma Christian College. Lynn teaches Bible and counseling as well as maintaining a private marriage counseling practice. Joy conducts ladies' classes and retreats on areas of family concern.

Since 1975 divorces have exceeded the one million mark annually, and it is estimated that the figure will be two million by the year 2000. In 1960 there were 26 divorces for every 100 marriages; 49 for every 100 in 1976, and estimates say 63 for every 100 marriages in 1990. We know that this is contrary to God's plan for marriage and the home. We hope you will want to file all of the articles on marriage which will appear in our bulletin. GHS

### MARRIAGE ADJUSTMENT NO. 1

A recent study by the Institute of Life Insurance showed that 87% of the persons questioned rate "happy family life" as their primary goal in life. Yet marriage counselors estimate that far fewer than 25% of married people are actually happy. The discrepancy between the two figures demonstrates the necessity for viewing marital adjustment as a continual process throughout marriage.

A marriage counselor seeking a diagnosis for a troubled marriage may well ask a series of five questions. What answer can you give to the following queries?

1. Who controls the money in your marriage? (money)
2. Who and what are you in your marriage? (role)
3. What do you spend most of your spare time doing? (time)
4. Does your mate really understand you? (communication)
5. Is marital intimacy truly fulfilling to both of you? (sex)

These questions strike at the core of the five most common sources of marital tension - money, male and female roles, time, communication, and sex. In coming weeks this column will deal with each of the five subjects separately.

The *Amazing Grace*

Bible Class  
Each Sunday 8:00 A.M. - KLTV

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Prayer ..... David Hubbard

Dismiss ..... Gerald Montgomery

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Jack Beard

Prayer ..... Milburn Cook

Dismiss ..... Denton Phillips

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Harold Browning Gerald Montgomery

Mike Munn Wilmer Little

Wayne Reynolds David Cooper

Greeters for Sunday

H. McCarty Henry McRuiz

D. C. Jones

THE RECORDS

Contributions Bible School

May 22...\$4,440.22 .....423

May 15...\$3,234.96 .....432

Year Ago.\$2,880.82 .....420

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Wright and son, Ted recently moved to Tyler from Denison, Texas. We are happy to have them as members of West Erwin. Their address is 1123 Dogwood, phone 597-0011.

THANK YOU NOTES

Friends are wonderful! Thanks for the many acts of kindness that you have shown me since I had foot surgery. May God bless each of you.

Annie Lee Drummond

We want to thank all our wonderful Christian friends at West Erwin for the cards, letters, phone calls and visits that only Christians like you would have thought of. Also, we do want to thank the young people's class for the pretty card and their concern for me. I feel sure this contributed to my recovery.

Lillian and O. C. Becker

Thanks

Because of the hard work and generosity of many of you the Junior-Senior Banquet was a tremendous success. The West Erwin young people were, of course, the brightest and best looking of the 90 + that attended. You would have been proud of them. We, who helped sponsor the banquet, are indebted to each of you.

Sue and Dick Higginbotham

Pat and Elwin Crow

GROCERY TRUCKS

The grocery truck from Boles Home will be here sometime during the week of June 13 - 18. A list of the most needed items is posted on the bulletin board in the south foyer. Also, the truck from Medina Home will be here sometime in June. If you would like to contribute, our benevolent committee will prepare for both trucks by June 13th.

Report of Our Sick

Don O'Bannon is in Mother Frances Hospital suffering from a blood clot.

Leora Tate remains in Medical Center Hospital.

Evelyn Denton continues to be in Medical Center Hospital.

let it shine david cord anderson

I'm grateful for Randy Becton! Randy's Baccalaureate message was beautiful. He communicated well with our Seniors and all the rest of us as well. That was the best Baccalaureate sermon I've ever heard. Thank you, Randy.

I'm proud of our Seniors. They are special people. Be praying that God's will be done in each of their lives as they continue to serve Him and bring glory to our Father.

Weren't our girls lovely Sunday night? Our Junior High and High School girls were gracious and helpful in handing out the Baccalaureate programs.

There are two couples that are especially deserving of our gratitude for their planning and execution of the Junior-Senior Banquet. Elwin and Pat Crow and Dick and Sue Higginbotham spent a tremendous amount of time in insuring the quality of the banquet that made it so successful. I'm also appreciative of those of you who contributed financially to this fine event.

Saturday morning a group of men knocked out two walls in our educational wing to enlarge classroom space. Thank you to Jamon Kirby for taking on the project. All the helpers were: Harold Browning, Mark Cauthen, Elwin Crow, Morris Hallman, Hillard Hughes, Phil Marts and Gerald Montgometry. - Thanks.

The Lord willing the union of our children Laurie Jean and

Carl Wayne will take place

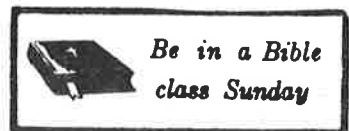
on Saturday, the fourth of June nineteen hundred and seventy-seven at half past seven in the evening where the church meets at 420 West Erwin Tyler, Texas

We request the honour of your presence to witness the establishment of their Christian home. Mr. and Mrs. Dale White Mr. and Mrs. Ray Lott Reception following

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

Our sister Jewell Pickle was hospitalized last Wednesday morning with a heart attack. She passed away on Sunday evening. Funeral services were conducted for her Wednesday morning at the church building. We extend our sincere sympathy to her children, grandchildren and other members of the family.

Mrs. Collier, a sister to brother Titus Holland, was buried Monday in Vernon, Texas. We extend our sympathy to the family.





## From the Preacher's Desk...

The Bible tells us of some who came to Philip with the request, "Sir, we would see Jesus," (John 12:21). Thank you, David Anderson for helping us to see Jesus in your sermon Sunday night. How many times have you heard a prayer offered for a preacher that he might hide himself behind the cross and preach Jesus and Him crucified? David did this Sunday night and all of us should love Jesus more. We were pleased with all of our services Sunday and hope that they were pleasing to the Lord.

We have many wonderful people at West Erwin who are involved in so many different activities for the Lord. I attended the closing exercise of our "Friday School" last Friday morning. We can not praise too highly the Christian women who have given of their time to teach precious boys and girls about God and His love for us. I just know that impressions for good have been made on their young lives and that their parents will always think kindly of West Erwin because of the interest shown in their children. Elaine Roberson has done a marvelous work in helping with this work - and our sincere appreciation is expressed to all the women who worked with her. Plans now call for the school to become "Tuesday School" for the next school year.

Others who are worthy of special commendation are those women who have been working from week to week in the Christian Service Center - our work on behalf of the needy. This Center has done an untold amount of good and with a comparative small amount of expense from the church treasury. Paul said, "Only they would that we should remember the poor; the same which I also was forward to do," (Galatians 2:10). Those who are working in the area of benevolence manifest the spirit expressed by Paul - and which is the spirit of Christ. We thank Louis and Modena Jones and James and Mildred Massey for their leadership and for all the women and men who have been working on Thursday mornings in the Care Center.

Last Sunday was the day set by the Broadway church in Lubbock to have a contribution of one million dollars. In a telephone conversation I learned that the contribution was almost \$900,000 and that people are still bringing in money with the expectation that a million dollars will be raised so that plans will be carried out to build a magnificent new educational building. Many have borrowed money at the bank in order to make their contributions. It is thrilling to hear of a church so blessed by the Lord and who are willing to make great sacrifices to see the cause of our Lord go forward.

GHS

EVERYONE SMILES IN THE SAME LANGUAGE



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CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 W. ERWIN  
TYLER, TEXAS 75701

The West Erwin Visitor  
Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75701. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

MEN TO SERVE

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements..... K. Max Haws
Prayer ..... Ben Young
Dismiss ..... Paul Montandon

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Baccalaureate Service

Serving Communion Sunday

Roger Knight Mack Bynum
Tom Humphrey Harley Turner
Mac McCall B. J. Tucker
Kyle McRuiz Tim Holt

THE RECORDS

Table with 2 columns: Contributions, Bible School. Rows for May 15, May 8, and Year Ago.

A GREAT LESSON

Audrey O'Bannon taught a lesson on the Tabernacle for the 4th grade class last Sunday. She has made the furniture and the robes of the High Priest and priest. She also had the three items in the Ark of the Covenant with Cherubims on top.

Jean Oliver and Pauline Aven

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

A fellowship for all, June 17th at the Rose Building.

GRADUATES

Last week we listed our graduates and some things we knew about each one. The following information completes our list.

CHARLIE COOK - a graduate of Lee is a member of the Latin Club and Rodeo Association. He plans to attend Tyler Junior College in the fall.

KAY MONTGOMERY - a graduate of Lee was a member of the Southern Belles her sophomore and junior years. Attended the Vocational Office Education and Office Education Association Leadership conference. Won District in OEA Conference in Accounting and Bookkeeping Related I. Went to State OEA Leadership conference in Ft. Worth. She will attend ACU in the fall.

JANIE PAUL - a graduate of Lee will attend Tyler Junior College this fall.

DENISE TERRY - is a graduate of Lee and President of Vocational Office Education. Placed in Office Education Association Leadership Contest. She is a member of Southern Belles. Denise plans to attend TJC in the fall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be conducted this year each Thursday morning in June from 9:30 until 11:30.

CAMP DEER RUN

Saturday, May 28 is a workday at Camp Deer Run. Your help is needed! Ray Womack wants to thank all who have contributed in the past. Financial support is needed now in addition to workers to get ready for the first session, June 5-10. Bring tools to work with and a sack lunch.



Friday School is over. The "thank you's" have come to our teachers from the children and parents. Once again Tyler has witnessed the love, care, and concern for many boys and girls. A large number of parents were present for last Friday's graduation.

Elaine Roberson is Friday School. She pours her being into the direction and teaching of Friday School. The words on the plaque really describe our feelings toward Elaine.

There have been so many who have given of their time and hearts to make Friday School the success that it was: Maxine Freeman, Esther Kester, Joyce Willis, Carolyn Blackstone, Fleta Butler, Sharen Chambless, Sher Sevier, Zeffie Beard, Barbara Montandon, Laverne Keith, Naomi McKeever, Juanita Teague, Pam Wells, Nora Chambless, Mary Haws, Mary Paul, Sue Paul, Dalton Jones, and various substitutes.

Friday School is over but next year there will be Tuesday School. Hopefully, more people will be available on Tuesdays. We turned down many boys and girls who wanted to be in our program last year. We are hoping that many will volunteer their Tuesday mornings beginning this fall so that we can accept every boy and girl who wants to come and learn about Jesus. There are many areas to be filled besides teaching. Call Elaine Roberson right now and see how you can help in Tuesday School. Her number is 597-5627. May the Lord bless you.

IN THE HOSPITALS

Dwaine and Audeen Thedford's young son, Glen, underwent eye surgery on Tuesday in Mother Frances.

Mrs. Leora Tate remains in Medical Center Hospital.

Jess King continues to be a patient in Medical Center.

Mrs. Evelyn Denton is in Medical Center suffering from a broken leg.

Travis Fletcher is a patient in the Glenwood Hospital.

Mrs. Ella Hibbard is back at home.

SYMPATHY

We recently learned that brother Stubblefield, who drove the grocery truck for Boles Home, passed away April 22 after a brief illness. We shall miss him when the truck calls on us.

Boxed text: BACCALAUREATE SUNDAY EVENING - 6:00 p. m. RANDY BECTON from Abilene GUEST SPEAKER



# PREACHER QUILTS SPORTS

Want to know why?



1. Every time I went, they asked me for money.



2. The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly.



3. The seats were too hard and not comfortable.



4. The coach never came to call on me.



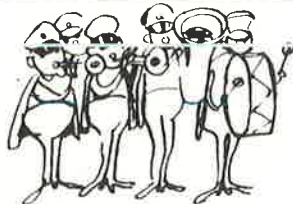
5. The referee made a decision with which I could not agree.



6. I was sitting with some hypocrites—they came only to see what others were wearing.



7. Some games went into overtime, and I was late getting home.



8. The band played some numbers that I had never heard before.



9. The games are scheduled when I want to do other things.



10. My parents took me to too many games when I was growing up.



11. Since I read a book on sports, I feel that I know more than the coaches anyhow.



12. I don't want to take my children, because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best.

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#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

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**MEN TO SERVE**

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements ..... C. E. Caskey  
 Prayer ..... Roland Roberts  
 Dismiss ..... Bruce Raley

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Faber Cauthen  
 Prayer ..... Leon Welborn  
 Dismiss ..... Stafford Franklin

**THE RECORDS**

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
May 8....\$3,376.65	.....444
May 1....\$3,455.19	.....402
Year Ago.\$2,780.40	.....390

**WELCOME**

We want to welcome Mrs. Ron (Karen) Hinz. She came to be restored and to place membership. She formerly worshipped with the Austin church in Decatur, Ala. Their address is 214 E. Amherst, phone 592-6068.

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thank you so much for all the cards, visits, calls and especially your prayers during my illness. I am enjoying the book brother Stephenson brought me so much.

Marie Threadgill

I want to express my appreciation to you for the visits and cards during my recent stay in the hospital.

Algie Sherman

**OUR SYMPATHY**

An uncle of Mrs. Homer Williamson was buried Sunday in Gilmer. We extend sympathy to the family.

**david cord anderson**

Pam and I were surprised by the party! For one of few times in my life I really didn't know what to say. The banners "We Love You" "We appreciate you" "God made you something special" are written across our hearts. I just want you to know that Youthshine is something special. "Your love has given me great joy and encouragement." Philemon 7. I am indeed blessed to be with you and grow with you. This is the greatest group of young people I've ever known.

During the month of April our Monday night Bible study averaged 23. May 2 we had 31 present and last Monday 27. I'm thankful that I get to work with youth that are dedicated to the Lord of the Word and the Word of the Lord.

Meredith Womack and Gwen Owen took fourth place in district 14-AAAA tennis. Cathy Crow was elected to be a cheerleader by the Robert E. Lee High School student body. Mary Lynn Stitt was elected to be manager in the Southern Belles at Lee. Kay Montgomery, Denise Terry and Kim Hughes had their picture in the paper recently as they qualified for state competition in Vocational Office Education. Congratulations!

444 in Bible School was great! Our averages for the year are: January - 361; February - 395; March - 402 and April 432

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIORS**

Charlie Cook	Mike Franklin	Lee Knight	Prissy Potts
Robert Dzamko	Matt Haws	Keston McFadden	Hunt Rowe
Randy Fletcher	Steve Higginbotham	Kay Montgomery	Denise Terry
Vicki Fletcher	Kim Hughes	Janie Paul	

Lee Knight - a graduate of Lee where she was a member of the Southern Belles, Spanish Club and National Honor Society. She will enter ACU in the fall.

Kim Hughes - a graduate of Lee was a member of the 9th grade band, Drill team, and secretary of Vocational Office Education. She participated in VOE Leadership conferences - Regional and State and has worked for Howe-Baker Engineering the past year in connection with VOE. She will enter ACU this fall.

Keston McFadden - a graduate of Lee will enter TJC in the fall and major in Business.

Prissy Potts - a graduate of John Tyler was a member of the band with 3 U. I. L. first place divisions, and member of National Honor Society. She will enter TJC in the fall.

Vicki Fletcher a graduate of John Tyler is a member of National Honor Society and secretary for VOE. Vicki plans to attend TJC in the fall.

Randy Fletcher a graduate of John Tyler is the reporter for Industrial Co-operative Training and will attend TJC in the fall.

Matt Haws a graduate of Lee plans to enter ACU in the fall.

Mike Franklin a graduate of Lee was a tennis letterman. He will enter TJC and later Baylor Law School.

Hunt Rowe an honor graduate of Chapel Hill was a member of the Math-Science Club 4 years, Chairman of Scholarship selection committee and a band member 6 years. He is a member of Boy Scouts of America and Medical Explorer Olympics. A member of the Varsity Tennis team 1 year and Fine Arts Club 3 years. He is certified in First Aid by American Red Cross and in C. P. R. by American Heart Association, and CODA instructor on drug abuse. He will attend TJC this summer and ACU in the fall.

**REPORT OF THE SICK**

Mrs. Leora Tate continues to be a patient in Medical Center.

Jess King underwent surgery Monday in Medical Center.

O, C. Becker is in Mother Frances. Ann and P. J. Bryant are in Birmingham, Alabama undergoing tests in the Diabetic Research Hospital. They hope to be home very soon.

**A NEW GRANDSON**

Max and Mary Haws are the grandparents of a baby boy born Sunday to Melinda and Earl O'Quinn in San Antonio, Texas.

**BUSINESS MEETING** - Sunday afternoon, 1:30 in the Chapel.

**JUNIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP** - Sunday evening at the Ralph Rowe home.



## From the Preacher's Desk...

Guest Editorial. . .

"...if when you do right and suffer for it you take it patiently, you have God's approval." I Peter 2:20

### HANDLING CRITICISM

We face one of our most severe tests of character when criticism comes. And it will come, if we're doing anything worthwhile.

Jesus was fiercely criticized by the very people who should have been His friends - the religionists of the day. They were jealous. And they were savage in their attacks. There is, of course, a difference: every criticism leveled against Him was unjust; with us, some of it is bound to be just.

God's servants in every age have been maligned: Noah, Moses, Joshua, David, Elijah, Paul - none of them escaped. The barbs had to hurt. I imagine each of these crawled off to lick his wounds for awhile. But the proof of greatness is that they soon came back, and continued their work for God.

Someone has said, "Criticism is the muck in which the plants of the Lord grow strong." We can profit from criticism. It may reveal our weaknesses and faults. Even if it is untrue it can help us grow. If we are wise it will help us to be cautious - to exercise care in our words and deeds.

#### What Should We Do When We Are Criticized?

- 1) Examine the criticism to see if it's true.
- 2) If it is, be courageous enough to admit it and make corrections.
- 3) If it isn't don't be crumbled by it.
- 4) Don't let it push you into a defensive posture, causing you to take positions which you really don't believe. Some much needed people have allowed themselves to be pressed into defending a position they didn't really intend to take in the first place.
- 5) By all means, don't let it send you into a retreat of silence and inactivity. Keep on working for God. Many needed voices have been silenced because of criticism. These have permitted their usefulness to be determined by the critic rather than by God.

...Joe R. Barnett

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
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*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a.m.

Announcements ..... Roger Knight  
Prayer ..... J. C. Payne  
Dismiss ..... Rick Higginbotham  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.

Announcements ..... James Phillips  
Prayer ..... Sam Sevier  
Dismiss ..... Shayne Bennett

Serving Communion Sunday

C. B. Hardin John Teague  
Sam Bailey Bob Threadgill  
Olen Holland Milburn Cook  
Steve Higginbotham Charlie Cook

Greeters

W. S. Little Wilmer Little  
D. C. Jones

**OUR RECORDS**

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
May 1.....\$3,455.19	.....402
April 24....\$3,376.35	.....514
Year Ago...\$3,257.65	.....384

*Report of Our Sick*

Mrs. Bob Threadgill had surgery last week in Mother Frances.

Mrs. Percy Tate continues to be in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. Erma Sanders is in Glenwood hospital following an automobile accident last Thursday.

Herbert Lowery has been in Glenwood Hospital.

Odell Malone remains at home with a broken leg.

Jess King is in Medical Center for tests.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Membership - Mr. and Mrs. Leon Welborn (Carolyn), 618 Purdue, phone 561-3624, came Sunday to place membership. They have a six year old daughter, Cheryl.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Parrish (Kay) came also Sunday to place membership. They have two small children, Shara and Jeff. Their address is 3115 Andy Lane, phone 593-7128.

We welcome both of these families. They formerly worshipped with the Northwest congregation.

We also welcome Gwen Owen, 1426 Hawthorne. She is a junior in John Tyler and formerly worshipped with the Shiloh Rd. Church of Christ.

For Prayer - Tom Humphrey, Paul Montandon, Reagan Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. James Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Stewart.

*Congratulations!*

Recently, at an awards ceremony at Tyler Junior College, Laneva Turner received the \$200 Chuck Sanderson Memorial Scholarship awarded by Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

Rosemary Center received the \$200 Angela Stansbury Memorial Award.

Rick Higginbotham received an award from the Speech and Drama Department.

The Ladies' Wednesday morning Bible class will have a luncheon on Wednesday at the home of Elaine Roberson following the class.



Roy and Mariana were absolutely great! They helped us so much. What a marvelous way to involve so many of our young people. Carolyn Womack will be working with our puppeteers I know great things will be happening.

Sunday morning in the teachers workroom Mary Evelyn Grier asked us, "How would you like to have four new puppets?" What a marvelous spirit. There's something special about volunteers. Not only is Mary Evelyn going to make four new puppets but also the curtains for our new puppet theater! Thanks to Fred Powell for making our puppet theater. There are so many wonderful people at West Erwin We are indeed a blessed people!

Kristy Roberson, Wanda Beck, Shannon Hughes and Julie Higginbotham brought the most visitors on goal day. We're proud of them!

Thanks to all our teachers and coordinators for the work they did in helping us exceed our goal. I'm especially proud of our youth. We had 99 in class and our goal was 100. The sixth grade had 100% attendance and six visitors! GREAT!

Our series of classes on "Church Growth" by Jack Paul was excellent. We are indebted to Jack for helping us to grow as individuals and as a body.

I'm really glad that Gwen Owen has come to be a part of the West Erwin family. Gwen is Meredith Womack's tennis partner at school. Welcome Gwen!

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thank you for the prayers and for the book and all the visits while I was in the hospital. Ella Hibbard

During a time like this we realize how much our friends really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered by the loved ones of Max Waller.

**Teacher's Meeting**

There will be a meeting of all teachers interested in teaching in VBS this Sunday evening following worship.

**AREA MEETINGS**

Jimmy Phillips of Jacksonville will be preaching in a meeting at the Quitman and Center Church of Christ in Gladewater May 8 - 12. Weekday services at 7:30 p.m.

Foy E. Wallace, Jr. will conduct a meeting at the Corinth Rd. Church in Jacksonville, May 8 - 12. Services will be at 7:00 each evening.

The regular monthly business meeting of the men of the church will be held Sunday, May 15.



# 514



## IN BIBLE SCHOOL

# Puppet Workshop

**FRIDAY, APRIL 29      7:00 — 9:00 PM**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30    9:30 — 12:00 AM**

**ROY AND MARIANA LONG  
FROM THE Bammel Road  
CHURCH OF CHRIST, HOUSTON**

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
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Report of Our Sick

G. W. McElroy underwent eye surgery on Monday in Mother Frances.

Ralph Lowrance continues to be a patient in Medical Center.

Mrs. Percy Tate is a patient in Medical Center.

Mrs. Clark, Joyce Willis' mother had eye surgery last week in Medical Center.

The baby son of Wayne and Sylvia Reynolds had surgery Tuesday in Mother Frances.

Thank You

I want to thank each brother and sister in Christ who has shown such concern for my recovery from the accident. Thank you for the many prayers, cards, visits calls, the book from the church, flowers, food, and most of all the words of encouragement.

In Christian love, Naomi McKeever

Thank you so much for the beautiful book Flowers For Mother. I am thoroughly enjoying it while being at home. Thanks to all who called and visited in our time of great joy.

Lynn Jones

Thank you so much for your cards, concern, flowers, and especially each offered prayer. My many friends there continue to make my surgery the success it is. I love and appreciate each of you and ask that God will continue to bless you richly as you continue to glorify Him.

Gary McInnis

From the Preacher's Desk...

The weather was beautiful. The spirit of those who came to Bible School and worship on Sunday was just as beautiful. It is always wonderful to set goals and then to exceed them. With 514 in Bible School and 631 in worship we had our largest attendance in a long time. This was our largest attendance since last October 3 when we had 459 in Bible School and over 600 in worship.

We want to thank all who invited and all who brought visitors to Bible School. We appreciate the fine work of David Anderson in planning and working for this good attendance. This should encourage all of us to work harder and to do our part to make West Erwin church grow. There are some great people here. The Lord has richly blessed us. By His strength we can accomplish much more!

We continue to receive letters from various individuals in East Texas who watch the Amazing Grace Bible Class each week. Are you doing your part to tell others about this television program? We have just received word that Ira North, speaker for the Amazing Grace Bible Class and preacher for the Madison church, will be in Marshall along with a team of nine other people for a "Training For Service Series" June 22 - 24, 1977. This is the same team that has been featured at the Abilene Christian Teacher's Workshop on two occasions. The new Marshall Civic Center has been reserved for the three nights. Special classes will be held each day. This will be great and I hope many from Tyler will go.

I was interested in a recent report from Action Magazine in regard to the number of congregations there are in the brotherhood. The magazine made the following estimates: Africa 2,505, Asia 367, Australia 52, Europe 317, Central America 144, South America 138, Islands 327, North America (excluding U.S.A.) 222, United States 13,500. The total number of congregations 17,572. The total estimate of membership 3,000,000.

The great Broadway church in Lubbock is planning a new addition to their building which will cost some three or four million dollars. On May 15 they hope to have a contribution of one million dollars for this project. They are to be congratulated on their continued vision for growth and expansion in the Lord's Kingdom. While they have spent vast sums in their local work, they have been leaders in doing mission work all over the world. We are thankful for their great influence for good.

GHS

GOSPEL MEETING

The South Main Church in Henderson will be in a meeting with Pat Abbananto May 1-6. Week night services, 7:30.

Wedding Shower

YOU ARE INVITED to a come and go wedding shower for Ann Montgomery on Saturday afternoon, May 7, from 2 until 4 o'clock, 821 Dolores.

Men to Serve

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a.m.

Announcements.....Bob Threadgill

Prayer..... Roy Roberson

Dismiss..... Fred Strait

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.

Announcements.....Francis Bullard

Prayer..... Elwin Crow

Dismiss..... Charlie Cook

Serving Communion Sunday

C. B. Hardin John Teague

Sam Bailey Bob Threadgill

Olen Holland Milburn Cook

Steve Higginbotham Charlie Cook

Greeters

Jamon Kirby Fred Kniffen

D. C. Jones

RESPONSES

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip (Linda) Marts, 3803 West Elm, phone 593-8067, came Sunday to place membership. They formerly worshipped at Northwest. We welcome Phillip and Linda and their 4 year old daughter, Melissa.

Kathleen Reynolds, Rt. 9, Box 81 R, came Sunday to be restored.

OUR RECORDS

Contributions	Bible School
April 24....\$3,376.35	.....514
April 17....\$3,639.81	.....425
A Year Ago.\$3,152.08	.....385
Present for Worship	.....631

IT MIGHT BE LATER THAN YOU THINK



# SUNDAY

# 9:30

# APRIL 24

# "HALF A THOUSAND"

# IN BIBLE SCHOOL

# 500

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Vol. 6 April 21, 1977 No.16

## Men to Serve

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements..... David Anderson  
Prayer..... Hillard Hughes  
Dismiss..... W. S. Little

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements..... Ray Lott  
Prayer..... Ron Campbell  
Dismiss..... Ron Lott

Serving Communion Sunday

Tom Lowrance Wallace Gayle  
Bruce Raley David Hubbard  
Roy Driggers Wayne Fears  
Mike Franklin Stafford Franklin

Greeters

Hillard Hughes George Kester  
D. C. Jones

## The Record

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
April 17....\$3,639.81	.....425
April 10....\$2,995.02	.....413
A Year Ago.\$3,083.98	.....412

## Report of Our Sick

Mrs. Ella Hibbard has been dismissed from the hospital and will be staying with her daughter in Lewisville, Texas.

Ralph Lowrance is a patient in Medical Center Hospital.

Matthew Reynolds, the infant son of Sylvia and Wayne, will enter Mother Frances Monday for surgery Tuesday.

**You Are Needed  
In Bible School  
Sunday and Wednesday**

## Congratulations

Ron and Lynn Jones are the happy parents of a boy, Benjamin David, born early Friday morning at Mother Frances. They are now at home.

## T H A N K S

Knowing people nice as you gives life a brighter touch. And so, to each and all of you - Thanks very, very much! In Christian love,  
Odell Malone

## TIME CHANGE !

Turn your clocks ahead one hour Saturday evening before you go to bed and be here on time for Bible School Sunday morning. Remember... Sunday is goal day. You are needed in Bible Class.

A SINGING will be held at the church in Chandler Sunday afternoon at 2:30.

## SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

By George H. Stephenson  
A. M. What Lies Beyond the Grave?  
P. M. Did Jesus Perform Miracles?

**ONLY  
One life  
'twill soon be past  
ONLY  
What's done for Christ  
Will last!**

## From the Preacher's Desk...

It was good to see the large numbers present Sunday for Bible School and worship. We hope that everyone is working for an even bigger attendance this Sunday. Won't it be great if we have more than 500 in Bible School? We know we can have 500 - but we need your help to reach the goal.

We are indebted to Jack Paul for the great lessons he has brought on Wednesday night in regard to church growth. They should cause us to work harder, give more liberally, and trust the Lord to bless us. I am sorry that more of our members have not heard these Wednesday evening lessons. We appreciate those of you who have encouraged others to be here.

As announced in the past we are going to have a number of new adult classes on Wednesday night beginning May 4. Why not resolve now to attend one of these Wednesday night classes? You will be glad. I plan to be giving lessons on the book of Revelation. We hope that many of you may profit from this study.

Charles Miles served as Chairman of the visitation and personal work committees before his resignation. Two of our elders will become chairmen of these committees. Faber Cauthen will serve as chairman of the visitation committee and C. E. Caskey will serve as chairman of the personal work committee. I feel that there is nothing which will do more to promote the growth of the church than an active visitation and personal work program.

We want you to study with us about Jesus each Sunday night. Jesus is the hope of the world and the solution of our most difficult problems. We sing "O How I Love Jesus." Come study about Jesus on Sunday night. GHS

## PUPPET WORKSHOP

Roy and Mariana Long from Bammel Rd. Church of Christ in Houston will conduct a puppet workshop here at West Erwin, April 29th and 30th. They have been featured in the past at the Abilene Christian University Teacher's Workshop. There will be a session on Friday evening from 7 - 9, and one on Saturday morning from 9:30 until 12 noon.

## JUNIOR - SENIOR BANQUET

The annual banquet for juniors and seniors will be held May 14. This is a very special event for our young people each year. Please give your contributions to Elwin and Pat Crow, or to Dick and Sue Higginbotham.

## OUR SYMPATHY

Funeral services for Max Waller, brother of Laverne Keith, were held Wednesday afternoon at Lloyd James. We extend our sympathy to the family.

**Remember** APRIL 24th  
BIBLE SCHOOL GOAL DAY:  
"HALF A THOUSAND"





*From the Preacher's Desk...*

WHAT IMPRESSED ME

It's nice to have the President of the United States visit your own town. I'm glad President Ford was here. I was happy to receive an invitation to the special reception for the President, and enjoyed getting to visit personally with him for a few moments.

BUT DO YOU KNOW WHAT IMPRESSED ME MOST? Not his remarks. Nor his nice blue shirt. Nor the knot in his tie. Not even his Presidential cuff links. No, not the Secret Service agents -- although I kept my eye on them, because I didn't want to get shot just reaching for my New Testament.

WHAT THEN? Three things: (1) Everyone was there on time. (2) Everyone went close to the front. (3) No one left early.

Need we draw a picture of the obvious application?

Joe Barnett  
Broadway Church of Christ  
Lubbock, Texas

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY by George H. Stephenson  
A. M. Saints in Wrong Places  
P. M. The Baptism of Jesus

*West Erwin Visitor*

PUBLISHED BY

*Church of Christ*



CALENDAR OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
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(Sept. thru May)

EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 W. ERWIN  
TYLER, TEXAS 75701

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Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75701. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements ..... R. C. O'Bannon  
Prayer ..... Roger Knight  
Dismiss ..... Francis Bullard

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Elwin Crow  
Prayer ..... Carroll Magee  
Dismiss ..... Steve Brown

Serving Communion Sunday

Tom Lowrance Wallace Gayle  
Bruce Raley David Hubbard  
Roy Driggers Wayne Fears  
Mike Franklin Stafford Franklin  
Greeters

Cullen Gilliam David Hubbard  
D. C. Jones

*The Record*

Contributions	Bible School
April 10....\$2,995.02	.....413
April 3....\$3,967.76	.....374
Year Ago...\$3,062.70	.....441

**And the Lord Added**

Marisa Butler, daughter of Bill and Jo Butler, was baptized Sunday evening by Hillard Hughes. Marisa is in the 6th grade and a regular member of our Bible School.

Jeff Munn came Sunday morning to ask for the prayers of the church.

*Report of Our Sick*

Mrs. Ella Hibbard continues to be a patient in Mother Frances.

Annie Lee Drummond has had foot surgery in Medical Center.

Mrs. Percy Tate is a patient in Medical Center for tests.

Algie Sherman is a patient in the Glenwood Hospital.

Roger McElroy has been in Medical Center. He has a broken hand.

Mrs. Naomi McKeever was hurt in an automobile accident last week. She is suffering from a broken arm and nose. She is now at home.

**Business Meeting**

The regular monthly business meeting of the men of the church will be Sunday afternoon, 1:30 in the Chapel.

ZONE 3 will meet at the home of George and Alice Stephenson, Tuesday evening at 7:30.

**T H A N K S**

My family and I want to thank you for every act of kindness during my stay in the hospital- especially for all the prayers in my behalf.

Ralph Lowrance

**Sympathy**

Funeral services were held last week for the sister of Odell Malone. We extend our sympathy to the family.



FANTASTIC! That's about as close as I can come to describing last week's Spring Retreat. The gospel of Mark lived for me personally more than ever before. I'm so proud of "my kids." They are really special. About 25 of us are much more committed to the Lord and to each other as a result of our 48 hours at Pine Cove. "All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another." John 13:35.

MONDAY NIGHT Bible Study continues to grow. This past Monday 28 of us studied Philippians 2 together. "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to

last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith." Romans 1:16, 17.

SUNDAY NIGHT we were privileged to witness Marisa Butler's new birth. We rejoice with the angels in heaven.

GOAL DAY is upon us. Just a few short days for our final preparations. I hope you are praying about our goal day and acting upon that prayer by inviting others to come with you.

MY MOTHER AND DAD, Bess and James Peevy, spent the weekend with my family. Coming from the west Texas town of Odessa, they could appreciate the every day beauty of Tyler. I'm glad this is a friendly church. You make people comfortable in your presence. I'm thankful my parents could witness first hand your warmth and love.

**GOSPEL MEETING**

Jay Lockhart, former Glenwood Minister, will be in a gospel meeting with that congregation April 17 - 20. Weekday services are scheduled for 12:10 noon and 7:30 p.m. You are invited to attend.

**TEACHERS MEETING**

Following worship Sunday evening, all teachers meet in the Chapel.

*youthshine*

There will be a fellowship for all Senior High students Sunday evening following the worship at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Rowe, 1925 Courtney.



Bible Class  
Each Sunday 8:00 A. M. - KLTV

**Remember**

BIBLE SCHOOL GOAL DAY:  
"HALF A THOUSAND"

APRIL 24th

SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU!!



## From the Preacher's Desk...

### West Erwin - 45 Years Ago

Recently I was given a 1932 membership directory of the West Erwin church. Since there was only one congregation in Tyler at the time, it was simply referred to as the Church of Christ in Tyler, Texas. The directory contains a picture of the impressive building of that time with its stately columns and a picture of the preacher, E. C. McKenzie.

The church at that time was a thriving congregation with 424 names listed in the directory. There were five elders and fifteen deacons. Of the 424 listed in the directory back in 1932, there are only 28 of that number who are on our present church roll. Since that time a number of other congregations have been established in our growing city. Many, many changes have taken place in this congregation during the past forty five years, but our goals and aims are the same as they were then. We still want to preach and practice the principles given by our Lord in the New Testament.

A "sermonette" is in the front of the book which is just as appropriate now as it was back then. The title of the sermon was "How to Kill a Church." Here is what it said:

Attend the services only when convenient. The minister and the janitor will be there anyway.

Don't speak to strangers; they might come again and reduce your elbow room.

Let the visitors know you are at home and you wish they were.

After the service, get out of the church as if the benediction were a fire alarm and you a fireman on duty.

Never compliment any worker who does well; if you are inclined to flavor your speech use cayenne and vinegar.

Grunt, growl, knock and complain about everything in the church; that shows your interest and intelligence. Let the other fellow pay the church expenses. Salvation is free. Always remember that Jesus paid it all.

We hope that you will be among a large number present this Sunday as we remember again (as we do every Lord's Day) the glorious resurrection of Jesus from the dead. My sermon topics will be:

10:30 a. m. Why Do You Wait? 6:00 p. m. Was Jesus Born of a Virgin?

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

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*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements.....Louis E. Jones

Prayer.....Dick Higginbotham

Dismiss.....Guy Potts

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements.....Wallace Gayle

Prayer.....Weldon Dawson

Dismiss.....Harold Browning

Serving Communion Sunday

Jamon Kirby Don Weathers

Jack Beard Ben Young

Cliff Clough Cone Birdwell

Ron Lott Wade Weathers

Greeters

Dick Higginbotham Louis E. Jones

D. C. Jones

THE RECORD

Contributions	Bible School
April 3.....\$3,967.76	.....374
March 27 ...\$3,160.91	.....398
Year Ago....\$3,260.72	.....402

**And the Lord Added**

Mr. and Mrs. Roland R. Roberts, Rt. 1, Chandler, came Sunday to place membership. They are the parents of Cherrie Magee. 849-6800

Tommy Lowrance wishes to be identified with this congregation again. He has recently worked and worshipped with the church in Chandler.

Christie Abbott, 301 Summer Place, was baptized Sunday evening. She is the granddaughter of the Clyde Waggoners. Christie is in the 5th grade.

*Report of Our Sick*

R. L. Trentham hopes to be home from the hospital in Dallas this week.

Mrs. Eula Hoppers will enter the hospital Thursday for surgery.

Mrs. Charles Gilstrap's mother is in Mother Frances.

Mrs. Ella Hibbard is a patient in ICU in Mother Frances following a heart attack.

Algie Sherman is a patient in the Glenwood Hospital.

Ralph Lowrance is at home.

Odell Malone is at home suffering from a broken leg.

Gary McInnes of Greenville had surgery at Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas on Tuesday. He is known to many of our young people through his work at Camp Deer Run. His condition is considered very serious.

OUR SYMPATHY

Memorial services were conducted for Lowell Perry, a professor at ACU, last Sunday in the College Church in Abilene. He was the husband of a cousin of Hillard Hughes. Hillard and his parents attended the service.

BUSINESS MEETING - April 17

The monthly business meeting of the elders, deacons and other men of the congregation will not meet at its usual time - this Sunday - but will meet on Sunday afternoon, April 17. The men are urged to make their plans to attend.

TEACHERS MEETING

Sunday night, April 17, after worship.



**david cord anderson**

Our goal day gets closer and closer. I hope you have committed yourself to being present in Bible School on April 24th. Winners of the goal day poster contest are Wynne Weathers, John David Abbott and Christie Abbott.

I'm so proud of Christie Abbott's courage to confess Jesus as Lord and Savior and be baptized into Him. Let us always be the kind of people that encourage our brothers and sisters in their new walk with Jesus.

Vacation Bible School will be upon us shortly. The Glenwood church is hosting a VBS workshop on "The Bible is for All" curriculum. The work-

shop is Tuesday, April 12 from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Let me encourage our teachers and those wanting to teach to attend.

Our Bible School is growing! Average attendance in January was 361. February average climbed to 395. March average was 402. Will you pray that more souls will hear the gospel in April?

Spring break is a great time. Many of our families are using the opportunities to spend valuable time together. There is no substitute for time with each other. It is my prayer that family ties will grow stronger and closer as you enjoy each others presence.

Another joy of Spring break is when "my kids" drop in just to talk or share a burden or think through a problem. I anticipate the coming of summer and the daily visits with the people I care so much about - "my kids."

*Thank You*

Thank you for sharing your love and sympathy with us in the death of our brother with flowers and cards and kind words. They meant so much to us. In Christian love, Harley Norris

GOSPEL MEETING

April 10th - 15th at the Pine Tree Church of Christ in Longview. Perry Cotham will be speaking at 7:30 p.m. week nights.

ZONE 2 will meet Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 p.m. at the Ray Lott Home.

*Have you...*  
**HEARD?**

WE ARE GOING TO HAVE

"HALF A THOUSAND"

IN BIBLE CLASSES ON

APRIL 24



FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK

I feel that all of us have been strengthened and that the West Erwin church is a better church as a result of the powerful preaching of God's Word by Harold Taylor. We are truly thankful that he came our way. We are thankful for every one who responded in a public way. We are especially grateful for those who were baptized into Christ. There is a measure of sadness when we realize that many failed to take advantage of the wonderful opportunity which was ours to hear God's Word so ably proclaimed and to join in the singing led in such a splendid way by Jim Paul.

Every week we receive letters from those who view the Amazing Grace Bible Class each Sunday morning on KLTW. We will never know just how many lives have been blessed as a result of this program. I know you will appreciate the following letter from a listener in Palestine.

"I don't get to go to church anywhere as I can't walk and I am a shut-in. I have to sit up to the television real close to see it. So will you all pray for us? I pray every night and morning for the Amazing Grace Bible Class. My husband is eighty year old and in bad health and I am seventy seven. Will be looking forward to Sunday morning when you all come on the air. May God bless you and keep you".

Mrs. Grace Calloway, Palestine, Texas

It will be a number of months from now, but you should mark on your calendar the time for the next gospel meeting at West Erwin. The meeting will be November 6 through November 10 with Harvey Porter of Albuquerque, New Mexico as our speaker.

We hope you will be doing your part to build up our Bible School and plan to be here and have others with you on April 24. But we want to see you this Sunday and every Sunday for Bible Study and worship. GHS

SERMON TOPICS FOR SUNDAY by George H. Stephenson

10:30 a.m. A Home in Bethany      6:00 p.m. Did Christ Fulfill Prophecy?

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 March 31, 1977 No. 13

## THOSE TO SERVE

### Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements.....Bill Butler, Jr.  
Prayer..... Henry McRuiz  
Dismiss..... Wayne Reynolds

### Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements..... James Phillips  
Prayer..... Charles Graf  
Dismiss..... Marshall Phillips

### Serving Communion Sunday

Jamon Kirby Don Weathers  
Jack Beard Ben Young  
Cliff Clough Cone Birdwell  
Ron Lott Wade Weathers

### Greeters

Jim Franklin Wallace Gayle  
D. C. Jones

## The Record

Contributions	Bible School
March 27 .... \$3,160.91	.... 398
March 20 .... \$4,350.58	.... 437
A Year Ago...\$3,481.90	.... 433

## Thanks

Thank you for the visits, calls, and cards while I was hospitalized. I especially appreciated the Flowers of Friendship book and the beautiful flowers from the chapel class.

Averyt Smith

## Congratulations

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Clayton are the parents of a baby boy born this week. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Willis are the proud grandparents.

## RESPONSES

For Prayer: DeRay Bennett, Kay Montgomery, Sandra Henderson, Cindy Rowe, Lisa Higginbotham, Lee Roberson, Ailehs Fulgham, and Mrs. Beatrice Hawk.

Baptized: Dan Magee, Jeff Cole and Ann Bailey.

Membership: Mr. and Mrs. John (Janet) Parker, Rt. 10, Box 837, phone 561-0565, came Sunday morning to place membership. They have formerly worshipped with the Northwest church.

## AREA MEETINGS

Bob Barnhill of the Garland Road congregation in Dallas will be in a meeting April 3-8 with the church in Daingerfield. Services will be at 7:30 Monday through Friday.

The Daingerfield congregation is also having a retreat for Women April 15 and 16. This will be at Camp Deer Run.

## A. C. U. WORKSHOP

The annual Bible Teachers' Workshop will be held at Abilene Christian University July 25-July 28. This is one of the most profitable and most inspirational meeting for Bible School teachers to be found anywhere. Teachers who intend to go should be making plans now. The elders have agreed to pay the registration fees for all who attend and to provide transportation for those who would like to ride our bus.

## Report of Our Sick

Brother R. L. Trentham had surgery in Dallas this week.



Harold Taylor endeared himself to the West Erwin church last week. What marvelous messages from God's word! I'm thankful for the time I had with him.

I'm so proud of our youth. They supported the meeting all week long. During our meeting and just prior to the meeting several of our fine young people came forward for our prayers: Meredith Womack, Denise Terry, Lou Ann Driggers, Laurie Hughes, Randy Fletcher, Paul Knight, DeRay Bennett, Sandra Henderson, Kay Montgomery, Cindy Rowe, Lisa Higginbotham, and Lee Roberson. I'm especially thankful for Jeff Cole, Dan Magee and Ann Bailey as they were baptized into Christ. Our youth have a sweet, sensitive spirit and I'm proud of their courage.

April 7, 8 and 9 are the dates of our Spring Retreat. Junior High and High School students will be going to Pine Cove. Theme for the retreat is "LIFE, that is truly life." We will leave the church parking lot Thursday morning at 9:00 and return Saturday morning at 10:00. Cost of the retreat is \$10.00.

Our Monday Night Bible Study is really special - a time when we really dig into the Word of God. It's a time when we can ask questions - and not be embarrassed. It's a time when truth is discovered. It's a time when struggle takes place within as we grapple to make our lives conform to discovered truth. It's a time of prayer as we share one another's burdens. It's a time to sing songs like:

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end;  
They are new every morning;  
great is thy faithfulness.  
'The Lord is my portion; says my soul,  
'Therefore I will hope in him.' "  
Lamentations 3:22-24

Monday nights are REALLY SPECIAL!



FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK

We had great crowds Sunday with some great preaching and great singing. Harold Taylor has been preaching some powerful sermons. If you have missed them you are the loser.

Many people will be coming to Tyler during the next two weeks to see the beautiful azaleas, dogwoods, and other spring flowers. Tyler is truly beautiful at this season of the year. I do not understand how one could look on the beauty of springtime and not believe in God. However, the beauty of the flowers soon fade even as our lives must soon end. It is good to know that the beauty of a godly life will influence others for good even beyond the grave. The psalmist prayed, "Let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it", (Psalm 90:17).

We hope that we will have many visitors with us on the next two Sundays. Let us show them that we are a friendly people. Hospitality to strangers is taught over and over in the New Testament. "I was a stranger and ye took me in", Jesus will say to those who extend hospitality (Matthew 25:25).

Jack Paul has brought some great lessons on Wednesday night on Church Growth. Every member at West Erwin should hear them. We hope you will be there next Wednesday night. Let us all do our part to make this church the kind of church God wants it to be - and I know that He wants it to be a growing church. We must sow the seed and look to the Lord to give the increase.

GHS

SERMON TOPICS FOR SUNDAY by George H. Stephenson  
10:30 A. M. The Beauty of Holiness                      6:00 P. M. Wells of Water

Bible School 9:30 a. m.

Worship 10:30 a. m.

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

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Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 March 24, 1977 No. 12

## THOSE TO SERVE

### Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements . . . . David Anderson  
Prayer . . . . . George Kester  
Dismiss . . . . . Jack Stringer

### Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements . . . . F. C. Carpenter  
Prayer . . . . . Joe Willis  
Dismiss . . . . . Jeff Willis

### Serving Communion Sunday

Francis Bullard            Ed Bullard  
Steve Barnett            Carroll Magee  
Joe McBee                Guy Potts  
Hunt Rowe                Keston McFadden

## The Record

Contributions	Bible School
March 20 . . . \$4,350.58	. . . . 437
March 13 . . . \$3,355.85	. . . . 384
A Year Ago . . . \$3,301.78	. . . . 438

## TEENS:

The Junior High fellowship will be at the home of the Carroll Magees this Sunday following services.

## OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

A brother of Harley Norris was buried Saturday in Corsicana.

P. J. Bryant's brother, Dr. Howard Bryant, was buried last week here in Tyler.

We extend our sympathy to these families.

## Report of Our Sick

Louis J. Jones has been a patient in Glenwood Hospital but is now at home.

Charlotte Chandler is recovering at home.

Mrs. George Squier has suffered a heart attack and is a patient in Mother Frances Hospital.

Ralph Lowrance remains in Medical Center.

The mother of Foy Richey remains seriously ill in Sulphur Springs.

## Congratulations

Wayne and Sylvia Reynolds are the parents of a boy, Matthew, born Friday afternoon. The Ferman Carpenters are the happy grandparents.

Mark and June Gowen are the parents of a baby girl born last week. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cole are the proud grandparents.

## RESPONSES

Virginia Graf, Lou Ann Driggers, Paul Knight, Laurie Hughes, and Randy Fletcher have asked for the prayers of the church.

Audrey O'Bannon taught the Ladies Class at Omen Road church of Christ on Tuesday of this week.

The Alpine church of Christ in Longview will be hosting a fellowship and study for women on April 16 from 9:30 a. m. until 2:45 p. m.

# Measuring The Church

Gene Getz has an interesting new book entitled, The Measure of a Church. He raises the question as to what the measuring stick should be in determining whether a church is growing in maturity. At our mid-week service we had a very interesting discussion on this topic and I would like to share some of the conclusions with the rest of you.

Some measure a church by how ACTIVE it is. How many programs and activities do they have. Others measure a church by whether it is GROWING. Some say a mature church is a GIVING church. Still others say the ultimate test is whether the church is MISSIONARY-MINDED. Others want churches to be SMOOTH-RUNNING, while some want them to be SPIRIT-FILLED. Surely a church is mature if it is BIG.

The above traits are not necessarily marks of maturity. In mature churches there will be activity, growth, sharing, organization, spirituality. But these things can be present without being a mature church.

As always, the Scriptures give the proper insight. Paul evaluated the Corinthians by their "faith, hope, and love" (I Cor. 13:13). He evaluated the Ephesians by their "faith, love, and hope" (Eph. 1:15,16,18). He evaluated the Colossians by their "faith, love, and hope" (Col. 1:3-6). He evaluated the Thessalonians by their "faith, love, and hope" (I Thess. 1:2, 3) and later re-evaluated their "faith and love" (2 Thess. 1:3,4). Can it be different today?

By Silas Shotwell  
Church of Christ  
Wenatchee, Washington



## Remember

BIBLE SCHOOL GOAL DAY:  
"HALF A THOUSAND"

APRIL 24th



# West Erwin Visitor

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Church of Christ

## MEETING BEGINS SUNDAY

OUR GOSPEL MEETING with Harold G. Taylor as evangelist will begin Sunday morning with the 10:30 services and continue through Friday night, March 25. Evening services on Sunday are at 6:00 o'clock. Evening services Monday through Friday at 7:30 o'clock.

ALL ADULT BIBLE CLASSES meet together Sunday morning at 9:30 for a special lesson. Harold Taylor will have a lesson which will inspire us all to do more for the Lord and get our meeting started in a big way.

WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 10:00 we will have another special lesson from brother Taylor. This is the usual time for our Ladies' Class, but this meeting will be for both men and women - all who can come.

JIM PAUL will be directing the singing and we know that he is a great song leader. Let us support him and have an enthusiastic song service.

WILL YOU PRAY every day for the meeting? Pray specifically for individuals who need to respond to the invitation - either for restoration or for obedience to our Lord? Please arrange your schedule to be here and have your friends with you.

GHS



### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 March 17, 1977 Vol. 11

## Men to Serve

Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements...George Stephenson

Prayer ..... Mack Bynum

Dismiss ..... Fred Strait

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Mark Cauthen

Prayer ..... Michael Munn

Dismiss ..... Jeff Munn

Serving Communion Sunday

Francis Bullard Ed Bullard

Steve Barnett Carroll Magee

Joe McBee Guy Potts

Hunt Rowe Keston McFadden

Serving as Greeters

South Foyer

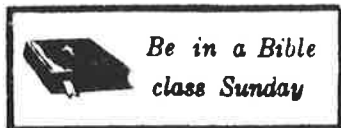
Weldon Dawson C. B. Hardin

West Door

D. C. Jones

## The Record

Contributions	Bible School
March 13 ...\$3,355.85	384
March 6 ...\$3,206.60	390
A Year Ago...\$6,284.45	382



Senior High Fellowship Sunday night at the Hillard Hughes'.

## RESPONSES

Wednesday evening Denise Terry, Meredith Womack and Don Chaffin asked for the prayers of the church.

Coming Sunday to ask for the prayers of the church was Mrs. Steve (Sherry) Brown.

Guy Lacy, 421 East Rosedale, phone 595-2039, was restored and placed membership with us. He comes from the Quitman church of Christ.

Also coming to place membership was Karen Green. She resides at Rt. 10, Box 566-C, phone 566-2941. She comes from the Northwest congregation.

We extend a warm welcome to these!

## T H A N K S

Thank you again for your tender love and care during my illness.

Audrey O'Bannon

"Those who trust in the Lord are like Mt. Zion which cannot be moved but abide forever." Psalm 125.1 Thank you for sharing your trust in Him, your strength, and your steadfast love. You continue to be a blessing to me and my family.

Margret Montgomery

## Report of Our Sick

Ralph Lowrance is a patient in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. Henry McRuiz has been in Mother Frances Hospital for tests.

Charlotte Chandler is in Mother Frances Hospital.

## LET IT SHINE David Cord Anderson

The last few days have been simply FANTASTIC! Jack Paul is presenting marvelous lessons on "Church Growth". We're having great crowds on Wednesday nights. If you haven't heard Jack yet then do yourself a favor and come on Wednesday night.

Our annual Teacher Appreciation Banquet was last Thursday evening in the Woman's Building. Jack Paul challenged our teachers to make our Bible classes grow. Several wanted the "Five Rules of Success."

1. Set a goal of excellence.
2. Write it down.
3. Set your heart on it.
4. Dare to dream.
5. Work.

Margret Montgomery was recognized for all that she has done for us. Margret has been instrumental in upgrading the Christian education program at West Erwin. "Your love has given us great joy and encouragement."

## BIBLE SCHOOL GOAL DAY: "HALF A THOUSAND"

500 IN BIBLE SCHOOL

APRIL 24th

## Essential Ingredients:

1. Commitment from the West Erwin family.
2. Enthusiasm.
3. Visible "Chart of Progress" toward goal.
4. Announcements in each public worship beginning March 13th.
5. Bulletin coverage.
6. Special mailings.
7. A united effort by A L L Bible School teachers.

Monday night is one of my favorite times of the week. Last Monday night 23 of us met at my house for an in-depth study of God's Word. We are presently studying the book of Ephesians. This study is open to anyone who wants to discover God's will as revealed through His Word. We won't meet March 21 due to our meeting but will resume on the 28th. Come and enjoy the fellowship.



FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK

I am most grateful that I was privileged to attend the annual lectureship of Abilene Christian University. It is always thrilling to meet with thousands of other Christians to worship and to be encouraged to live closer to the Lord. All who attended the lectures were surely inspired to work for the Lord. The theme of the lectures, "Seeking the Lost", emphasized the importance of soul winning. May we never forget that the primary purpose of the church is to win souls for the Lord.

We hope that you will want to win souls in our meeting which will soon be in progress. Harold Taylor, our evangelist, is a splendid speaker and is a great personal worker. He has trained others to be personal workers and is the author of a book on this important subject. Please make your plans to be present at every service and bring others with you. The dates: March 20-25.

The proposed budget for the West Erwin church for 1977 was presented by Dr. Roger Knight last Sunday. The church here has met the challenges presented it in the past and I believe you will again. We need to consider very prayerfully and very carefully the amount we plan to give to the Lord's work this year. All that we do is not for the honor or glory of men but for the honor of the Lord.

Jack Paul is going to have some stirring lessons on Church Growth each Wednesday evening in March and April. Let us make this year a year of growth - as individuals and as a congregation. GHS

SERMON SUBJECTS FOR SUNDAY by George H. Stephenson

A. M. Salt P. M. Men Who Had Better Never Been Born

Bible School 9:30 a. m. Worship 10:30 a. m.

# West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

Church of Christ



CALENDAR OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 W. ERWIN  
TYLER, TEXAS 75701

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75701. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 March 3, 1977 No. 9

## MEN TO SERVE

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements ..... Jamon Kirby

Prayer ..... C. E. Caskey

Dismiss ..... Keston McFadden

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements .... Dale Blackstone

Prayer ..... Ron Jones

Dismiss ..... Mike Franklin

Serving Communion Sunday

Don Chaffin Elwin Crow

George Kester Sam Sevier

Dwaine Thedford Joe Willis

DeRay Bennett Jeff Willis

Serving as Greeters

South Foyer

Mark Cauthen Steve Barnett

West Door

D. C. Jones

## The Record

Contributions Bible School

February 27...\$3,592.44 .... 412

February 20...\$3,979.44 .... 360

A Year Ago ...\$3,664.65 .... 427

## THANKS

I appreciated your prayers for me during my stay in the hospital. The many visits, cards, and telephone calls were very comforting also.

In Christian love,  
Harry Collins

Dear Brethren:

For several months I have contemplated resigning and my final decision was announced to the eldership Monday night, February 28th. I will continue to work with the church through the 18th of this month.

My family and I have been working with the West Erwin congregation since June of 1974. During this period of time we have enjoyed our association together very much. We feel very close to this congregation and pray that the Lord will continue to bless His people in accordance to His will.

Yours in the Truth,  
Charles Miles

## CONGRATULATIONS

Joe and Sherie Mathias are the parents of Michelle Anne who was born January 13 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Tom and Barbara Holland are the proud grandparents, and Beatrice Holland is the happy great-grandmother.

Scottie and Jackie Smith have a new daughter born this week. Mr. and Mrs. Gus Krewall are the grandparents.

## Sympathy

Funeral services were conducted on Sunday for a brother of John Porter.

Mrs. Will Todd, mother of sister Bob Threadgill, was buried in Waco on Wednesday.

We extend our deepest sympathy to these families in their loss.

## A Lesson In The 1040 Form

I work for the Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service. Yes, I am the chap that everybody loathes. I go over income tax returns.

The other day I checked a queer return. Some guy with an income under \$10,000 claimed he gave \$1105 to some church. Sure, he was within the limit--but it looked mighty suspicious to me. So I dropped in on the guy, and asked him about his "contributions"!

I thought he'd get nervous like most of them do and say that he might have made a mistake. But not this guy! He came back at me with the figure of \$1105 without batting an eye.

"Do you have a receipt from the church?" I asked, figuring that would make him squirm.

"Sure," he said, "I always keep them in the drawer where I keep my envelopes." And off he went to fetch his receipts.

Well, he had me! One look at the receipts and I knew he was on the level. So I apologized for bothering him, explaining that I have to check on deductions that seem unusually high. As we shook hands at the door, he said, "I'd like to invite you to attend our church sometime."

"Thanks," I replied, "but I belong to a church myself."

"Pardon me," he said, "that possibility hadn't occurred to me."

As I drove home, I kept wondering what he meant by that remark. It wasn't until Sunday morning, when I dropped my usual dollar bill into the collection plate, that it came to me.

Author Unknown

Our Teachers' Banquet March 10, 7:00 p. m., at the Woman's Building



# Come to the MEETING!

The time is almost here for our spring gospel meeting. Just one week from Sunday we will have the first service in the meeting which will continue through Friday of that week. We hope that you have already arranged your schedule so that you will not miss a service.

West Erwin has been blessed in having some outstanding evangelists as our guest preachers and this year is no exception. Harold Taylor, minister of the Walnut Hill church in Dallas, will preach in this meeting. Brother Taylor is a speaker with unusual ability and a man who is interested in saving souls.

Brother Taylor was born and reared in Salem, Indiana and was graduated with honors from David Lipscomb College in 1954. For over twenty years he served as the local evangelist for churches in Indiana, Ohio, and Texas. While serving as minister of the Sunset church in Lubbock he taught personal work in the Sunset School of Preaching.

Brother Taylor has conducted gospel meetings and workshops in fifteen states as well as preached in several foreign countries. He has spoken on a number of our college campuses and has been the keynote speaker on a number of city-wide training for service series.

Brother Taylor has done extensive writing for gospel papers and has done extensive writing for gospel papers and has authored a book on personal work now in its fourth printing.

We are going to be blessed with great preaching during our meeting and we will also be blessed in having Jim Paul as the director of our singing. He is a most able song leader. However, it will take more than a great preacher and a great singer to have a great meeting. There must be people present to hear and to participate. You will need to do your part to help fill our building at every service.

Our meeting will be during the time that spring officially begins. This is the time of year for a revival of nature and we trust it will be a time of spiritual revival for each of us!

"Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?"  
(Psalm 85:6).  
GHS



## West Erwin Visitor

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 March 10, 1977 No. 10

## Men to Serve

### Sunday Morning - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements ..... Joe McBee  
Prayer..... John Teague  
Dismiss..... Wayne Terry

### Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements..... Henry McRuiz  
Prayer..... Louis J. Jones  
Dismiss..... Fred Strait

### Serving Communion Sunday

Don Chaffin Elwin Crow  
George Kester Sam Sevier  
Dwayne Thedford Joe Willis  
DeRay Bennett Jeff Willis

### Serving as Greeters

#### South Foyer

Ed Bullard Francis Bullard

#### West Door

D. C. Jones

## The Record

### Contributions

### Bible School

March 6.....\$3,206.60 ... 390  
February 27...\$3,592.44 ... 412  
A Year Ago ...\$3,206.01 ... 382

## Business Meeting

The monthly business meeting of the men of the church will be this Sunday afternoon. The time is 1:30 in the chapel. Please be present.

**GOSPEL MEETING** . . . . . March 20 - 25 with Harold Taylor

## THANKS

Thank you so much for all the kindnesses extended to me while I was in the hospital. The prayers, flowers, book, cards, and visits were all greatly appreciated.

In Christian love,  
Carl Bell

We want to thank all our Christian friends at West Erwin for the many cards, phone calls and especially your prayers during the illness and death of my mother.

It meant so much to us for those of you who attended the funeral in Waco.

May God bless all of you.

In Christian love,  
Bob and Marie



## Activity Highlights

There will be a junior high devotion- al at the A. Z. Aven home following our Sunday evening services. All our junior high pupils are invited.

## Visitation

ZONE 2 will meet Sunday evening in the Chapel following worship.

## BOLES HOME

Ross Walker and I attended the quarterly meeting of the directors of Boles Home on Monday of this week. The Home is making progress in many areas. We were especially pleased to know that sixteen from the Home have been baptized since January 1. GHS



## OUR SICK

Averyt Smith is to be released today from Medical Center Hospital.

Ralph Old expects to go home at the end of the week.

Mrs. T. J. Parsons is in the Glen- wood Hospital for tests.

## WHAT IS A FAMILY?

Warmth when the world is cold... safety when the world is hostile... A place of love in a world of hate... a place of light in the midst of darkness.

This is a family... A family is many things...

It is love around the table or in front of the fireplace... it is devotion sit- ting on a pew together... A mother singing as she goes about preparing sup- per... father happily playing with laughing children.

A family is a yell squad when victory is won... a place of understanding and starting again when a defeat must be endured.

It is a very private organization... only bonafide members are allowed in... As a poet said, "All of us are we... and every one else is they." It is held to- gether with the glue of love and the cement of mutual respect.

The family is shelter from the storm... a safe and friendly port when the waves of life be- come too wild. No person is ever alone if he is a member of a family.

The smile of a mother... the robust laughter of a father... the giggle of daughters... the shouts of sons... That's a family.

They may taunt one another... they may fight, fuss and bicker among each other... but, when trouble threatens from outside forces, instantly the ranks close and the troops unite against the common foe.

A family is all of these things... but, most of all, a family is a group of human beings working together to build something beautiful and lasting.

A family is a colony of heavenly bliss... right here on earth.

Relate all of this to Paul's statement in I Tim. 3:15 which says the church is "the family of God."  
---Richard Rogers

## Resignation of Charles Miles

In the West Erwin Visitor last week Charles Miles announced his resigna- tion as one of the preachers of the West Erwin congregation. Charles has many friends in the congregation and he will leave us with the prayers and good wishes of the entire congre- gation. Charles is a very capable preacher of the gospel. We pray that God may bless him and his wife Sherryl with all that is best in life. GHS

## SERMON TOPICS -- March 13

10:30 a. m. - Light

6:00 p. m. - I Am Ready

MARCH, APRIL

# CHURCH GROWTH JACK PAUL

*"Let's go forward!"*

"How to Grow a Church"

"Super — Aggressive Christianity"

"Five Growth Principles"

"Developing an Atmosphere for Growth"

"Growth Through Evangelism"

"We Must Because We're in Good Soil"

"The Church with a Heart"

All adult classes will meet together in the church auditorium for this exciting study of church growth.

**1977  
WEDNESDAY  
NIGHT**

## West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

*Church of Christ*



### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 February 24, 1977 No. 8

## MEN TO SERVE

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements..... David Hubbard  
Prayer..... Hillard Hughes  
Dismiss ..... Dwaine Thedford  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements..... Roy Roberson  
Prayer..... Jack Beard  
Dismiss..... Ray Magee  
Serving Communion Sunday

Fred Kniffen	James Phillips
Morris Hallman	David Demic
Bill Butler, Jr.	K. Max Haws
Randy Fletcher	Matt Haws

## RESPONSES

Tom and Diane Humphrey, 2018 So. Robertson, phone 593-7560, came Sunday to place membership. They have a baby son, Jay. We are happy to welcome them to West Erwin. Tom and Diane formerly worshipped with the Prestoncrest Church of Christ in Dallas.

## 4th Sunday Singing

The 4th Sunday Singing will be held at the Bullard church of Christ Sunday, Feb. 27 from 2:30 until 4:30 p. m. You are invited.

## THE RECORD

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
February 20...\$3,979.44	.... 360
February 13...\$3,417.59	.... 417
A Year Ago...\$2,995.32	.... 377

## FUNERAL

Funeral services were conducted on Monday for Mrs. Alton (Olie) Cooper. We extend our sympathy to her family.

B. C. GOODPASTURE, well known preacher among churches of Christ and editor of the Gospel Advocate for many years, died last Friday in Nashville, Tennessee.

## GOSPEL MEETING

March 20 - 25

Harold Taylor, Preaching



**God be in my HEAD,  
And in my UNDERSTANDING;  
God be in my EYES,  
And in my LOOKING;  
God be in my MOUTH,  
And in my SPEAKING;  
God be in my HEART,  
And in my THINKING;  
God be at my END,  
And at my DEPARTING.**



MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY  
203 Alpine, 7:30 p. m.

## MOVING

We are sorry that Don and Mary Jo Crowder and their children will be moving to Midland March 1st. They will be missed very much. However, they both have relatives in and near Midland and we hope they will be very happy in their new home.

Mrs. Charles Miles (Ruby) and her husband (Charles' parents) will be moving to Houston this week-end. We hope they will enjoy their new home also.

WE CONGRATULATE David Stephenson, who is a student in Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock, on his baptizing a young man in Lubbock last Friday evening.

## YOU ARE INVITED

to a baby shower for Lynn Jones on Saturday afternoon, March 5, 2-3:30 (come and go) at the C. E. Caskey home.

## Remember

"Abortion" will be the topic for discussion in a meeting at Caldwell Auditorium on Saturday, February 26 from 7:00 to 9:30 p. m. The meeting is sponsored by the Omen Road congregation. Dr. John Maryan, M. D. of Dexter, Mo. will have a film presentation followed by a discussion by Dr. Carl Looney of Houston on the psychological effects of abortion.

## BEGINNING MARCH 2, 1977

### Wednesday Night Bible Classes

Nursery	Nursery
Early Childhood 1	Room 102
Early Childhood 2	Room 201
First Grade	Room 214
Primary	Room 211
Junior	Room 209
Junior High	Room 302
Senior High	Auditorium
Adults	Auditorium

### Sunday Morning Bible Classes

Nursery	Nursery
Toddler	Room 109
Age 2	Room 102
Age 3	Room 107
Age 4	Room 201
Age 5	Room 202
First Grade	Room 215
Second Grade	Room 211
Third Grade	Room 203
Fourth Grade	Room 214
Fifth Grade	Room 209
Sixth Grade	Room 206
Junior High	Room 302
Senior High	Room 301

### Report of Our Sick

Brother W. H. Turner continues to be a patient in Medical Center. He is now in a room.

Carl Bell has gone home from Medical Center.

Mrs. R. C. O'Bannon has also gone home from the hospital.



FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK

The following letter was received this week from the Omen Road Church of Christ here in Tyler.

Dear Brethren,

February 26 and 27 are going to be very special days for all East Texas! Caldwell Auditorium has been reserved for the 26th from 7:00 p. m. - 9:30 p. m. for a very urgent program on "Abortion."

The Supreme Court has ruled that unborn babies are not "persons" in the eyes of the constitution. They can be killed at the request of their owners (mothers).

The fact of human life in the womb cannot be denied. To allow one age group of humans to be killed because they are socially burdensome could lead to allowing the killing of other humans at other ages who have become socially burdensome.

Someone might ask, "Doesn't a mother have a right to her own body?" This is not her body but the body of another human person. Since when have we given to a mother the right to kill her children - born or unborn?

Abortions affect the mother physically, psychologically and morally. The need for understanding abortion is urgent. We, in the Lord's church should not be last in understanding its effects.

Therefore, the Omen Road church of Christ has made the arrangements for Dr. John Morgan, M. D., of Dexter, Missouri, to have a film presentation and discussion of abortion for us. Dr. Carey Looney of Houston, Texas will discuss the psychological effects of abortion. Remember the date, Feb. 26th, 7:00 p. m., at the Caldwell Auditorium.

You are invited to take advantage of hearing these two men speaking on a matter vital in our society today.

# West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

## Church of Christ



### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
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(Sept. thru May)

#### EVANGELISTS

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Mr. and Mrs. Jim Handy  
816 E. 7th St. (Rear)  
El Dorado, Arkansas 71730

# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 February 17, 1977 No. 7

## MEN TO SERVE

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements ..... Fred Kniffen

Prayer ..... David Anderson

Dismiss ..... Carroll Magee

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Fred Powell

Prayer ..... Ray Lott

Dismiss ..... Terry Stephenson

Serving Communion Sunday

Fred Kniffen James Phillips

Morris Hallman David Demic

Bill Butler, Jr. K. Max Haws

Randy Fletcher Matt Haws

## THE RECORD

Contributions Bible School

February 13...\$3,417.59 .....417

February 6...\$3,122.20 .....390

A Year Ago ...\$2,889.38 .....398

## RESPONSES

For Prayer: Mrs. Jasper Dobbs, and Sheila Strait.

## SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

A. M. My God Gave His Word to Guide Me.

By George H. Stephenson

P. M. Sermon by Charles Miles

WORK NIGHT for Teachers

Tuesday evening, 7 o'clock

March 1, 1977



## SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES

Beginning Sunday, March 6

ADULT #1 Faber Cauthen will begin teaching the auditorium class on the book of "Matthew."

ADULT #2 Charles Miles will continue his class on the "Principles of Evangelism" with the young marrieds that meet in room 106.

ADULT #3 A new class begins this quarter in room 304 with a group discussion of "Social Relationships."

ADULT #4 Dr. Roger Knight will conclude the study of the book of "Matthew" in room 105.

ADULT #5 George Stephenson will conclude a survey of the "Books of the New Testament" in the chapel.

ADULT #6 Bernice Majors begins a new study, "The Parables of Jesus - Part One" for the ladies in room 104.

ADULT #7 The Young Single Adults will begin meeting in room 307.

## Wanda Weathers to Teach Ladies

On this coming Wednesday, February 23, Wanda Weathers will teach the Ladies' Class in the absence of Alice Stephenson. We have heard many fine reports of the devotionals brought by Wanda to the class. She is loved by the West Erwin congregation and we urge the women to be in the class this coming Wednesday. She will share in the teaching of the class by bringing the devotional regularly.

GHS

## SPECIAL MEETING

Joe McBee would like to meet with the deacons briefly Sunday evening in room 105 following the worship.

## Thank You

It is written to Christians in the Ephesian letter, "and be ye kind one to another. . ." Sunday afternoon your expressions of kindness to us were overwhelming. It just isn't possible to express our deep feelings for the very lovely party and the beautiful gifts. A loving family is a treasure and the family ties at West Erwin are truly precious. There is much joy and satisfaction in our lives because of the work we have been privileged to do for you during the past several years. Thank you so very much for the honor and love you have shown to us and our families. A very special "Thank You" to the ones who planned the party for us. We enjoy working together for you.

Our love to each of you,  
Nelda and Frances

## IN THE HOSPITALS

Olie Cooper is critically ill in the Glenwood Hospital.

Mrs. Vera Grayson is a patient in Mother Frances Hospital.

Audrey O'Bannon will enter Mother Frances Wednesday for surgery.

Ruby Brem has been in Medical Center for tests.

Louis J. Jones is in Glenwood Hospital.

Titus Holland is in Glenwood Hospital.

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

203 Alpine, 7:30 p. m.

## BEGINNING

MARCH 6, 1977

Bible School 9:30 a. m.

Worship 10:30 a. m.

## NEW GRANDDAUGHTER

Faber and Kathryn Cauthen are the proud grandparents of a baby girl born last Wednesday evening to Chuck and Charlotte Cauthen in Nashville, Tennessee.

ZONE 3 will meet Sunday evening after worship in the Chapel.

CHRIST IS THE WAY - men without Him are like Cain, wanderers and vagabonds.

CHRIST IS THE TRUTH - men without Him are liars, like the devil.

CHRIST IS THE LIGHT - men without Him walk in darkness and know not whither they go.

CHRIST IS THE LIFE - men without Him are dead in trespasses and sin.

CHRIST IS THE VINE - Men who are not in Him are withered branches prepared for the fire.

CHRIST IS THE ROCK - men not built on Him are carried away by the flood of judgment.

O BLESSED CHRIST, how much better would it not to be, than to be without Thee!

The *Amazing Grace*

Bible Class

Each Sunday 8:00 A. M. - KLTV



# New Bible School Curriculum

Announcing

# JOURNEYS THROUGH THE Bible

## BIBLE-CENTERED LEARNING

Journeys teaches the Bible as God's inspired Word. From early childhood through youth four overviews of the Scriptures are presented in ways appropriate to the student's learning level. Proven Bible teaching methods assure learning through Bible stories, Bible surveys, Bible book studies, and topical studies in Christian living.

## BIBLICAL EVANGELISM

Journeys presents Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Through a variety of Bible learning activities, students are nurtured in the Word and guided to respond to God's loving offer of forgiveness and new life in faith and obedience.

## LIFE-RELATED TEACHING/LEARNING

Journeys relates the Bible to students' lives. "Learning level" curriculum provides resources and methods to meet needs and interests. Bible learning and activities help them understand and apply the Word to their own lives.

## BUILT-IN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Journeys trains and inspires teachers and leaders. Every course has weekly step-by-step lesson plans for total session teaching, unit planning, teacher development articles and teaching tips.

## CHRISTIAN FAMILY AND CHURCH GROWTH

Journeys strengthens the home and builds the church. All courses include practical help for applying Scripture to home relationships and activities. Ideas for family "together time" are featured in the curriculum.

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## CALENDAR OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

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P. O. Box 667



*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements ..... Joe Carroll  
Prayer ..... Sam Sevier  
Dismiss ..... Joe Willis

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements .... Paul Montandon  
Prayer ..... Gerald Montgomery  
Dismiss ..... DeRay Bennett

Serving Communion Sunday

J. C. Payne David Thurman  
Charles Lemons Odell Malone  
Wayne Terry Bill Whitworth  
Ray Magee Denton Phillips

*The Record*

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
February 6... \$3,122.20	..... 390
January 30... \$2,952.34	..... 395
A Year Ago.. \$3,506.87	..... 401

**T H A N K S**

The family of Mrs. Lela Fulmer acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

Some very interesting reports were given at the business meeting last Sunday afternoon. Don Chaffin is to be commended for the manner in which he presided over the meeting and for the research he has done in regard to the Amazing Grace Bible Class and other mission activities.

*An Invitation*

Everyone is invited to the reception honoring our secretaries, Nelda Browning and Frances McBee, on Sunday afternoon, February 13, from 2:00 to 4:00 in the Woman's Building. Be sure to be there.



JUNIOR HIGH DEVOTIONAL  
February 13, - after evening worship  
at the home of Roy and Elaine Roberson.

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY  
7:30 p. m. - 203 Alpine

*Report of Our Sick*

Carl Bell had surgery in Medical Center on Wednesday.

Harry Collins continues to be a patient in Medical Center.

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

By George H. Stephenson  
A. M. My God Gave His Son For Me.  
P. M. Three Men in the Fiery Furnace

"Abortion" will be the topic for discussion in a meeting at Caldwell Auditorium on Saturday, February 26 from 7:00 p. m. to 9:30 p. m. Dr. John Maryan, M. D. of Dexter, Mo. will have a film presentation followed by a discussion by Dr. Carl Looney of Houston on the psychological effects of abortion. The meeting is sponsored by the Omen Road congregation.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O. Rowland invite you to share in the joy of the marriage of their daughter

Leslie Lauden

to

Mr. Daniel Marion McCain  
son of

Mr. and Mrs. Joplin E. McCain  
on Saturday, the twelfth of February  
Nineteen hundred and seventy-seven  
at six-thirty o'clock in the evening  
West Erwin Church of Christ  
Tyler, Texas

Reception  
immediately following ceremony  
Willow Brook Country Club

**GOSPEL MEETING**

March 20 - 25  
Harold Taylor, Preaching

*Thank You*

Because of your love and concern 22 children (from 8 families) had a memorable holiday season at Christmas time. Vicki Barnett wishes to express her appreciation for all that you did for these children. Through her work with the Department of Public Welfare - Protective Services, she brought names of children which were distributed through the Bible Classes from the 5 year old class through the adult classes. You were more than generous to children who would not have been remembered at this time of the year without help outside their families.

*Visitation*

ZONE 2 will meet Sunday evening in the Chapel following worship.

**Journeys  
THROUGH  
THE Bible**

March 6 marks the beginning of a new Bible School curriculum for our Sunday morning education program. Journeys Through the Bible is being used successfully all over our brotherhood.

I'm excited about the possibilities that are ours. I know that a curriculum is only a small portion of the success of a Bible School class. The largest factor is the teacher. That's why we want our teachers to have the very best in aids, in curriculum - because they are shaping the future by teaching today.

Our Sunday morning teachers are already at work - insuring the very best for our children.

## From the Preacher's Desk..

I heard some good reports concerning the sermons of David Anderson which he preached Sunday. I am sorry that a good case of laryngitis kept me at home. As you know, Tyler had the biggest snow storm it has had in many years. By the time of the evening hour people were being warned to stay off the streets. There were some who started on their way to the evening worship who went back home when their cars began to slide on the ice and snow. There were forty who were at the evening worship - which is an all time "low" - I suppose.

One of these days spring will come and I look forward to a renewal of interest in every phase of our work. Great plans are being made by our elders and by David Anderson and Charles Miles. We are looking forward to many great things including our meeting March 20 - 25 with Harold Taylor preaching.

On Sunday morning I viewed several religious services on television. I was impressed with the zeal of some of the churches whose services were telecast. I listened with interest to a sermon based on the second chapter of Acts delivered by a very prominent preacher in Dallas. This man, who has had tremendous influence and is known for promoting faith in the Bible, made some good points concerning the lessons on Pentecost. He quoted Acts 2:37 in which the people, convicted of sin, asked the question, "Men and brethren what shall we do?" I was disappointed that the man ignored Peter's answer to the question found in Acts 2:38. By inspiration Peter said, "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." The prominent preacher did not try to "explain away" the obvious meaning of this passage - he simply ignored it and said that Peter told the people to "believe on the Lord to be saved." Surely this eminent preacher must have known this is not what Peter said.

I was impressed with the truth that we must continue to preach the plain teaching of God's Word - with firmness yet with love. GHS

SERMON SUBJECTS FOR SUNDAY by George H. Stephenson  
A. M. My God and I P. M. The Treasures of the Snow



# West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 February 3, 1977 No. 5

## Men to Serve

Sunday Morning, Feb. 6 - 10:20 a.m.  
Announcements ..... Faber Cauthen  
Prayer ..... Ron Campbell  
Dismiss ..... Francis Bullard  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.

Announcements ..... Steve Barnett  
Prayer ..... K. Max Haws  
Dismiss ..... Rick Higginbotham  
Serving Communion Sunday

J. C. Payne            David Thurman  
Charles Lemons        Odell Malone  
Wayne Terry            Bill Whitworth  
Ray Magee              Denton Phillips

## OUR RECORD

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
January 30...\$2,952.34	.... 310
January 23...\$3,223.52	.... 395
A Year Ago..\$4,032.29	.... 409

## THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you Christian friends for the kindness during my illness and the death of my sister. The flowers, cards and visits are greatly appreciated.

In Christian love,  
B. B. Lambert

Thank you for your prayers, phone calls, visits, and cards during my recent illness.

Rose Rushing

I want to thank each one of you who showed such concern for my mother since she has been sick. All the many things have been greatly appreciated. It is a redeeming factor to know there are so many loving people who are for one another when there is a need. You are all very special and loved by my family.

Becky Young

## SPECIAL!

Senior High Planning Session  
2:00 p.m., Sunday - 203 Alpine

Junior High - Senior High  
Parents Meeting  
7:00 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 6, Chapel

## Business Meeting

The monthly business meeting of the men of the church will be held this coming Sunday afternoon, February 6, instead of the usual meeting time on the second Sunday. The elders and deacons are expected to be present and all men of the church are welcome. The time is 1:30 in the Chapel.

## IN THE HOSPITAL

Jack Beard is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

B. B. Lambert is in Glenwood hospital.

Don O'Bannon is in Mother Frances Hospital.



## Ladies

YOU ARE INVITED

## SERIES ON MARRIAGE

### In Women's Class

The Wednesday morning Ladies' Class will begin a new study this coming Wednesday, February 9. Alice Stephenson will be conducting the class using as a study guide, "By His Side" by Lois McBride Terry. This is a course concerning duties of the Christian wife, but it is one which is designed to encourage all Christian women, married or unmarried, in the living of the Christian life. Lois McBride Terry, author of the course, is an experienced ladies' Bible class teacher and public school teacher. We would like to encourage younger women as well as older women to attend this class. Arrangements will be made to care for babies and pre-school children. There is great strength and power in the lives of dedicated Christian women. We encourage the women to attend this class every Wednesday morning at ten o'clock.

ZONE 1 will meet Sunday evening following the worship service.



## LET IT SHINE

By David Cord Anderson

"See how he loved him!" John 11:36.

"The death of Lazarus caused Jesus to cry. He was deeply moved and troubled." Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were three people Jesus loved deeply. It is no wonder that Jesus spent a lot of time at Bethany.

Martha verbalized her faith in Jesus as the son of God. Both Mary and Martha told him, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Then Martha went on to proclaim her belief in him by saying, "But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"

That last question is a probing one. How could Jesus take this moment of death and turn it around to the glory of God? By raising Lazarus from the dead! The odor was strong after lying in that grave for four days - decaying. But Jesus called in a loud voice into the tomb, "Lazarus, come out!"

Jesus loved us. He can take our sin-stenched souls and raise us from death to life. Jesus can take the perplexities and trials and defeats of life and turn them into victory! Because Jesus - yesterday - defeated the powers and principalities of Satan. In the resurrection he defeated death. He died that we might live. Because of Jesus we pass from death to life!



## From the Preacher's Desk...

Guest Editorial . . .

### Build Your "Magic Kingdom"

"The burning sand shall become a pool" (Isaiah 35:7).

Walt Disney's associates advised him to forget his dream of a park with Frontierland memories, Tomorrowland adventures, Adventureland jungles, Fantasyland dreams - popcorn, ice cream, cotton candy - storybook tales "come to life," Western mine trains, jungle cruises, and journeys into the world of the future. That was because they couldn't envision his vision.

Their objections seemed sensible: cost too much . . . time not right . . . location wrong. But Walt wasn't listening. Nothing will ever be attempted if all possible objections must first be overcome. "Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has courage to lose sight of the shore," said Andrew Gide. We spend half our time wishing for things we could have if we didn't spend half our time wishing.

So, Disney's "Magic Kingdom" was born - and after two decades continues to grow. When Disneyland opened in 1955, Walt said, "Disneyland will never be completed. It will continue to grow as long as there is imagination left in the world."

Success is never accidental - not in business, not in the church, not in personal life. The steps in successful venture are usually the same:

- . . . think, dream,
- . . . work, work hard, keep on working,
- . . . wait, be patient, don't give up!

"Fight one more round," said James J. Corbett, former heavyweight champion. "When your feet are so tired that you have to shuffle back to the center of the ring, fight one more round. When your arms are so tired that you can hardly lift your hands to come on guard, fight one more round. When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so tired you wish your opponent could crack you one on the jaw and put you to sleep, fight one more round - remembering that the man who always fights one more round is never whipped."

Winston Churchill said it this way, "Never, never, never, never give up!"  
... Joe R. Barnett

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

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# Thanks

Words could never express the deep gratitude I feel for the many kindnesses shown Ben and me during my illness. For the many prayers, cards, visits, flowers, gifts, food and acts of service, we are truly thankful. Above these things, I am reminded of the love and concern of Christian friends, a gift truly from God.

Lovingly,  
Patsy Young

The loved ones of Mrs. J. S. Hudnall wish to thank each one who sent cards, flowers, and for the calls.

Mrs. Hudnall's sister,  
Anne M. Bryant

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Turner, Mrs. Vannie Lee, Mrs. Eula Hoppers and Lois Hoppers, and Mrs. Houston Holcomb have expressed their thanks for the remembrance during the holiday season.

I would like to express my thanks for the many prayers, cards and phone calls I received during my recent illness and hospital stay. Your concern has been greatly appreciated.

In Christian love,  
Steve Brown

### SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

By George H. Stephenson  
A. M. My God and I  
P. M. That You Might Believe

### LET IT SHINE by David Cord Anderson

Being a part of the West Erwin church is a tremendous blessing. So many have given of their time, assistance and love. There has been a great deal of planning over the last several weeks. We are now making preparations for their implementation. Beginning in March we will begin to see changes taking place.

One of my favorite times of the week is Monday night. We are averaging 17 in attendance for our Bible study over the last four weeks. This coming Monday night we will finish our study of I John. Beginning February 7 we will study Ephesians. For the most part junior and senior high students come but this time is open to anyone

\* \* \* \* \*

### Sympathy

Funeral services were held on Wednesday in Nacogdoches for Lella Fulmer, sister to brother B. B. Lambert. We extend our deepest sympathy to the Lamberts. Brother Lambert is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

### Report of Our Sick

Don O'Bannon had surgery last Friday and is in Medical Center Hospital. B. B. Lambert is a patient in the Glenwood Hospital. Mrs. Gus Krewall has been in Glenwood Hospital.

WATCH <sup>The</sup> *Amazing Grace*

who wants to study the Bible.

I was deeply touched last Monday night as several of our young people asked each other for prayers and strength. What a marvelous privilege we have - to pray for a brother and to know that he is petitioning God in our behalf!

I'm also thankful for all our teachers who attended our Teachers meeting. I'm looking forward to working with you in our departmental groups over the next few weeks.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ."

(Ephesians 1:3)

### MEETING IN PALESTINE

The Church of Christ at Queen at DeBard in Palestine will conduct a "Know Your Bible Campaign For Christ," February 6-10. Lynn Campbell, speaker. The time is 7:30 each evening. You are cordially invited.

Life, like a mirror, never gives back more than we put into it.

A man who rows a boat doesn't have time to rock it.

If you are a stranger to prayer, you are a stranger to power.

Bible Class  
Each Sunday 8:00 A. M. - KLTV

### Men to Serve

#### Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements..... Mack Bynum  
Prayer..... James Phillips  
Dismiss .....Denton Phillips

#### Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements..... Louis E. Jones  
Prayer..... Bob Threadgill  
Dismiss ..... Wilmer Little

#### Serving Communion Sunday

Jim Franklin Joe Carroll  
Rocky Chambless Dale Blackstone  
Ron Jones Paul Montandon  
Shayne Bennett David Fears

### The Record

Contributions	Bible School
January 23...\$3,223.52	.....395
January 16...\$3,495.59	.....437
A Year Ago..\$2,944.49	.....442

### RESPONSES

We are very happy to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Clyde (Mayme) Waggoner, 1508 Sequoia, phone 561-3181. They come to us from the Glenwood congregation.

## IMPORTANT!

Senior High Planning Session  
2:00 p. m., Sunday - 203 Alpine

Junior High - Senior High  
Parents Meeting  
7:00 p. m., Sunday, Jan. 30, Chapel



FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK

Responses to Amazing Grace Bible Class

Every week we receive letters in response to the Amazing Grace Bible Class. Here are a few of the more recent letters.

"We listen to your wonderful teaching every Sunday on KLTV from Tyler station. Enjoy every minute of it. We should like to have 1 tract no. 198, and 2 adult correspondence courses. Pray for us."

Mattie Morris and Alicia Anne Morris, Cushing, Tex.

"I listen to your program most every Sunday morning and enjoy it very much."

C. L. Moore

Rt. 12, Box 77 - Tyler, Texas

"We love your Bible class and we are members of the church."

Mildred Bowers - New Waverly, Texas

"I listen to your broadcast each Sunday morning, coming through the West Erwin Church of Christ, Tyler, Texas. I hope I get your beautiful Bible. I need a new Bible."

Vertie Anderson

Rt. 4, Box 39 - Rusk, Texas

"I enjoy the Amazing Grace Bible Class every Sunday from Tyler and Irving, Texas at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Have almost finished and will this week - the lesson on Old Testament and would like the New Testament lesson or tracts and I will ask you and your people to pray for my niece and me."

From Woman in Tyler

"We listen every Sunday on KLTV Tyler, Texas. We would like your publications."

Mrs. Louis Hardy, Crockett, Texas

Mrs. Louis R. Hardy, Rusk, Texas

"I watch your program over KLTV, Tyler, Texas. I would like all the bulletins on the Old Bible and New Testament as they become available."

Mrs. Clyde Greene, Lindale

"I watch your program every Sunday morning over KLTV Tyler, Texas and I enjoy it very much. The singing is great also. I enjoy looking up the question. Some time I can't find them, but I still enjoy looking."

Mrs. Lucille Porter

Brownsboro, Texas

These are just a sample of the letters received. We have had a total of 135 to write. Authorities inform us that for every one who writes, television authorities consider there are 500 viewers. What a tremendous number who have viewed our program.

GHS

# West Erwin Visitor

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## CALENDAR OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY

Bible School . . . . .	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship . . . . .	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class . . . . .	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes . . . . .	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

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# West Erwin Visitor

Vol. 6 January 20, 1977 No. 3

## Men to Serve

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements ..... Wallace Gayle

Prayer ..... M. B. Beard

Dismiss ..... Matt Haws

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ... Dick Higginbotham

Prayer ..... Roger Knight

Dismiss ..... Steve Higginbotham

Serving Communion Sunday

Jim Franklin Joe Carroll

Rocky Chambless Dale Blackstone

Ron Jones Paul Montandon

Shayne Bennett David Fears

The aid and comfort of so many in our Family at West Erwin shows the love and understanding of those that follow after Christ.

The Roberson Family

Expressions of appreciation have been received from Mrs. Pearl Caruthers, Mrs. Lilla Tigert and Mrs. Earnesene Shuford for the remembrance during the holiday.

### IN THE HOSPITALS

Don O'Bannon will undergo surgery Friday in Mother Frances.

Little Gina Dobbs is in Mother Frances following surgery.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY SINGING will be in Overton, Jan. 23 at 2:30 and continue until 4:30. You are invited to be present for this period of fellowship and singing.

### BUILDING OUR OWN MANSION

There is a legend of a wealthy woman who, when she reached heaven, was shown a very plain mansion. She objected. "Well," she was told, "that is the house prepared for you." "Whose is that fine mansion across the way?" she asked. "It belongs to your gardener." "How is it that he has one so much better than mine?" "The houses here are prepared from the materials that are sent up. We do not choose them, you do that by your earthly faithfulness." (This may be a legend, but it bears a profound truth.)

## The Record

Contributions	Bible School
January 16...\$3,495.59	.....437
January 9...\$3,338.28	.....330
A Year Ago..\$3,177.49	.....407

### RESPONSES

Mary Prater has moved back to Tyler from Houston and will be living with her parents at 619 North Broadway. We want to welcome her back to West Erwin.

Rick Higginbotham came Sunday evening to be restored.

## THANKS

We want to thank you for your visits and expressions of concern while my husband was hospitalized.

Mrs. W. R. Riley

## COMING UP

### TEACHERS MEETING

Sunday, January 23 - 7:00, Chapel

### JUNIOR HIGH PLANNING

2:00 p. m., Sunday, January 23  
203 Alpine

### SENIOR HIGH PLANNING

2:00 p. m., Sunday, January 30  
203 Alpine

### JUNIOR HIGH - SENIOR HIGH PARENTS MEETING

7:00 p. m. Sunday, Jan. 30, Chapel

### SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH

Suzanne Kirby composed this verse in response to a letter from Billy Gardner, Angola Prison, La., written to the young people of West Erwin church in which he mentions having lived on "both sides of the fence, but praise the Lord" he said, "I have climbed over to greener pastures for eternity."

Although life gives you problems,  
God's Eternal Fence you've crossed.  
You may still inspire others  
Remember - All isn't lost!

### TEENS AND MUSIC

A young boy complained to his father that most of the church hymns were boring to him-too far behind the times, boring tunes, meaningless words. His father put an end to the discussion when he said, "If you think you can write better hymns, then why don't you?" The boy went to his room and wrote his first hymn. The year was 1690, the teenager was Isaac Watts. "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and "Joy To The World" are among almost 350 hymns written by him. Feeling bored? Do something great? Let the world remember you for 300 years!

... Roy Hardeman Deaver



## WE WANT YOU IN BIBLE SCHOOL

FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK

The weather has been very disagreeable the past two Sundays and for a number of other Sundays this winter. To me it seems we have had more cold weather this winter - beginning last November - than I have known in Tyler before. This has hurt our attendance, but in spite of the cold on the outside it seems to me that we have had a warmth of spirit and an attitude among our people which is good.

I am still looking forward to 1977 with optimism. The coming of David Anderson to work with us is going to be a big boost in our Bible School and youth work. Charles Miles is planning great things in the field of personal evangelism.

We look to God and want to pray that His blessings will be with us in all that we do. If we as Christians grow in our own spiritual lives I know that the church itself will grow.

I would like for us to adopt a slogan which I have noticed for other congregations - "Prepare for heaven in '77." This year should be a year lived for the Lord as should every year the Lord gives us. This life is a period of preparation for the great eternity awaiting us.

Jesus wants us to have great, useful and productive lives. He said, "I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly," (John 10:10). This abundant life is found in unselfishly living and giving. Jesus declared, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me," (Matthew 17:24).

May we all be willing to give our time - our talents - and our money to make West Erwin a great church and to do our part to prepare for heaven in '77!

Sermon Topics For Sunday, January 16 by George H. Stephenson  
A. M. Some of Our Needs in These Times P. M. Trials of Joseph

**WE WANT YOU IN BIBLE SCHOOL**

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### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

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Evening Classes . . . . .	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship . . . . .	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

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(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

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*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements ..... C. B. Hardin  
Prayer ..... Ed Bullard  
Dismiss ..... Roy Lane Roberson  
Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements ..... Milburn Cook  
Prayer ..... Don Chaffin  
Dismiss ..... Charlie Cook  
Serving Communion Sunday

Jim Franklin Joe Carroll  
Rocky Chambless Dale Blackstone  
Ron Jones Paul Montandon  
Shayne Bennett David Fears

*The Record*

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
January 9...\$3,338.28	.....330
January 2...\$2,109.34	.....336
A Year Ago. \$3,353.10	.....455

RESPONSES

Terry Stephenson came forward on Sunday of last week to be restored and ask for the prayers of the church.

Mrs. Steve Brown (Sherry) came Sunday evening to be identified as a member of the church. She and Steve were married Christmas eve. Steve was baptized last fall by brother Stephenson. Their address is 216 So. Fannin, Apt. E. Sherry formerly worshipped with the church in Canton.

TEACHER'S MEETING  
Sunday - January 23  
7:00 p. m. - Chapel

*Thanks*

Thank you for the cards, flowers and the visits during the time I was hospitalized. This continues to remind me of the love that has been shown to me and my family over the past several years. We pray that God will continue to bless you.

With love,  
Hillard Hughes

Expressions of appreciation have been received from the following for the cheer baskets and flowers sent during the holidays.

Myrtle Ginn Georgia Lee  
The C. T. Beards Katie Heath  
Dovie Norsworthy Cora Hughes  
The R. L. Trenthams Lillie Knight

IN THE HOSPITALS

Don O'Bannon will enter Mother Frances Thursday to have his cast removed and for treatment.

Mr. W. R. Riley is a patient in Medical Center.

Mrs. Rose Rushing has been in the Glenwood Hospital.

Steve Brown has been in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. Jack Beard is in Glenwood Hospital.

FUNERALS

Funeral services were conducted on Monday afternoon for Mrs. Roy Roberson, Sr., mother of Roy. We extend our sincere sympathy to each member of the family in their great loss.

Mrs. Jimmy Hudnall, sister to Mrs. P. J. Bryant (Anne Murry), passed away Sunday morning. Her funeral was conducted Tuesday afternoon. We extend our sympathy to the family.

*An Invitation*

"A Pounding"

Bring your favorite recipe and a non-perishable ingredient to a "pounding" for Steve and Sherry Brown, Sunday afternoon, January 16, 2 till 4.

This is a couples "Come and Go" party at 1925 Courtney. Sitters will be available for your children.

Steve and Sherry were married during the Christmas Holidays.

\* \* \* \*

Amazing Grace Bible Class

The church in Madison, Tennessee recently sent the West Erwin congregation a beautiful certificate of appreciation for our co-operation in the Amazing Grace Bible Class. You will find this framed and in the south foyer.

There are thousands who view the Amazing Grace Bible Class in this area every Sunday. This is bound to do much good. However, the possibilities for doing good are much greater if members of the church will invite their neighbors and friends to watch the program each Sunday morning at 8:00 over KLTU.

ACU Bible Lectureship

The fifty-ninth annual Abilene Christian University Bible Lectureship will be held in Abilene, February 20 through February 23. Outstanding speakers will deliver lectures based on the theme: "Seeking The Lost." We hope that many from Tyler will plan to attend this great meeting of thousands of Christians from all over the United States and from other parts of the world. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to receive inspiration and instruction. Why not plan to attend?

Gospel Meeting - March 20 - 25

We are looking forward to a great gospel meeting here at the West Erwin congregation from March 20 through March 25. Harold Taylor, a very talented speaker and faithful gospel preacher for the Walnut Hill Church of Christ in Dallas, will be the guest speaker for this series of meetings. We hope you will plan your schedule now so that you will attend this meeting. Also, let us begin to get prospects now for those who may be reached with the gospel at that time.

GHS



MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY  
203 Alpine - 7:30 o'clock  
Bring your Bible!

JR HIGH & SR HIGH  
... There will be a devotional for all junior high and senior high Sunday night after worship at Dave and Pam's, 203 Alpine.



## From the Preacher's Desk..

### The Value of the Soul

Jesus asked the questions, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26).

#### 1. The value of the soul may be seen by subtraction.

Take away man's soul and what is left? Man then is nothing more than a beast. That which gives dignity to man is the fact that he is a soul created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26; 2:7). Man shares with the animals a body which is similar in many respects to theirs, but man's ability to think, to plan, to love, to dream, to worship, is not shared with any of the other of God's creatures.

#### 2. The value of the soul may be seen from its enduring qualities.

A diamond is precious because it endures. The spirit of man lives even though the body dies. "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it," (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Paul recognized that there was a part of him which could be absent from the body and yet be present with the Lord. "Knowing that while we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord - we are confident and willing rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord," (2 Corinthians 5:6, 8). The soul or spirit of man will be given a new body at the resurrection day, (I Cor. 15:35-58).

#### 3. The value of the soul may be seen by the great price paid for it.

Christ paid for our souls with His own precious blood. "For as much as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot," (I Peter 1:18, 19).

Since our souls are so precious, do you not feel that our greatest interest in life should be in the salvation of our souls and in preparation for eternity? This does not mean that we should not be interested in our present life and in trying to make this world a better place. Indeed, the recognition that we are immortal souls should make this life more meaningful.

GHS

# West Erwin Visitor

PUBLISHED BY

Church of Christ



### CALENDAR OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible School .....	9:30 A.M.	Morning Worship .....	10:20 A.M.
Evening Classes .....	5:00 P.M.	Evening Worship .....	6:00 P.M.

#### WEDNESDAY

Ladies' Bible Class .....	10:00 A.M.	Bible Classes .....	7:30 P.M.
(Sept. thru May)			

#### EVANGELISTS

George H. Stephenson — Hillard Hughes — Charles Miles

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
20 W. ERWIN  
ER, TEXAS 75701

*Budget #1 3825.00 Per Week*  
*1977*

The West Erwin Visitor  
Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75701. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

*Men to Serve*

Sunday Morning - 10:20 a. m.

Announcements..... Charles Miles  
Prayer..... Roy Roberson  
Dismiss..... Wade Weathers

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements..... Elwin Crow  
Prayer..... Don Crowder  
Dismiss..... Ron Lott

Serving Communion Sunday

Mack Bynum Henry McRuiz  
Ben Young Harold Browning  
Bill Whitworth Francis Bullard  
Dick Higginbotham Mike Munn

*The Record*

<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Bible School</u>
January 2....\$3,109.34	.....336
December 26.\$2,676.75	.....362
A Year Ago..\$3,506.41	.....429

**THANK YOU NOTES**

I want to thank everyone for their interest, the cards, flowers, and for the beautiful book. Happy New Year to everyone. Mrs. Ivah Miller

I wish to say thanks for the prayers, visits, cards, flowers and the food after I came home from the hospital. Most of all thank you for the love you have shown during my surgery and recovery. I love everyone of you. Aline Beard

From Angola Prison

I want to thank you for the Christmas package. I can't find the words to express what it meant to me. I love you so very much.

Billy Gardner

I got the clothes package yesterday, and I do really thank you so much for everything. Ronald Fitch

*Report of Our Sick*

Mrs. Roy Roberson, Sr. is a patient in Medical Center Hospital. She should not have company at this time.

Dale Hamblett has been in Mother Frances Hospital.

Hillard Hughes entered Medical Center Hospital Thursday for surgery on his knee.

ZONE 2 will meet after the evening worship service Sunday evening in the Chapel.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30 is the scheduled time for the regular monthly business meeting of the men of the congregation. All men are urged to meet in the Chapel.

Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Gal. 6:9

"Don't stop praying, but have more trust;  
Don't stop praying; for pray we must;  
Faith will banish a mount of care;  
Don't stop praying! God answers prayer."

*Thank You*

I want to simply say "thank you" to some individuals and groups. Two little words are all that I know to say in trying to express the feelings of my heart.

THANK YOU

- to the elders for their confidence and faith in me.
- to the West Erwin church for the warm, loving way you have received us.
- to the kind ladies who brought food the day we moved in our home - Sue Paul, Margret Montgomery, Sue Higginbotham, Clay Kirby, Jane Jones, Jan Knight, Carolyn Stitt, Nelda Browning, Jeanine Hughes, and Wanda Weathers.
- to the Bud Caskey family for their gracious hospitality.
- to the Bible school coordinators for their pledge of support - Jeanine Hughes, Clay Kirby, Margret Mongtogery, Jan Knight, Dick Higginbotham, Joe McBee and Hillard Hughes.
- to the West Erwin youth for their love and friendship.
- to the parents of the youth for their concern, care and cooperation.
- to the Hillard Hughes family for opening their home to the youth for a get acquainted time.
- to Hillard Hughes for his personal support and loyalty.
- to George, Charles, Nelda, Frances, and Dalton for their love and support.
- to Rick, Julie, Laurie, Kim, Kay, Denise, Martha, Suzanne and Jeana for their immediate support of our first Monday night Bible study.
- to Jamon Kirby who has worked untold hours in making our home so lovely. Jamon has done more, so much more, than could be imagined.
- to Jack and Mary Paul, the dearest and most loving couple I've ever known - to whom I owe everything that I am and hope to become.

Thank You,  
David Cord Anderson

---

**SEE WHAT HAPPENS  
Give God the first choice  
of your time, your effort,  
your thinking, and your money.  
Then, see what happens.**

---



**Serving Sunday**

**Our Records**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
 Announcements F. C. Carpenter  
 Prayer Dick Higginbotham  
 Dismiss Ben Young  
 Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.

Contributions  
 Dec. 18 \$ 4,038.56  
 Dec. 11 \$20,659.69  
 Year Ago 3,354.34  
 Worship

Announcements Louis E. Jones  
 Prayer K. Max Haws  
 Dismiss Fred Powell  
 Serving Communion Sunday

Dec. 18 482  
 Dec. 11 477  
 Wed. Eve. 221  
 Bible School

Ron Jones Paul Montandon  
 Rocky Dale  
 Chambless Blackstone  
 Jim Franklin Joe Carroll  
 Terry Warren David Fears

Dec. 18 345  
 Dec. 11 388  
 Year Ago 411

Greeters for Sunday  
 Harold Browning Henry McRuiz  
 D. C. Jones

Weekly Budget  
 \$3,825.00

**Responses**

Wayne and Molly Terry came forward Wednesday night asking for the prayers of the church.

**Report of Our Sick**

Erma Sanders remains in Glenwood Hospital.  
 Caroly Stitt is in Glenwood Hospital following surgery.  
 Wayne Terry underwent vascular surgery last Friday in Medical Center.

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY by George Stephenson

A. M. The Greatest Story Ever Told  
 P. M. Freely Ye Have Received, Freely Give

CONGRATULATIONS to Dewitt Jones who was named Football Coach of the Year by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

Sunday  
 Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
 Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
 214-592-0809

**From the Preacher's Desk (Continued)**

to the scriptures, " (I Corinthians 15:3, 4). Hence we will meet this Sunday as every other Sunday to remember the death of Christ for us as we observe the sacred feast of the Lord's Supper. Jesus said, "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come," (I Corinthians 11:28). We read that the early Christians assembled on the first day of the week to observe this memorial, (Acts 20:7).

But there are many things I like about this season. I am glad if people, at any time, are reminded that Jesus came to this world to bless all mankind. I am glad for the spirit of good will which prevails at this season. I am glad for the spirit of giving and sharing with others. I am glad for the opportunities for families to be together and to demonstrate their love and appreciation for one another.

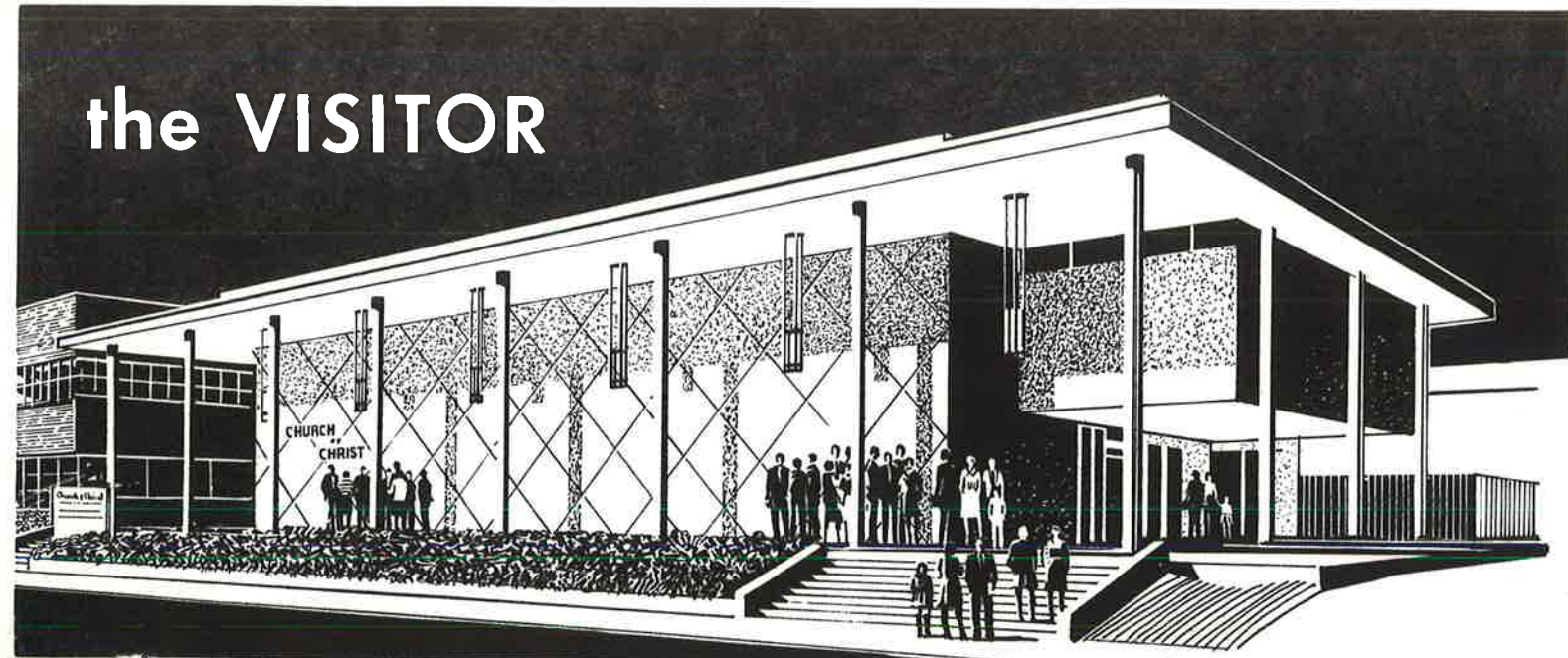
This has been a happy season for us. We are most grateful to each of you for your cards and many expressions of kindness to us. We were delighted that many of you called at our home last Sunday afternoon. Sunday was also a happy time for us when we had the privilege of hearing W. D. Metcalf preach at the evening services.

This is our last bulletin for the year 1977. As the year comes to a close and a new year begins let us be thankful for all that God has done for us in the past and look forward to another year of service in His Kingdom if he wills. Let us make 78 truly great!

The Visitor  
 Published weekly except the  
 first week in July and  
 Christmas week by  
 West Erwin Church of Christ,  
 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
 75702. Second class postage  
 paid at Tyler, Texas.

**Kenneth Browning**  
 Box 12991  
 N. T. S. U. Station  
 Denton, Texas 76203

**the VISITOR**



WEST CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the  
 Preacher's Desk**

GEORGE H. STEPHENSON

This coming Sunday, December 25, is Christmas Day. Many people will be observing this day as the birthday of Jesus. We rejoice that Jesus was born and are glad that we can read the beautiful accounts of His birth in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. However, no one knows the date of Jesus' birth and we have no Bible example for any special observance of the occasion.

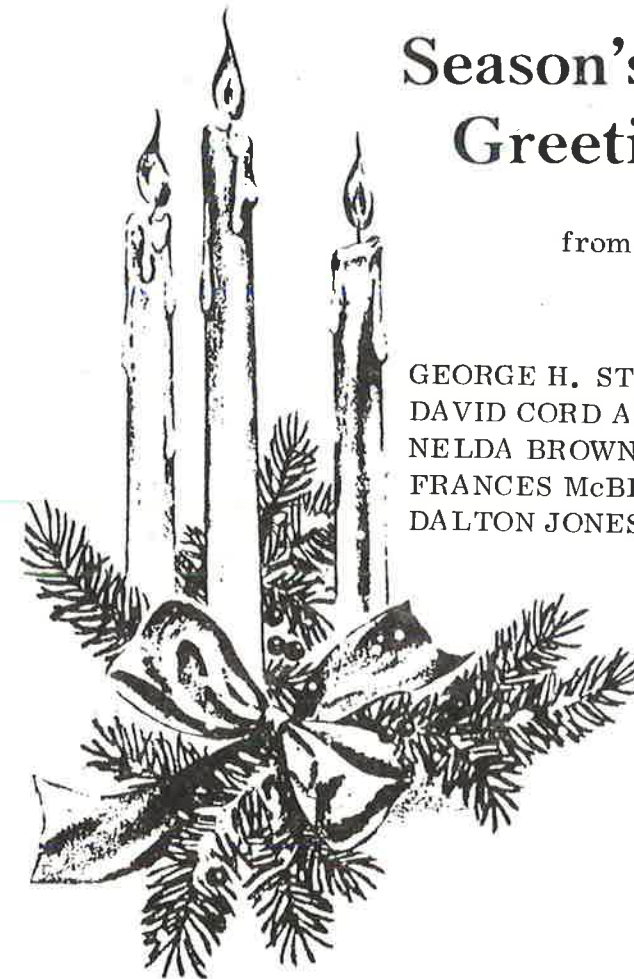
It is natural for people to honor the birthdays of their heroes. However, the emphasis in the New Testament is not on the birth of Jesus but rather on His death. Paul said, "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and him crucified," (I Corinthians 2:2). Again he said, "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according

(Continued on page 4)

**Season's  
 Greetings**

from

GEORGE H. STEPHENSON  
 DAVID CORD ANDERSON  
 NELDA BROWNING  
 FRANCES McBEE  
 DALTON JONES





# Thank You

The outpouring of your love and sympathy at this sad time in our lives couldn't but help ease our heartache. For your prayers, visits, food, flowers, cards and loving words, thank you.

We, with Job, say "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord." May the Lord bless each of you.

Russell and Audrey O' Bannon

Thank you for the visits and cards during my stay in the hospital. Also, I appreciate very much the book from the church.

Roger McElroy

We are thankful to and for a "Church Family" who cares for its own in times of need.

Our love and gratitude,  
Grace & Bud Walker

The family of Arthur Hobart Woolverton acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

The family of Bonnie Williamson acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sympathy

Mrs. Nellie Mae McElroy, sister-in-law of brother G. W. McElroy, was buried last Friday in Cleburne, Texas.

J. B. McKeever's brother was buried last week.

We extend our sympathy to each family.

## Congratulations

Elizabeth and Robert Fisher are the happy parents of a son, Jeffery Scott, born October 30, 1977 in College Station. The Fishers are in the process of moving to Longview. The Homer Williamsons are the proud great grandparents and Jeanette and David Ingram are the grandparents.

### NO "VISITOR" NEXT WEEK

In order to fulfill the regulations of our mailing, we will not print a "Visitor" next week. It will be mailed again on January 5.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben J. Young  
and  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill J. Cook  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of their children

Rebecca Anne

to

Larry Kell

on Friday, the thirtieth of December

at seven o'clock in the evening

nineteen hundred and seventy-seven

Church of Christ

420 West Erwin

Tyler, Texas

Reception

immediately following the ceremony

Rose Garden Center Building

### SINGING AT NORTHWEST CHURCH

Remember there will be no service here at West Erwin, Wednesday evening, December 28. The Year End Singing will be at the Northwest Church Building.

### HOLIDAY PARTY

There will be a Holiday Party for Junior High, High School and College students Thursday, December 29. Youth Committee Chairmen Roy Roberson and Fred Powell will announce details later.

## Adult Department

### YOUNG MARRIEDS CLASS

Beginning Sunday, January 1, Roger Knight and David Anderson will begin teaching the young marrieds class. The course of study will be on the gospel of Mark. The format for the class will be varied.

### MOVING TO GEORGIA

Ron and Gayle Campbell will be moving very soon to Douglas, Georgia. Ron has been working there for about 6 weeks now and Gayle and the children hope to be moved shortly after the holidays. We hope they will be very happy in their new home.



Faber Cauthen

Faber and Kathryn Cauthen moved to Tyler with their son, Chuck, in 1951. They lived here until 1954 and then moved to Waco where their second son, Mark, was born. They moved back to Tyler in 1957.

Brother Cauthen was born in Montgomery, Alabama and grew up there. He married Kathryn Payne, a Georgia girl, in Nashville, Tennessee in 1945. They have two married sons. Chuck and Charlotte and baby Rachel live in Nashville, Tennessee and Mark and Janie live here in Tyler.

Faber was in the Army Air Corps for four years and was overseas in the South Pacific for 38 months. He was a sergeant. After the war he and Kathryn lived in Abilene where he attended Abilene Christian College. For the past 24 years he has been employed by Kraft Foods as a Sales Representative.

In September of 1973 Faber was recognized as one of the elders of the West Erwin church. He has led the singing for the church here at different times and is always very helpful to arrange singing for funerals and other occasions. He has served in many areas and at present teaches the auditorium Bible class and serves on the Worship and Benevolent Committees. Brother Faber was baptized into Christ by J. Roy Vaughn in 1935 in Montgomery, Alabama.

One of his favorite subjects of conversation is their baby granddaughter. If you don't think Rachel is very special - just ask Faber!

\*\*\*\*\*

## You Are Invited

The Bullard Church of Christ will host a "Year End Singing" on New Year's Eve from 6:30 p.m. till 11 p.m. You are invited. You may come and leave anytime during the evening.

CITY WIDE PERSONAL EVANGELISM WORKSHOP  
NORTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST  
JANUARY 12, 13, 14  
CITY WIDE CAMPAIGN  
CHRIST, THE CROSS, AND YOU  
CALDWELL AUDITORIUM - MARCH 12 - 17

Meet

Our

Elders

Let It Shine



DAVID CORD ANDERSON

"And in that place many believed in Jesus." (John 10:42) It seems to me that wherever we go and wherever we are, it ought to be the place that people can come and believe in Jesus. West Erwin is a place where people can come and believe in Jesus. The church engages the world everyday, through its members at home, on the job, in the community. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit; we minister to people; we are available and vulnerable; we proclaim Jesus in our lives.

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life." (John 10:27,28) Followers of Jesus listen to his voice. That takes time with the Word; that takes prayer; that takes reflection; that takes daily discipline.

It's a comforting thought that Jesus knows me. He cares about me. He cares about you. You are really special. You matter to him. You're important.

The responsibility is on me to follow him. Following him in speaking words of comfort to the downtrodden and discouraged. Sharing the joy of those who are happy. Crying with those who are sad. Following him through everyday. Beginning in the pre-dawn prayers. Time with the Father. Then through the busy, yet unhurried pace of life. Giving time and attention to the important. Meeting the needs of people. And then as evening settles - time alone with the Father. "I and the Father are one." (John 10:30)

Study your Bible daily.

### Serving Sunday

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements Roger Knight  
 Prayer Joe McBee  
 Dismiss Bruce Raley  
 Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Dave Anderson  
 Prayer Harold Browning  
 Dismiss Guy Potts  
 Serving Communion Sunday

Ron Jones Paul Montandon  
 Rocky Dale  
 Chambless Blackstone  
 Jim Franklin Joe Carroll  
 Terry Warren David Fears  
 Greeters for Sunday  
 Ray Lott Carroll Magee  
 D. C. Jones

### Our Records

Contributions	
Dec. 11	\$20,659.60
Dec. 4	4,317.86
Year Ago	24,361.44
Worship	
Dec. 11	477
Dec. 4	474
Wed. Eve.	236
Bible School	
Dec. 11	388
Dec. 4	381
Year Ago	393
Weekly Budget	
	\$3,825.00

### Thank You

I believe the West Erwin congregation is one of the best. They are so good to look after the members of the church. Thank you. Wyche Harris

### Report of Our Sick

Mrs. Erma Sanders continues to be a patient in the Glenwood Hospital.  
 Mrs. Jim Willis is in Glenwood Hospital.  
 Wayne Terry will enter Medical Center Hospital on Thursday for major surgery on Friday.

THE LADIES BIBLE CLASS that meets on Wednesday mornings will be dismissed until after the holidays. It will meet again on January 4th.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

#### ELDERS

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

#### ASSEMBLIES

Sunday  
 Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday  
 Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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From The Preacher's Desk (continued)  
 fort with six other congregations in Tyler in a work-shop in personal evangelism. This is to be conducted January 12, 13, and 14. This is being conducted to assist us in preparing for a city wide campaign of the Tyler congregations to be conducted in March. We are praying that as a result of all these efforts that all the congregations in Tyler, including West Erwin, will be greatly strengthened.

Open House - We hope that each of you will plan to come out to the minister's home - 300 Ridgcrest - sometime Sunday afternoon between the hours of two and five o'clock. This is our way of trying to express our appreciation for being permitted to work with you and to be a part of the West Erwin family.

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY - December 18  
 A.M. Seeing the Unseen  
 By George H. Stephenson  
 P.M. Sermon by W. D. Metcalf

**Kindness is the controlling spring which holds back the slamming door.**

**Wherever there is a human being there is an opportunity for kindness.**

The Visitor  
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WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809  
*The Church With A Heart*



### From the Preacher's Desk

George H. Stephenson

We had another great day on Sunday when the congregation contributed over \$20,000 to the work of the Lord. We are thankful for the generous spirit which prompted each one to give at this time and we are also thankful for all who have been giving each week so that the church was able to make a substantial reduction in its indebtedness. Most of all we are thankful to our heavenly Father for all the many blessings He has given us.

We are thankful for our building and our facilities and are glad to see the debt being reduced. Of course, we realize that these are merely tools which should help us render a greater service for the Lord. Good buildings are fine, but they alone will not make great churches. All of us must be living, working, and praying Christians who are doing our part to make the church what it should be.

Shortly after the first of the year we are going to be engaged in a co-operative effort (Continued on page 4)

### W. D. METCALF TO PREACH SUNDAY



Brother and sister W. D. Metcalf, 2002 Belvedere, have had an influence for good in Tyler and surrounding

communities for many years. For many years brother Metcalf preached on Sundays while working for the Cotton Belt Railroad during the week. He is now retired, but continues to be a diligent student of God's Word. In the past he served as an elder for the West Erwin congregation and for a period of time served as the preacher. During the time of the depression, he preached without receiving financial remuneration. Brother Metcalf will be preaching Sunday, December 18 at 6:00 p. m. We urge everyone to hear this great servant of the Lord.



# "TALKING ABOUT BIG CHURCHES"

"I like to worship with a small congregation." I wonder how many times I have heard that statement repeated. One is led to believe that there is something inherently better, holier, friendlier, more spiritual in a church of 100 members than in one of 1,000 or 10,000 members.

I have often felt that those who seem so dead-set on having a small church are likely to feel more than a mite uncomfortable in heaven. When the apostle Paul was given a glimpse of the glory which awaits, he said, "After this I beheld and lo, a great multitude, which no man can number of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands." (Rev. 7:9) Did you notice? He said, "A great multitude which no man can number." But have you ever heard anyone say, "I don't want to go to heaven because there will be so many people there I can't ever shake hands with them all, much less get to really know them?"

That great multitude will in no way interfere with the worship which will be conducted. Imagine such a throng all crying "with a loud voice, saying, salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." (Rev. 7:10) Talk about the thrill of worship! And then to hear this great multitude begin singing "a new song" will be glory indeed.

Brother, there are going to be a lot of people in heaven, and the worship is going to be wonderful. I hope no one there says, "I like to worship with a small congregation."

Now don't get me wrong, I have nothing against small churches. I have worked and worshipped with several. Almost all churches begin small. But God does not want the salvation of souls and the growth of congregations to be held back by someone who says, "I like to worship with a small congregation." He wants his church to GROW and GROW and GROW!

Adapted from John Gipson

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sympathy

Brother George Stephenson conducted funeral services Tuesday afternoon for Miss Bonnie Williamson. Bonnie has been a member of this congregation for many years. She has been a patient in the nursing home the past several years.

Funeral services were conducted this week in Austin for A. H. Woolverton. He was a brother to Mrs. Ed Naul.

An aunt of Bertha Byrd was buried this week in Grapevine, Texas.

We extend our sincere sympathy to each family.

## DEBATE HELD ON MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

A debate was held recently in Springtown, Texas on the subject of marriage, divorce and remarriage. Olan Hicks of Tennessee and Andrew Connally of Springtown were the debaters. The following propositions were debated:

"The Scriptures teach that unscripturally divorced and remarried couples may continue in the remarriage without further sin."

Affirmation: Olan Hicks

Negative: Andrew Connally

"The Scriptures teach that one who puts away his mate and marries another, except for forni-

cation, continues to commit adultery as long as he lives with the second mate."

Affirmative: Andrew Connally

Negative: Olan Hicks

Andrew Connally is a splendid gospel preacher and is a nephew of Mrs. Vivian McCall of this congregation. The debate is being published and cassette tapes are also available. The book will be available for \$8.00 plus postage and cassette tapes are \$27.50 plus postage. If you would like to order copies, please call the office.



Meet

Our

Elders

If you should call him Charles Etheridge, he probably wouldn't answer. As a youngster he was called "Buddie" and the name stuck until he moved to Tyler where he has since been known as "Bud."

C. E. Caskey was born in Grapeland, Texas, but moved to West Texas with his family, as a young man, in late 1929. He lived in the area of Hale Center and Plainview for about 29 years before moving to Tyler with his wife and four children in January of 1959. Bud and the former Louise Degge were married in Tulia, Texas October 7, 1938. They have one son, Clifford, who lives with his family in San Marcos. They have three daughters: Mrs. Doug (Shirley) Warner of Mesquite, Mrs. Dudley (Jeanie) Brookshire, and Mrs. Paul (Barbara) Montandon of Tyler. They have eight grandchildren. Bud was a farmer in early life, but for about 32 years he has been a building contractor.

Brother Caskey was baptized by J. D. Harvey in Hale Center, Texas in the summer of 1933. He worshipped with the church in Kress, Texas for approximately 20 years and led singing there 14 years. He also served the congregation in Kress as a deacon for about 6 years.

In 1970 brother Caskey was recognized as one of the elders of the West Erwin church. He serves on the Local Evangelism, Personal Evangelism and Building and Grounds Committees. Bud has converted many through home Bible studies, which is his favorite occupation. He plans to retire from his work in the near future and devote his time to spiritual work. He and Louise have been generous to offer a "helping hand" to several young people with school finances and in other ways.

Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

The Bammel Road Evangelism Seminar was tremendous! It was just one of the finest weekends I've experienced. It was a treat for Pam and me to renew friendships. Miles Tompkins co-ordinated a marvelous program. The speakers were superb.

Sunday was quite a day! Anytime \$20,659.60 is given on a Sunday is quite an accomplishment. We are such a blessed people!

When we look about us it is easy to recognize the loneliness, the frustration, the absence of joy. The following article by Bert Mercer is helpful to me. I hope you will be blessed by the thoughts.

### How Do I Make People Feel?

"Daddy, you make people feel stupid." A loving admonition my oldest son gave me recently. His words rang so accurate and true that I did some soul searching on the subject. "How do I make people feel?" It's a good question for all of us.

Do you have few friends? Maybe it's because you make them feel badly about themselves. Do you make them feel guilty, frustrated, angry, poor, unattractive or unloved? Are you emotionally grasping and demanding? Are you self-centered, argumentative, and selfish?

People seek our company when we make them feel good about themselves. People avoid us when we make them feel uncomfortable, confused, angry, or fatigued. They avoid us when they feel threatened by us - when in some way we attack them or destroy their sense of personal worth.

Why don't we turn things around? Let's take an interest in the other person - be warm, loving, open and friendly.

Listen. Accept.

Give everyone his honest due.

People are lonely, sick, sinful, and sad. We need to help with the solution instead of being part of the problem.

*Amazing Grace*  
BIBLE CLASS  
KLTU - CHANNEL 7  
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING 8:00 TO 8:30

**Serving Sunday**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
 Announcements Roy Roberson  
 Prayer Elwin Crow  
 Dismiss Jack Beard

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p.m.  
 Announcements Faber Cauthen  
 Prayer Henry McRuiz  
 Dismiss Joe Willis

Serving Communion Sunday  
 Leon Welborn Roy Roberson  
 Jack Stringer Travis Fletcher  
 Henry McRuiz Glenn Howard  
 Clark Lemons Roy Roberson

Greeters For Sunday  
 Roger Knight H. McCarty  
 D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

Contributions  
 Dec. 4 \$4,317.86  
 Nov. 27 \$3,641.13  
 Year Ago \$3,786.70

Worship  
 Dec. 4 474  
 Nov. 27 462  
 Wed. Eve. 256

Bible School  
 Dec. 4 381  
 Nov. 27 378  
 Year Ago 442

Weekly Budget \$3,825.00

**From The Preacher's Desk (Continued)**

This is the Sunday - a day when we have an opportunity to show that we truly love the Lord. The Bible tells us that the proof of our love may be shown in our giving. When Paul admonished the Corinthians to give he said, "I speak not by commandment but by the occasion of the forwardness of others and to prove the sincerity of your love," (2 Corinthians 8:8).

"What! Giving again?"  
 I asked in dismay,  
 "And must I keep giving  
 and giving away?"  
 "Oh no," cried the Angel,  
 Piercing me through  
 "Just give 'til the Father  
 Stops giving to you."  
 -Author Unknown

I hope you pray very carefully about the contribution you make this Sunday.

**THIS IS THE SUNDAY !**

**Business Meeting - Sunday Afternoon, 1:30.**

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY - DEC. 11  
 By George H. Stephenson  
 A. M. The Object of My Affection  
 P. M. Bread

**MOVING**

Robin and Debbie Rushing have moved back to Houston. We hope they will be very happy in their new work and home.

**OUR SYMPATHY**

Don O'Bannon passed away early Wednesday morning. We extend our sincere sympathy to Audrey and Russell, his children and other members of the family. Funeral services were Friday morning at Lloyd James Funeral Home. Burial was in Huntsville, Texas.

**HOSPITALS**

Mrs. Erma Sanders is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

GOSPEL MEETING - Alan Bryan will be in a meeting at the South Washington Church of Christ in Marshall December 16 - 18 at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

Sunday  
 Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday  
 Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
 214-592-0809

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WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the  
 Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

**THIS IS THE SUNDAY !** This is the day set aside by our elders for us to make a special effort in our giving. We should consider it a privilege to be able to make substantial gifts at this time to help the church meet its obligations and to reduce its indebtedness.

We are grateful for our increased contributions this year and for the generous way the West Erwin members have responded to every worthy appeal. Because of your generosity, our building debt has been substantially reduced. The remaining debt on the south wing of the building is now about \$29,000. Wouldn't it be fine to wipe this out and then to wipe out the other debt on the north wing of the building in the near future? There are so many worthy calls for help in preaching and in teaching. We are thankful for what the church has done - but all of us would like to be able to do more.

(continued on back page)

**THIS  
 IS  
 THE  
 SUNDAY!**



# A CHALLENGE TO GROW

Someone has written: "Absenteeism will kill any organization. It will kill any congregation." Again, it may well be said that a most effective way to build up the church is to attend it up. Therefore, the members of a congregation must decide for themselves: "Do we really want this church to grow or do we wish it to die?" Every member must feel a definite personal responsibility to the local congregation where he lives. It is this church that provides him and his family all the blessings associated with church membership -- fellowship, edification, public worship, comfort, strength, encouragement, spiritual blessings, etc. It is not so much a matter of attending "somewhere" as it is attending here. The congregation "somewhere" cannot minister to you when you are sick, or bereaved, or cannot rejoice with you and weep with you. And the church here cannot do it if it is weakened by your absence and the absence of others who feel no responsibility to it. This congregation will be as strong in your life as you make it.

Vance Havner writes of the strong influence his father had upon him, as he states, "My father was faithful to the house of God. When he felt like it and when he didn't, when the preaching was good and when it wasn't, my father was there."

---John Gipson

## ON GREETING STRANGERS

A sad thing happened recently. One of our members visited three different area congregations. Two of the visits were to attend Gospel Meetings. Not a single person spoke or welcomed her at any of these three churches. Now the woman of whom I speak is not a backrow, dash-out-the-door-before-the-benediction member! She is friendly and outgoing. Still no one greeted her, and she understandably felt neglected.

Before we chuckle at someone else's mistake, let's take a good look at ourselves. By US I don't mean the friendly greeter at the front door. I mean YOU and ME. Do WE greet the strangers in our Bible Class or near us in the worship assembly week after week?

Basically there are two reasons (?) why we may occasionally fail in friendliness. For one thing, we like to talk to people we already know. So we spend the minutes immediately after each service huddled in a cluster with close friends exchanging vital tidbits of news. While we fellowship with our friends, some stranger may

slink away unwelcomed, and feeling unwanted.

There is nothing to equal the love of brothers and sisters in Christ for one another. By all means, we need to talk to those we already cherish. But by no means should we ever have a closed clique that shuts out a person who might want in! Next time, before you start chatting with a friend, look about to see if there is someone you do not know. Then bring him into the circle too.

The second reason we might sometimes seem unfriendly is our own pride. We cannot always distinguish between members and visitors, so to save ourselves any possible embarrassment we just don't speak at all. So what if some curdled crank snaps back, "Why I've been a member here 40 years!" Just keep your cool, smile sweetly and say, "That's wonderful! Maybe we'll know each other the next time we meet."

One of our senior citizens (will I be in trouble for calling her that!) has a fantastic rule. She makes it a habit to speak to FOUR visitors each Sunday! May her tribe increase.

...Dan Anders



F. C. Carpenter

Meet

Our

Elders

Ferman C. Carpenter and his family moved to Tyler early in 1973 from Lubbock where they worshipped with the Sunset congregation. They had previously lived in Tyler for about 15 years before being transferred because of his work. They have lived in Houston, Marshall, Corpus Christi and Lubbock.

Brother Carpenter is now District Commander of the Highway Patrol with the title of Captain. He was born in Canton, Texas. He was employed by the Department of Public Safety in 1941; however, this work was interrupted by a tour of duty with the Armed Services of almost four years. He served in combat in the European Theatre of Operations (France, Germany, and Austria) and attained the rank of Captain.

In 1947 Ferman and the former Lucille Tigert were married here in Tyler. They are the parents of four children and have four grandchildren. Their son Ferman and his wife live in Corpus Christi. Their daughters are: Mrs. Lowell (Cecille) Wiggains, Houston; Mrs. Wayne (Sylvia) Reynolds, and Angel Carpenter of Tyler.

Brother Carpenter was baptized in 1961 by Henry McBroom in Corpus Christi, Texas. He was recognized as an elder of the West Erwin church in September of 1973. He is a Bible School teacher and serves on the Mission, Advertising, and Office Management committees.

## Thank You

Dear Friends,

We wish to express our deep appreciation for your prayers offered on Wilson's behalf. Also, thank you for the calls and the cards you sent. It is such a wonderful experience to have Christian friends such as you. Wilson is progressing nicely at home. We have a bright outlook and strong faith and with the Lord's help will overcome this "little inconvenience."

The Wilson Wade Family  
Rt. 4, Box 151  
Bowie, Texas 76230

(Wilson is the son-in-law of Jay and Colena Payne)

Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

The high school retreat was rich and full of growing experiences. The fellowship with the Glenwood church was excellent. It's a marvelous blessing to have many brothers and sisters.

The Beginnings from Abilene Christian University treated us with a musical program that was super.

What a joy is Doug Kostowski! The retreat, the Sunday morning class, the sermon were all marvelous. Doug was simply swarmed Sunday morning. I appreciate all the warm things that many of you were expressing Sunday evening.

The real blessing for me was the time Doug and I had in sharing the Word. Doug possesses a depth and insight into the Word much beyond his years. I guess if any of us expect to grow and to perceive the insights of God - we must spend lots of time with the Book.

I would like to share this poem with you penned by Amy Carmichael.

NO SCAR?

Hast thou no scar?

No hidden scar on foot, or side, or hand?  
I hear thee sung as mighty in the land,  
I hear them hail thy bright ascendant star;  
Hast thou no scar?

Hast thou no wound?

Yet, I was wounded by the archers, spent,  
Leaned me against the tree to die, and  
Rent by ravening beasts that compassed  
Me, I swooned:

Hast thou no wound?

No wound? No scar?

Yet, as the master shall the servant be,  
And pierced are the feet that follow Me;  
But thine are whole. Can he have followed  
far

Who has no wound? No scar?

## Serving Sunday

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements Dave Anderson  
 Prayer Don Chaffin  
 Dismiss Weldon Dawson  
 Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.  
 Announcements Leon Welborn  
 Prayer George Kester  
 Dismiss Paul Montandon  
 Serving Communion Sunday  
 Leon Welborn Roy Roberson  
 Jack Stringer Travis Fletcher  
 Henry McRuiz Glenn Howard  
 Clark Lemons Roy Roberson  
 Greeters For Sunday  
 Jamon Kirby Louis E. Jones  
 D. C. Jones

## Our Records

Contributions  
 Nov. 27 \$4,641.89  
 Nov. 20 \$3,641.13  
 Year Ago \$2,916.90  
 Worship  
 Nov. 27 462  
 Nov. 20 500  
 Wed. Eve. (no count)  
 Bible School  
 Nov. 27 378  
 Nov. 20 387  
 Year Ago 292  
 Weekly  
 Budget \$3,825.00

## Report of Our Sick

Mrs. Marvin Jones is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.  
 Roger McElroy had surgery on his wrist Wednesday in Medical Center.  
 Mrs. Louis (Modena) Jones has a fractured arm as a result of an accident in her home Thanksgiving day.  
 Bryan Parker, young grandson of Charles and Juanita Graf had a tonsillectomy Monday.

Dave Anderson was invited to speak to two classes at John Tyler High School on Wednesday morning.

Charles Miles is now preaching each Sunday and Wednesday evening for the church in Reese.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

### ELDERS

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

### ASSEMBLIES

Sunday  
 Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday  
 Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

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From The Preacher's Desk (Continued)  
 \$460,000. When people are willing to give as they are prospered great sums can be raised for the Lord. May God bless you as you determine how much extra you can give for the cause of Christ December 11.  
 We appreciate the men who spoke for us last Wednesday night and Sunday night. Bob Hare, who has spent twenty seven years as a missionary in Europe, had a very stirring account of various works in Europe including work behind the Iron Curtain. He also spoke to us concerning Rudolf Rischer, whom we help support in Augsburg, Germany. He praised Rudi's work very highly and told us of the need to continue our help for him. On Sunday night Darrel Denman spoke for us telling of his desire to work for the Lord in Amman, Jordan. His father-in-law is working there now and has been a missionary in the Mid-East for many years. All of us were impressed with Darrel's zeal and sincerity. When we hear men speak who are truly dedicated to their work for the Lord it should inspire all of us to do more. Both of our guest speakers said that while we need to support work in other fields that we need to be "missionaries" where we live - right here in Tyler.

Blest be the tie that binds...  
 our hearts in Christian love!

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WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809  
 The Church With A Heart



From the Preacher's Desk  
 George H. Stephenson

## Special Contribution

December 11

### A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Dear God, I know what you say about giving is true. But it's so hard for me to turn loose; hard to trade dollars for promises; hard to be spiritually mature. I need help. Please help me to really believe:

- that my ability to make a living is a gift from you (Deuteronomy 8:18);
- that it is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35);
- that you will reward my giving (Matthew 6:33; 2 Corinthians 9:6-11);
- that my giving proves or disproves my love for you (2 Corinthians 8:8);
- that my giving is an investment in heaven (Matthew 6:19,20);
- that you don't have my heart until you have my purse (Matthew 6:21).

God, I'm struggling. I really want to believe these things because they are in your Word. Please help me be a wise steward this year. In Jesus' name. Amen.

I would like to emphasize the importance of all of us giving generously on December 11, the Sunday set aside for a special contribution to the work of the Lord at West Erwin. In the past the generous contributions of the members at West Erwin have enabled the church to carry on its work. Without these special contributions we would have been greatly hindered.

Each year we have been able to erase the deficit in our budget. This year we are thankful that our deficit is smaller, hence more can be given to retire the indebtedness against our building. All given above our deficit can be used to reduce our debt. The more that you give the more that can be used for this purpose. It will be wonderful when we completely retire this debt.

The great church in Madison, Tennessee recently set a goal of a \$250,000 contribution on one Sunday. They raised over

Continued on page 4



# DECEMBER 1977

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Christian Service Center (last day of work until January 5)	2 Retreat at Pine Cove for young people Doug Kostowski, Speaker	3	
4 New Bible School Quarter Begins Doug Kostowski to preach	5	6 Tuesday School 9 a. m. till 11:30 a. m.	7 Ladies' Bible Class 10:00 a. m.	8	9	10
11 Special Contribution Business Meeting 1:30 Chapel	12	13 Tuesday School	14 Ladies' Bible Class 10:00 a. m.	15	16	17
18 Open House Stephensons 300 Ridgecrest	19 School Out	20 No Tuesday School	21 No Ladies' Bible Class	22	23	24
25 Christmas	26	27 No Tuesday School	28 Year End Singing (Northwest)	29 No Ladies' Bible Class	30	31



Mack Bynum

Meet

Our

Elders

Brother Mack Bynum has served as an elder of the West Erwin congregation since 1970. He and Bennie (formerly Bennie Hawk) are the parents of one son, Jay Bynum and one daughter, Mrs. Bill (Jan) Faulkner. Jan and Bill live in North Carolina and have a young daughter, Amy.

Mack and Bennie moved to Tyler from Marshall in 1968 where they had lived about a year and a half. Before moving to Marshall they lived for 13 years in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. Mack served as a deacon in the church there. He is originally from New London, Texas and his wife is from White Oak, Texas. They were married in Gladewater, December 28, 1947. He has worked for Fair Oil Ltd. for 29 years. He is Production Superintendent.

Brother Bynum was baptized in 1950 in Overton, Texas by James Rushing. He teaches a Bible Class and serves on the Finance and Visitation Committees in the organization of the work at West Erwin. He enjoys working on his farm and hunting. One of his favorite hobbies is woodworking in his workshop. He has given of his time and talents to make teaching aids for the teaching nursery. West Erwin is indeed fortunate to have Mack Bynum as one of the shepherds of the congregation.

### BOLES HOME VISIT PLANNED

Several of our members are planning to make a visit to Boles Home at Quinlan on Tuesday, December 6. They will take some of the quilts which have been made by the Christian women who have been working in our Care Center. Those who make the trip will make a tour of the Home and will eat in the school cafeteria at noon. The West Erwin congregation has made a monthly contribution to the Home for many years. We also contribute various other items from time to time. We are very thankful for all of the fine work of those who work in our benevolent program. If you would like to go with the group to Boles Home, please let us know.

Let It Shine

David Cord Anderson



I'm looking forward to being with Doug Kostowski this weekend. The Glenwood church invited Doug to be the resource speaker for the high school retreat this weekend.

Doug will teach a combined junior high and high school class Sunday morning here at West Erwin. Doug will also be preaching at the worship assembly.

Doug Kostowski means a great deal to me personally. He possesses a deep and abiding love for the Word of God. He understands and relates well to youth. After Sunday morning you will understand why Doug is such a popular speaker.

Committee chairmen and the elders have begun working on the 1978 budget. Be praying that as a family of God's people that we will expand in service and devotion.

"The Galleries are full of critics.  
They play no ball.  
They fight no fights.  
They make no mistakes,  
because they attempt nothing.  
Down in the arena are the doers,  
They make mistakes because  
they attempt many things.  
The person who makes no mistakes  
lacks boldness and the spirit of adventure.  
He is the one who never, never  
tries anything new.  
He is the brake on the wheel of progress.  
The very fact that he tries nothing,  
takes no chances,  
does nothing except criticise those  
who try, is perhaps,  
the biggest possible error in a lifetime."

---Papyrus

**Study the Bible**  
Be in a Bible class Sunday

**Serving Sunday**

**Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.**

Announcements Wilmer Little  
Prayer C. E. Caskey  
Dismiss Bruce Raley

**Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.**

Announcements Wallace Gayle  
Prayer David Hubbard  
Dismiss Ron Lott

**Serving Communion Sunday**

Harold Gerald  
Browning Montgomery  
Mike Munn Wilmer Little  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Wayne Reynolds John Owens

**Greeters For Sunday**

Ron Jones Wilmer Little  
D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

**Contributions**

Nov. 20 \$3,641.13  
Nov. 13 \$4,367.83  
Year Ago \$3,315.47

**Worship**

Nov. 20 500  
Nov. 13 496  
Wed. Eve. 221

**Bible School**

Nov. 20 387  
Nov. 13 401  
Year Ago 408

**Weekly Budget** \$3,825.00

**HOSPITALS**

Joelle Butler underwent a tonsillectomy Monday in Medical Center Hospital.

**Ladies Bible Class**

Our Ladies' Bible Class will meet again on Wednesday, November 30, following the dismissal of the class for this week. We will resume our study of the Gospel of John with our lesson based on John 5:24 - 47. We want to thank Wanda Weathers for teaching the class last week. We would like to have more women with us each week. Remember that an attendant is in the nursery and a class is provided for your pre-school children. GHS

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cuid Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

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**From The Preacher's Desk (Continued)**  
and to speak in the chapel services of the Bear Valley School of Preaching. I was very impressed with the men who are attending the school as well as its directors and faculty. Bill Smith from West Monroe, Louisiana was in a campaign with the Bear Valley Church. As you know, he is to be the speaker in the campaign planned in Tyler in March. This should be a great time for the churches of Christ in Tyler. The Theme of the campaign will be, "Christ, The Cross and You."

I think you will find it interesting to read George Washington's proclamation for the observance of Thanksgiving. I am glad that the founders of our nation believed in God and that they recognized that the blessings we enjoy are from God. It should be evident that our founding fathers were in favor of freedom of religion, but they were certainly not opposed to religion. Our present day society seems to be drifting farther and farther away from God. As we thank God for the blessings and privileges we enjoy as citizens of this great country, let us also pray that men may seek to know God who is the source of all that is good. Let us pray that those who are charged with the responsibility of teaching God's Word may be faithful to that charge. Let us not forget that "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people," (Proverbs 14: 34).



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

We were glad to be back at West Erwin Sunday following an enjoyable - and we trust profitable - time with the Dahlia Street Church in Denver, Colorado. I felt honored to be the guest speaker on the occasion of the observance of the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the congregation, formerly known as the Parkhill Church of Christ. The congregation has had a tremendous influence for good in its forty years of existence. It has helped in the establishment of twenty other congregations in the Denver area. Our meeting was designed to encourage the church in its work for the Lord. We enjoyed our association with many friends we had known in various places in the past as well as our association with many we had not known before. This was our last meeting for the year - and our last for sometime to come.

While in Denver I was privileged to visit (continued on page 4)

**The First Thanksgiving Proclamation of the United States-1789**

Issued by President Washington

Whereas, it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and

*Whereas, both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness;"*

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of November next to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our service and humble thanks for His kind care

(Continued on Page 3)



# 1977 Bammel Road Evangelism Seminar

December 9, 10

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00 p.m. Registration  
 7:30 p.m. Dinner  
 Singing  
 Bernard Lassiter  
 Entertainment  
 North Wayside Chorus,  
 Houston  
 "... BUT IF IT DIES..."  
 Jim McGuiggan

THE BAMMEL ROAD CHURCH in Houston, Texas has provided tremendous leadership in our brotherhood. Of all the workshops that have been held this year, I believe this will prove to be among the best. DCA

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00 a.m. Registration (Coffee, Donuts, and Welcome)  
 8:30 a.m. Singing  
 Bernard Lassiter  
 9:00 a.m. "IT PRODUCES MANY SEEDS"  
 Richard Rogers  
 9:45 a.m. Singing and Coffee Break  
 10:15 a.m. "TAKE OFF THE GRAVE CLOTHES"  
 Jack Evans  
 11:00 a.m. Classes \*  
 12:00 Lunch  
 1:30 p.m. Classes \* (Repeat of 11:00 a.m. Classes)  
 2:20 p.m. Singing and Coffee Break  
 2:45 p.m. "CAN YOU DRINK THE CUP?"  
 Reuel Lemmons  
 3:30 p.m. Singing  
 3:45 p.m. "CARRYING HIS DEATH... REVEALING HIS LIFE"  
 Prentice Meador  
 4:30 p.m. Singing  
 4:45 p.m. "PUT OUT INTO THE DEEP"  
 Landon Saunders

### \* Classes:

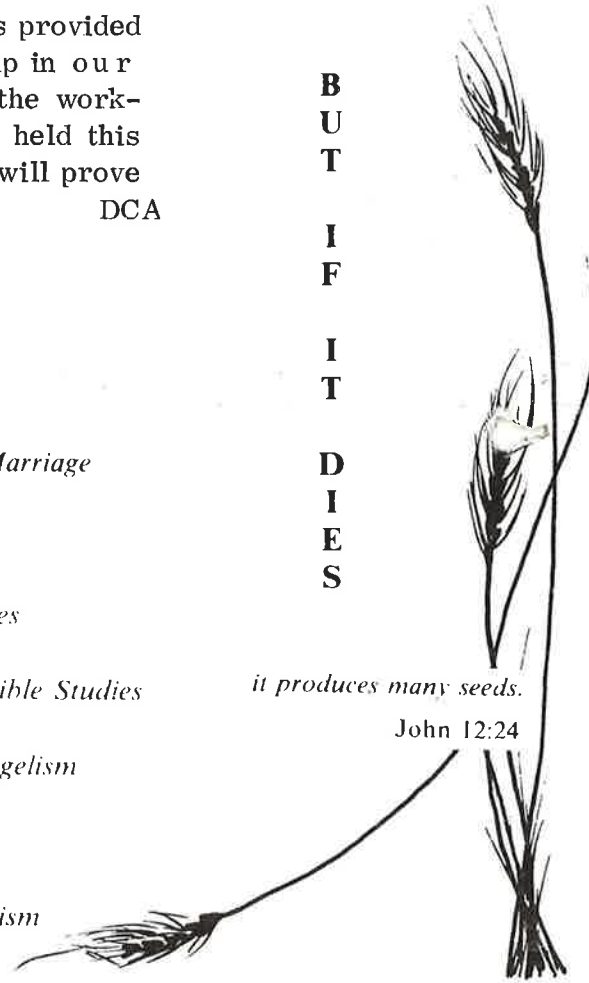
*How To Replenish A Marriage*  
 Prentice Meador  
*Women and Worship*  
 Jim McGuiggan  
*Evangelistic Bible Studies*  
 Joe Hoffman  
*Women's Evangelistic Bible Studies*  
 Vicki Hoffman  
*Developing Youth Evangelism*  
 Mike Myers  
*Yet Trouble Came*  
 Richard Rogers  
*Single Again & Evangelism*  
 Cled Wimbish

Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed

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it produces many seeds.

John 12:24



PROCLAMATION — From Page 1

and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

*And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations, and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions, to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a government of wise, just and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally, to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.*

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the third day of October, A.D. 1789.

## Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

Thanksgiving is a meaningful time of year. It is a time to give thanks to the Father for providing all spiritual blessings in Jesus.

I'm thankful for Pam. Every week we have the youth in our home. Pam has cooked, served and cleaned. She understands the extra noise on Monday nights when our daughter really should be in bed. Pam has changed her schedule to fit mine - not to mention the unexpected or last minute.

When Julie has been sick she has stayed home each time. Then there is the waiting that comes after almost every assembly. Someone I need to see or someone that needs to talk to me. The elders meetings that are called at the last minute. Pam has been a message control center, remembering details that I quickly forgot.

It's Pam that is there just as willing to share in the defeats as well as the victories. She has given wise counsel when I have been blinded by a situation. She has gone with me even into difficult situations when someone needed a visit.

Pam has been at home alone at times when she can't go with me. At home alone when I've worked late or left early in the morning. And through all of this she grows in her relationship to Jesus. Our daughter is a product primarily of the countless hours spent with Pam. I know I'm a better person for having married her.

Thanks be to God for all spiritual blessings in Jesus!

## Thank You

Thank you for every act of kindness, including the flowers and cards, at the death of my sister, Mrs. I. H. Harrison.

Russell O'Bannon

## Gospel Meeting

Gobel Music of Denton, Texas will preach in a meeting with the Alpine Church of Christ in Longview, Texas, November 27 - December 2. Services will be at 7:30. You are invited.

## Sermons

By George H. Stephenson  
 Sunday A. M. The Work of the Church  
 Sunday P. M. Our God is Able

## Dates To Remember

PERSONAL WORKSHOP (Preparation for City-Wide Campaign)	January 12, 13, 14
CITY-WIDE CAMPAIGN (Caldwell Auditorium)	March 12 thru 17
HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT (Doug Kostowski, Speaker)	December 2 and 3
SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION	Sunday, December 11
YEAR END SINGING (Northwest Building)	Wednesday Evening December 28

The *Amazing Grace*

Bible Class

Each Sunday 8:00 A. M. - KLTV

If ye abide in Me and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

The best way to remember people is in prayer.

**Serving Sunday**

**Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.**  
 Announcements Mack Bynum  
 Prayer John Owens  
 Dismiss Francis Bullard

**Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.**  
 Announcements Faber Cauthen  
 Prayer Phil Marts  
 Dismiss Mickey Howard

**Serving Communion Sunday**  
 Harold Gerald  
 Browning Montgomery  
 Mike Munn Wilmer Little  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Wayne Reynolds John Owens  
**Greeters For Sunday**  
 David Hubbard Hillard Hughes  
 D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

**Contributions**  
 Nov. 13 \$4,367. 83  
 Nov. 6 \$5,416. 63  
 Year Ago \$3,139. 52

**Worship**  
 Nov. 13 496  
 Nov. 6 618  
 Wed. Eve. (no count)

**Bible School**  
 Nov. 13 401  
 Nov. 6 502  
 Year Ago 352

**Budget** \$3,825. 00

Mexico for 4 days and 3 nights. The trip will include a lot of sight seeing and an international football game. You see, the people down there, over the last few years, have come to realize that American sports keep us together as well as serve as good entertainment. The money you all sent Jay and me is deeply appreciated. We hope to pay you back by being the kind of Christian example that the Lord would expect from us, it being our Christian duty. We plan on taking pictures in Mexico to send the church.

Thank you all again for all your help. God bless you all.  
 Sincerely,  
 Lym Gowen"

We also received the following letter from Jay:

"Dear Friends,  
 I greatly appreciate your eagerness and willingness to help us. I am proud to say that our football team, in our first year and with a great coach, tied for second place and almost beat the first place team. I will let you know how the basketball and football games turn out. Mexico's team coach said if it is a good day when we play our football game, there will be six or seven thousand people attending. Thank you much.  
 In Christian love,  
 Jay Cooper"

All of us at West Erwin will continue to be interested in these young men and their sisters, Cara and Missy and their brother, Jon at Boles Home. We look forward to their being home during the Thanksgiving holidays when they come to visit their brother, Mark and his family.

The Visitor  
 Published weekly except the first week in July and Christmas week by West Erwin Church of Christ, 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas 75702. Second class postage paid at Tyler, Texas.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809  
*The Church With A Heart*

*wednesday night*

There will be no classes on Wednesday evening of next week. We will all meet together in the auditorium to hear brother Bob Hare speak on the work in Germany.

**Ladies Bible Class**

There will be no Wednesday morning Ladies' Bible Class next week, November 23.

LET IT SHINE (Continued from inside)

their wives and children. I guess I am really fortunate, on the other hand, to know some Christian men who are loyal to their wives and who are training their children.

Why not affirm husbands and fathers who have chosen not to be "run aways," but Christian men.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
 Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
 Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
 214-592-0809



**From the Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

We were very pleased to receive some fine letters from Lym Gowen and Jay Cooper who went from Tyler a few weeks ago to live in Boles Home in Quinlan for awhile. They have been taking an active part in the school athletic program and are showing a fine Christian spirit. Here is the letter from Lym:

"Dear Fellow Christians,  
 I myself do not think I could ever repay all the Christian love you have shown us. God has really blessed me lately. I never thought a football team could build Christian comradeship so much as it has in our case. The 'mean green Hornets' of Boles Home are now known for our Christianity on and off the field and we've been glad to have been part of it. All over our district we've been known for our clean, hard hitting. We finished second in district, but we learned a lot and had fun.

The 17th we will hook it up for Monterrey,  
 (Continued on back page)

**THANKSGIVING**

Thanks to God for my Redeemer,  
 Thanks for all Thou dost provide,  
 Thanks for times now but a memory,  
 Thanks for Jesus by my side,  
 Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime,  
 Thanks for dark and dreary fall,  
 Thanks for tears by now forgotten,  
 Thanks for peace within my soul,  
 Thanks for prayers that Thou hast answered.  
 Thanks for what Thou dost deny,  
 Thanks for storms that I have weathered,  
 Thanks for all Thou dost supply,  
 Thanks for pains, and thanks for pleasure,  
 Thanks for comfort in despair,  
 Thanks for grace that none can measure,  
 Thanks for love beyond compare,  
 Thanks for roses by the wayside,  
 Thanks for thorns their stems contain,  
 Thanks for home and thanks for fireside,  
 Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain,  
 Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,  
 Thanks for heavenly peace with Thee,  
 Thanks for hope in the tomorrow,  
 Thanks through all eternity.



## DO YOU HAVE TEN MINUTES?

OFTENTIMES in an effort to arouse Christians from their lethargy, the encourager is met with this:

"But I just don't have time to do any church work!" And with this profound statement the conscience peacefully rolls back into pleasant laziness, thinking the unanswerable argument has been given. Yet, in all sincerity, how would you answer?

Ten minutes! If in ten minutes you could get one soul to hear the gospel or bring sunshine to a sick-room or make a youngster leap with happiness, wouldn't you feel that it was ten minutes well spent?

"Hello, is this Mr. Smith? I noticed in our church bulletin that the preacher is discussing the subject we were thinking about yesterday. Why don't I

drive by this Sunday morning and take you to Bible study and worship with me? That's fine. I'll be there at 8:45. Good-bye."

That phone call did not take ten minutes, but who can measure the good it did?

"We missed you Wednesday night, and along with this little card of remembrance, I'm adding this personal assurance that your zeal and consistency at the assembly has always been an inspiration to me. We miss you when you are sick." To that little card you sign your name and mail to the sick one. Will he delight in receiving it? That did not take ten minutes either, did it?

What could be done if only the opportunity were seized when you had just ten minutes. A phone call, a card, literature mailed to prisons, hospitals and transportation centers—all in ten minutes or less. Then "steal" another minute and ask God to help you use to his glory the ten minutes you have, and perhaps make you the igniting spark of a great blast of activity in his kingdom.

—JIM BILL McINTEER

### YOU'RE NOT HOME YET

"... we have been born anew... to an inheritance which is imperishable... kept in heaven for you."  
(I Peter 1:3,4)

A well known preacher told of arriving in New York aboard the same ship which brought a famous American politician home from a well-publicized trip abroad. The preacher had been to the same land, where he had given himself sacrificially to preach the gospel.

Thousands of people swarmed the docks to greet the illustrious politician. There had been a delay of information concerning the time of the missionary's arrival, and not a soul was there to greet him - not even a family member.

Satan made his attack, as the preacher thought, "See how they greet this man of the world? And look at you - you have given yourself to preach God's truth and there's not a person to meet you."

He phoned home. No answer. His heart ached as he boarded a bus to ride the few remaining

miles home. He refused to let Satan defeat him - he whispered to himself, "Cheer up, preacher, you're not home yet!"

My heart has often ached for some lonely service man in a distant air terminal. But when he gets home I know it will be different. He will be the center of attention; will be smothered with the affection of loved ones. He'll be home at last!

When trials come and we face an unfriendly world because we are Christians we must remember that we are "strangers and exiles on the earth" (Hebrews 11:13). This world is not our home - "Our citizenship is in heaven" (Philippians 3:20).

Glory awaits. The best is yet to be. Cheer up, Christian, you're not home yet!

... Joe R. Barnett

## Thank You

To our many friends at West Erwin who have in such a wonderful way responded with words of encouragement and sympathy in the loss of our loved ones, we love all of you for it.

The Haws Family

Every prayer said for me, the lovely Flowers of Friendship book, also every get well card and the visits from each one, were deeply appreciated by me and my family during my stay in the hospital. May the Lord bless all of you.

Mary Richey

Your kind expression of sympathy will always be remembered with deep grati-

Mrs. J. B. Aven and Children

## Responses

Mr. and Mrs. Glen O. Howard, Jr. Rt. 1, Box 210, Winona, Texas, telephone 877-3674, came Sunday to place membership. We welcome Mickey and Donna and their children. They formerly worshipped with the Oakdale Church of Christ.

### SERMON SUBJECTS FOR SUNDAY

By George H. Stephenson

A. M. Where Are The Nine?

P. M. Riches Everyone Can Have.

If there is right in the soul,  
There will be beauty in the person;

If there is beauty in the person  
There will be harmony in the home;

If there is harmony in the home,  
There will be order in the nation;

If there is order in the nation,  
There will be peace in the world.

**See YOU  
In Bible Class,  
Sunday!**

## Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

Prentice Meador, minister for the South National Church of Christ in Springfield, Missouri recently shared this in their bulletin. I would like for you to have the opportunity to read and reflect upon the thoughts.

### On Being Husbands, Fathers, and Other People

It seems grossly unfair being a father - you receive no experience at it till you're doing it. I guess fathers are needed. For instance, I read about the little boy who came in crying one day and said that one of the neighbors kids had been throwing rocks at him, so he asked his daddy what he should do and his dad told him to throw them back. Finally the little boy got beamed and his mother said, "Why didn't you tell me instead of throwing them back?" The boy said, "What good would that do? You couldn't hit the broad side of a barn."

Being a father is tough, no doubt about it! According to the National Observer, from 250,000 to 1 million will "run away" from home. The typical run away is in his 40's, college-educated, a salesman or executive and makes about \$25,000 a year. He is bored, discontented, and overwhelmed with the financial pressures of keeping up the "good life."

Communication breakdown seems to be a way of life with many fathers. Urie Bronfenbrenner, Cornell University Social Psychologist, observes that fathers (35-45) of pre-school children average per week less than 30 seconds in communication with their children. Family-life Specialists Delmer W. Holbrook and wife surveyed hundreds of children and learned the three things fathers say most in responding to their kids: (1) "I'm too tired" (2) "We don't have enough money" (3) "Keep quiet"

Without question, being a father and husband is a full-time job! But what is there about it that makes it "full-time?" Is it our main job to provide clothing, food, and housing? Or is our main job to love our children's mother? To protect, to give, to listen, to strengthen - "to love our wife as Christ loves the Church" (Eph. 5:25).

Some husbands and fathers say that Christianity is a private matter, that they have no responsibility towards

Continued on back page

**Serving Sunday**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements Hillard Hughes  
 Prayer C. B. Hardin  
 Dismiss Bill Butler

**Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.**

Announcements Milburn Cook  
 Prayer W. S. Little  
 Dismiss Wayne Reynolds

**Serving Communion Sunday**

Roger Knight Mack Bynum  
 Tom Humphrey Harley Turner  
 Mac McCall B. J. Tucker  
 Robin Rushing Tim Holt  
**Greeters For Sunday**

C. B. Hardin Dick Higginbotham  
 D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

Contributions

Nov. 6 \$5,416.63  
 Oct. 30 \$3,638.13  
 Year Ago \$3,612.40

Worship

Nov. 6 618  
 Oct. 30 471  
 Wed. Eve. 205

Bible School

Nov. 6 520  
 Oct. 30 385  
 Year Ago 435

Budget \$3,825.00

**Responses**

Ted Wright, 1123 Dogwood, came Sunday, Oct. 30 to be restored.

**Report of Our Sick**

Mrs. W. D. Metcalf is in Medical Center for tests.  
 Mrs. Foy Richey has gone home from the hospital.  
 Mrs. Elsie Shackelford was recently hospitalized for minor surgery.

**BIBLE CALL**

The Broadway congregation reports that BIBLE CALL, as announced previously, will be in operation daily beginning Thursday from 10:00 a. m. until 10:00 p. m. Taped subjects will be listed in Sunday's newspaper. The telephone number is 561-9560.

**WE HAVE RECEIVED** a note from the E. V. Rushings telling us that they will be moving to Pritchett this week where he will be preaching.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

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 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
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have been placed in the library as a result of contributions made in memory of those who die. Appropriate inscriptions are placed in books stating who gave the books and in whose memory they were given. In addition to our regular library, we have a children's library in the upstairs of the north wing of our building.

Paul told Timothy, "Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine," (I Timothy 4:13). It is wonderful to be able to read the thoughts of great men and women who have spent many years in a study of the Bible. We have various commentaries and religious encyclopedias to assist you. We have books of sermons by great preachers. We have books of work of the church. We have books on Christian education and building better Bible Schools. We have books on marriage and the home. We have copies of many historical papers. From time to time I may tell you more about some of these books. They are not helpful to anyone just staying on the shelves - so we encourage you to check them out and read them. They will help you to grow in grace and in knowledge.

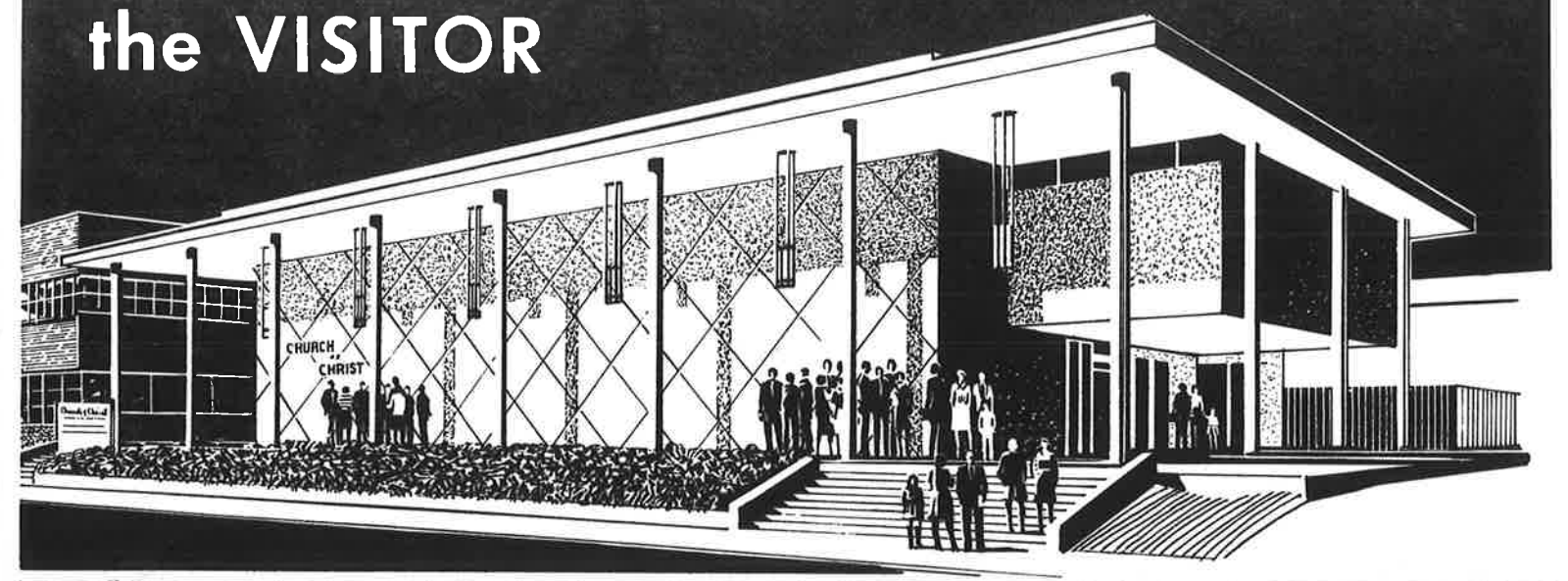
**FUNERAL**

Mrs. Major Qualls of Denver, Colorado passed away Sunday morning. She was an aunt to Mrs. C. E. Caskey. We extend our sympathy to the family.

**BUSINESS MEETING: 1:30 p. m. Sunday**

The Visitor  
 Published weekly except the first week in July and Christmas week by West Erwin Church of Christ, 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas 75702. Second class postage paid at Tyler, Texas.

**the VISITOR**



WEST "N CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809  
*The Church With A Heart*



From the Preacher's Desk  
 George H. Stephenson

Wasn't it great to see such a large number present for worship last Sunday? Truly, the day was a wonderful day at West Erwin. While we fell short of our goal of 600 in Bible School - we did have one of the largest number we have had with 520 here. With a little effort on the part of all of us there is no reason why we should not have this many present every Sunday.

We have been blessed by having Harvey and Sue Porter with us. They are a wonderful Christian couple. Harvey's sermons have been outstanding. I feel that his preaching has strengthened all of us and we will have a renewed zeal as a result of this week.

I would like to encourage each of you to use our library at the church building. This library is constantly growing and you can find many great helps for your study of God's Word. We have many books which

(continued on back page)

**nti national training institute**

The National Training Institute is a professional training ministry developed for Churches of Christ. The six hour NTI is the best teacher training available. This year the Bible-centered NTI ministry will touch the lives of 9,000 teachers in 45 cities across the nation.

There are five concurrent workshops from which to choose: Early childhood (nursery to five years), Children (grades one to six), Youth (grades seven to twelve), Adult (age 18 and over), and Bible School Supervision.

"NTI is designed to equip you with practical skills so you can become all God made you to be as a teacher. NTI also will:

1. provide hands-on experience with effective teaching methods.
2. furnish dozens of creative ideas to make the Bible come alive for your students.
3. instill confidence that God can use you effectively as a teacher.
4. expose ways to make your Bible class an even better place to be, and
5. encourage your own spiritual growth as well as your students'.

The Glenwood Church is hosting NTI November 18 and 19. The registration fee is \$20.00. The West Erwin elders hope that you will take advantage of NTI. They have stated they will pay \$10.00 toward the registration fee. To register call the church office.



## Love Of The Brethren

Love is a command, but in a very real sense this is a contradiction. If the only reason we love is "to obey a command," it cannot be genuine love, but would be artificial to the core! It is the nature of love to be spontaneous, unselfish and outgoing, and to exist for its own sake only.

Love is to heal, not hurt, and genuine "love of the brethren" means that we are deeply distressed and grieved when tensions arise between brethren or with reference to an individual, and it should be our fervent desire to heal tensions and to help individuals who may be in trouble. Never should we get a personal delight out of abetting a brotherhood cleavage or of kicking some one who is down, with a view of keeping him down.

Selfishness and pride are the opposites of love, but they are also enemies of our souls. Somehow it seems when brotherhood tensions arise over problems of interpretation or other matters, selfishness and pride have a way of coming to the forefront. "Brethren, these things ought not so to be!"

Genuine love "from the heart fervently," which is a clear-cut command (if we are going to refuse to love without a command), will cause us to be tolerant of each other and will allow a liberty in opinions, until we have made the teaching of the scripture absolutely clear on the point.

"In essentials unity;  
In opinions liberty;  
In all things charity." (Love)

This brotherhood slogan is not bad and we should strive to live up to it. Perhaps too many of us, however, are prone to pronounce with finality before the evidence is really in. When brotherhood issues get hot, not enough of us are willing to do research and obtain the full facts before we go ahead and make open charges against an individual or group. This is not the way of love. If any of us are motivated by jealousy or selfishness or pride, we ought to reread I Corinthians 12 and 13 and be reminded of the fact that we are "many members but one body" and that "we all have not the same office" but that every office serves the good of the whole body. Also, it may be in order to remind ourselves that love is greater than faith and hope (I Cor. 13:13), since it will never cease being a part of the Christian's spiritual make-up. "Let love of the brethren continue."

**J. D. THOMAS**  
Abilene, Texas

## Thank You

Thank you for the prayers, visits, calls and cards and every act of kindness shown to me and my family when I was in the hospital.  
Eula Hoppers

Your visits, cards and encouraging words are appreciated so much. Your prayers and love during my recovery have given me a brighter day.  
Jay Bynum

To say just a "thank you" for the many Christian deeds of my dear friends while Bill was in the hospital seems very inadequate. We appreciate every act of thoughtfulness very deeply. The visits, the lovely cards, telephone calls, and pot plants all cheered and encouraged us. We are especially appreciative to the Wednesday Night first grade class and to the 20's class, and want them to know how their cards warmed the hearts of two much older than they.  
Most sincerely,  
Margaret Talley

## Sympathy

Leon Allen, son-in-law to the M. M. Haws' and husband of June Haws Allen, died Saturday evening in California. Services, which are pending, will be held in Austin, Texas. June's address is 2400 Holley Lane, Newport Beach, California 92660.

Mrs. A. H. Harrison, sister to brother R. C. O'Bannon, passed away Sunday evening in San Marcos, Texas. Her funeral service was Tuesday afternoon.

J. B. Aven, brother of A. Z. Aven, died early last Friday in Arp. His funeral service was conducted Saturday in Troup.

We extend our sincere sympathy to each family.

## Area Meeting

The Church of Christ in Daingerfield, Texas will have a series of lessons November 13 - 17 with Harvey Starling of Florance, Alabama. Services will be at 7:30 p. m.

## Let It Shine

David Cord Anderson



520 in Bible School. That's short of our goal of 600. Only three other times in the last ten years have we had a larger Bible school attendance and all of those were when we were involved in the bus ministry.

Where do I begin with all the "thank yous?" I'm thankful for those who support the teaching ministry - those who are teaching, those who are encouraging, those who are bringing visitors and those who are faithful in studying the Word.

It was good to have Gary Mabry with us this weekend. Gary has written many songs our youth sing, "Jesus is Well and Alive Today," "Thank You, Lord," "I've Got My Head in Heaven" and many, many more. It was good to meet Ron Fletcher of Clinton, Oklahoma who had a powerful presentation. Miles Tompkins and I seem to think along the same track. Miles delivered a beautiful and very effective message. Jack Paul, an excellent motivational speaker, moved us to making specific commitments that will make us better servants of God. Wally Wilkerson finished out the Youth Happening on Sunday morning with a marvelous lesson. Kenny Shaver, John Chick and Phil Burns taught excellent classes and provided a means of meaningful dialogue. Kenny developed the values of clarification material that we used. It is my hope and prayer that the Youth Happening provided a base for internal spiritual growth and decision.

Thank you to all those who kept our overnight visitors in their homes and all of those who offered their homes. We had more housing than needed. Thanks for your generosity.

I couldn't make it without parents! Time and time again parents respond beautifully to the slightest needs. Thanks to the Carroll Magees, the Dick Higginbothams, the Elwin Crows, Marian Rowe and Fred Powell. I would also like to thank Hillard Hughes for taking our high school students to ACU High School Day the week before.

I know there must be others whom I have overlooked. Let me say that for all that has been done - I'm grateful. I trust that through our joint efforts God was glorified.

<u>Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.</u>	<u>Contributions</u>
Announcements	Oct. 30 \$3,638.13
George Stephenson	Oct. 23 \$4,563.70
Prayer	Year Ago \$2,986.28
Ray Womack	
Dismiss	
James Phillips	
<u>Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.</u>	<u>Worship</u>
Announcements	Oct. 30 471
Prayer	Oct. 23 493
Dismiss	Wed. Eve. 246
Ray Magee	
<u>Serving Communion Sunday</u>	
Roger Knight	<u>Bible School</u>
Mack Bynum	Oct. 30 385
Tom Humphrey	Oct. 23 401
Harley Turner	Year Ago 407
Mac McCall	
B. J. Tucker	
Robin Rushing	
Tim Holt	
<u>Greeters For Sunday</u>	
Cullen Gilliam	<u>Budget</u>
K. Max Haws	(Weekly) \$3,825.00
D. C. Jones	

OUR SYMPATHY

We learned Wednesday that sister Wyche Harris' brother-in-law passed away in Henderson. We extend our sympathy.

THE SICK

Sister Foy Richey continues to be in Medical Center following surgery. She is improving.

Sister Rose Rushing is not well and cannot drive her car. She would appreciate your cards and visits.

RECENTLY we enjoyed a visit in the church office with brother and sister Alonzo Williams. They live in Paducah, Kentucky where he has preached for many years. In the lat 30's he was the preacher for the West Erwin congregation

From The Preacher's Desk (continued)

We know that Harvey Porter will have excellent sermons, but those who are not present will not be blessed by them. You need to be here and you need to bring others with you.

We look forward to having Jim Paul as our song director for the meeting. He is a great leader and his leading will add much to the meeting. Let us be on time and sit toward the front in order to make our singing the very best.

I would like to express appreciation to Gary Workman, who preaches for the Broadway congregation in Tyler, for the splendid way he handled his reply to Madeline Murray O'Hair on the radio last week. Equal time was given by Radio Station KDOK for a reply to be made to statements made by the atheist O'Hair on the same radio. Brother Workman was well prepared and showed the falsity of many claims the atheist had made. Mrs. O'Hair's conduct is very repulsive to Christian people, but she has been able to attract much attention to her distorted views. Thanks, brother Workman, for a job well done.

Another local preacher who is worthy of commendation for a job well done is Mike Warner. His articles in the newspaper each week are splendid. He knows how to say much in a little space. I believe his articles are doing much good.

We look forward to seeing you Sunday and every day during our meeting.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



From the Preacher's Desk

George H. Stephenson

We welcome Harvey and Sue Porter as they come to be with us for a great time beginning on Sunday. Our meeting with Harvey has been scheduled for several years and now we pray that it will be a time of spiritual renewal for all of us.

The best advertising we can do for the meeting is for every member to give personal invitations to others. Hardeman Nichols tells about a recent meeting in his home town of Jasper, Alabama in which 106 responded to the Lord's invitation. 54 were baptized and 52 confessed sins. Brother Nichols said that the results were obtained through personal work - without a dollar being spent for advertising. He said that they were not opposed to such advertising but they felt that the greatest possible way to advertise was for every member to be out inviting their friends and neighbors to attend.

(Continued on back page)

**600**  
**on the**  
**6th**  
**IN BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**SUNDAY**  
**9:30**  
**November 6**

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cud Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum      C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter      Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
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75702. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

410-7-76  
435  
3, 612.40  
618



# A WEEK TO REMEMBER!

## How to Get the Most Out of a Sermon

One of the great failings in the church today is that most people do not get much from the sermon. I recognize that we often preach sermons that may not contain much for the listener to get. But, we know that the majority of the sermons have something that everyone of us can use that would really help our Christian living.

Probably the main deterrent to getting something out of the sermon is the wandering of the mind. We hear a thought and immediately launch out in another direction on our own. Psychologists tell us that we hear about 125 words per minute and that the mind can think about 450 words per minute. We can easily race ahead of any speaker with our own thoughts.

It would help each listener if he or she brought a pad or a note card and took notes on the sermon. Try to outline the lesson. Put down scripture references and look them up later. Notice how many scriptures are in the lesson. I wonder what this would do for us as preachers if we knew that our audience was taking notes that would show how much preparation we had made and how easily our sermon could be outlined? I also wonder if we would not put in more scripture if we knew that people could see just how much was there from their own notes. I have listened to sermons that I outlined and found not one verse of scripture. That was no sermon; a nice lecture, maybe, but no sermon!

To get more out of a sermon we should bring our own Bible or New Testament. We should feel free to write in it and make notes. If the preacher brings home the truth of a certain passage that we had not learned before, this would be the time to make a note in the margin beside that passage.

We ought to come with the determination that we are going to get something out of the lesson. Attitude is very important here. Come with disinterest and you will not leave with anything. Come hungry and thirsting, and you will be filled.

Good listening will take some diligence on the part of all of us. As children of God, we all ought to get more from the sermons we hear.

- Harvey Porter -

## Harvey Porter

Harvey Porter of Albuquerque, New Mexico has preached for the same church for 21 years and has seen it grow from 30 members to 1,045. A 1952 graduate of Abilene Christian University, at one time he served the West Erwin Church in Tyler. He has spoken in numerous evangelistic campaigns and college lectureships. He has written for several periodicals published by members of churches of Christ. Porter is also a scholar in the field of Archaeology, having made numerous trips to Bible Lands. At present he is filming a series of 13 presentations of The Bible and Archaeology for New Mexico Educational TV. His sermons will instruct and encourage you.

## SPECIAL BIBLE CLASSES

Sunday, 9:30 A. M.

Auditorium Class taught by Faber Caughen will meet in room 105.

Young Couples Class and the Group Discussion Class on Prayer will meet in Room 301 for a lesson by Harvey Porter, "The Christian Home."

## WEDNESDAY MORNING LESSON

The Bible and Archaeology will be presented by brother Porter on Wednesday morning at ten o'clock in the Chapel. This lesson is for everyone.

## Youth

## SUNDAY MORNING CLASS How to Save Your Life

**Auditorium, 9:30**  
**Wally Wilkerson**  
**Southside - Ft Worth, Texas**

## Sympathy

Phil Marts' grandmother passed away Monday in Sulphur Springs, Texas.

Brother and sister M. M. Haws went to Florida for the funeral of his brother-in-law.

The father of Earl O'Quinn passed away Saturday evening in Lytle, Texas. (Earl is a son-in-law to the K. Max Haws.)

We express our sincere sympathy to each family.

The *Amazing*  
*Grace*

Bible Class  
Each Sunday 8:00 A. M. - KLTV

## THE BIBLE HAS THE ANSWER

Gary Workman, preacher for the Broadway church, presents several brief messages during the day on KDOK and KNUE radio stations. You may hear "The Bible Has The Answer" at 6:00 p. m. on Monday, 7:30 a. m. on Tuesday, and Wednesday at noon over KDOK; at 6:00 p. m. on Thursday, 7:30 a. m. on Friday, and at noon on Saturday over KNUE.

## Thank You

Thank you for the visits, cards and prayers during my recent stay in the hospital. You mean so much to me. A special thanks to the Young Couples Class for remembering me. You are a beautiful age and mean so much to the church.

Marie Skeeters

**Serving Sunday**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements Dave Anderson  
Prayer Joe McBee  
Dismiss Carroll Magee

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Elwin Crow  
Prayer Mark Cauthen  
Dismiss Stafford Franklin

Serving Communion Sunday

C. B. Hardin John Teague  
Sam Bailey Bob Threadgill  
Olen Holland Milburn Cook  
Steve Higginbotham DeRay Bennett  
Greeters for Sunday  
Weldon Dawson-Travis Fletcher  
D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

Contributions

Oct. 23 \$4,563.70  
Oct. 16 \$3,588.88  
Year Ago \$3,179.96

Worship

Oct. 23 493  
Oct. 16 480  
Wed. Eve. 260

Bible School

Oct. 23 401  
Oct. 16 363  
Year Ago 344  
Budget  
Weekly \$3,825.00

**ZONE MEETINGS TUESDAY**

All zones will meet Tuesday evening, November 1 in preparation for our meeting. Zone 1 will meet at 7 o'clock at the Paul Montandon home. Zone 2 will meet at 7 o'clock at the home of Jay and Colena Payne, and Zone 3 will meet for a covered dish supper at the home of Vivian and Mac McCall. Zone 3 members are asked to bring either a salad, dessert or vegetable and meet at 6 p. m.

**Report of Our Sick**

Mr. W. B. Talley continues to be in Medical Center. Mrs. Foy Richey underwent surgery Wednesday in Medical Center. Mrs. Erma Sanders hopes to go home this week from Medical Center. Mrs. Marie Skeeters is now at her daughter's home. (Mrs. Jack (Peggy) Garner).

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809

**From the Preacher's Desk (Continued)**

Mid McKnight is one of the most powerful and effective preachers in the church today. He was a senior in Abilene Christian University when he obeyed the gospel of Christ. He tells how he was in a great Christian college for three years and no one spoke to him about becoming a Christian. Finally in his senior year, the beloved Bible teacher, R. C. Bell spoke to him about his becoming a Christian. Too many times we fail to ask others about their soul.

If we expect to have a great meeting you and I must ask others. We need to bring them with us as we study together God's Word.

All of Harvey Porter's sermons will be fine. We know he will have a great lesson on the Christian Home at the Bible School hour on the 6th. Our services on Wednesday morning during the meeting will be for everybody - not just the women. Brother Porter will have a most interesting slide presentation about the Bible and Archaeology. He has made numerous trips to the Bible lands and is well qualified to speak on this subject.

**Congratulations**

Michael Gregory, husband of Jency McDonald Gregory, was baptized into Christ last Saturday afternoon by Dean Brookshire in Van. We rejoice with Michael and Jency. They worship at the South McArthur Church of Christ in Irving.

The Visitor  
Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75702. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

The story is told that the mother of Marshall Field once gave a million dollars to the University of Chicago. When the Board of Directors of Northwestern University, also located in Chicago, heard about the donation, they sent someone to inquire why a similar gift had not been given to their school. The answer was, "Northwestern did not ask us."

In one of the parables of Jesus, He tells how some were asked, "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" They replied, "Because no man hath hired us," (Matthew 20:7).

Is it possible that there are those who have never attended West Erwin simply because no one asked them? This is the time for us to be asking our neighbors and friends to come with us to Bible School and worship on November 6. It is the time for us to ask them to attend our meeting in which Harvey Porter will do the preaching.

(Continued on back page)

**Youth Happening  
the price . . .  
the prize**

If any man would come after me, he must...

- |                          |                                                        |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Deny Himself</b>      | <b>Ron Fletcher<br/>Clinton, Oklahoma</b>              |
| <b>Take Up His Cross</b> | <b>Miles Tompkins<br/>Bammel Road - Houston, Texas</b> |
| <b>Follow Me</b>         | <b>Jack Paul<br/>West Erwin - Tyler, Texas</b>         |
| <b>Song Leader</b>       | <b>Gary Mabry<br/>Highland - Abilene, Texas</b>        |

**SUNDAY MORNING CLASS Auditorium, 9:30**  
**How to Save Your Life Wally Wilkerson**  
**Southside - Ft Worth, Texas**  
**SPECIAL CLASSES BY OUTSTANDING YOUTH MINISTERS**  
**SATURDAY,**  
**NOVEMBER 5 2:00 P.M.**

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**420 W. ERWIN**  
**TYLER, TEXAS 75702**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
DAVID CORD ANDERSON 214/592-0809



## Friends & Neighbors Sunday

Sunday, November 6 has been designated as "Friends and Neighbors Sunday."

On that day the elders want to encourage you to bring your friends and neighbors to Bible school and worship with you. We would also suggest that you invite them into your home afterward for a meal together.

We have set a goal of having over 600 on the 6th in Bible School. Our meeting with Harvey Porter begins that morning. This will be a day of opportunity for your friends and neighbors to hear the GOOD NEWS of Jesus.

"With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith." 2 Thessalonians 1:11 (NIV)

The Elders

## Thank You

During a time like this we realize how much our friends really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered by the loved ones of Jackie, Joanna, and Joshua Bynum.

Your acts of kindness and comforting words will always be remembered. They help to ease our burden. We especially appreciate the prayers offered in our behalf.

## Workshop

On Saturday, November 5th, the Shiloh Road congregation will host a workshop conducted by Mrs. Mattie Lou Hicks, Manager of the Christian Teacher Bookstore in Houston. The workshop will be divided into two sections. The morning period will be devoted to teachers of pre-school children and the afternoon will be for teachers of grades one through six. The Shiloh Road congregation meets temporarily at 1503 Troup Highway.

### TIME CHANGE

Before you go to bed Saturday evening turn your clock back one hour. This is the time of year we go off Daylight Savings Time back to Standard Time. Be on Time for Bible School Sunday Morning.

### IN APPRECIATION

We are grateful to the young people for giving of their time on Sunday afternoon to pick up groceries for the pantry of the church. This food will be used in benevolent work. If you were not called on, please bring your non-perishable items to the church building.

*Amazing  
Grace*  
BIBLE CLASS

KLTV - CHANNEL 7  
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING 8:00 TO 8:30

*And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men."*

Mark 1:17

## ON CATCHING MEN

Captivating words said beside the sea. . .

"Leave your nets  
Forsake your trade  
Learn to catch men."

And listeners, firmly hooked, left their fish-catching to practice a new craft.

Learn a different calling they did. . .  
under the master Teacher's skill  
by the might Spirit's power  
with matchless News to share

So they caught men in the nets of love. Still they pull them in, as we share their ministry of man-fishing.

How do fishers fish?

Fishers exhibit eager enthusiasm.

Mention a new stream, a different lure, a big catch-and the fisherman is ready to go. No prompting is necessary, no prodding required! The bare possibility of finding fish stirs feverish enthusiasm in the most casual angler's bones.

Fishers employ extra effort.

Hard labor does not deter. Catching fish may demand early hours and late arrivals home. It may require climbing slippery banks, wading icy streams, crossing vast lakes, or risking ocean currents. But who calls it work? The delight of a potential catch makes energetic toil an enjoyable task.

Fishers evince earnest endurance.

Fish not biting? That only urges the fisher on. Try again another day, a different spot, a new bait. No tiring out! No giving up! Even failure spurs the eager fisher's sturdy persistence.

Ever wonder why we don't catch more men?

Dan Anders

Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

I'm excited about our Youth Happening on November 5 and 6. Youth from all over East Texas are planning to be here. In addition groups from Fort Worth and Dallas and other places will be staying overnight in our homes. Thanks to the many who have called and volunteered to keep guests in their homes.

It will be good to meet Ron Fletcher - our first speaker. He comes very highly recommended by Jack Paul. Miles Tompkins is one of the most effective people I've ever known in sharing his faith. Wally Wilkerson has helped more youth ministers than any man I know. Jack Paul we all know and love. Gary Mabry will be our song leader. Gary has written many of the songs our youth sing. In addition, Kenny Shaver, Phil Burns, John Chick, and Allen Borden - each one an outstanding youth minister will teach special classes.

The theme of the Youth Happening is a challenging one. The Price... The Prize is based on Mark 8:34 - "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Sunday, November 6 is goal day. Our goal is 600 on the 6th. That will shatter all previous attendance records. The real key to the success of that effort will be our adult attendance. The elders are currently studying our adult Bible School attendance. One of the obvious findings is that our adult attendance is our weakest point of our Bible School. A renewed effort by all of us would assure success - 600 on the 6th.

### Serving Sunday

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements Roger Knight  
Prayer Joe Carroll  
Dismiss Tom Humphrey

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Louis E. Jones  
Prayer Ron Jones  
Dismiss Wade Weathers

Serving Communion Sunday

C. B. Hardin John Teague  
Sam Bailey Bob Threadgill  
Olen Holland Milburn Cook  
Steve Higginbotham DeRay Bennett

Greeters for Sunday

Jim Franklin Wallace Gayle  
D. C. Jones

### Our Records

Contributions

Oct. 16 \$3,588.88  
Oct. 9 \$3,663.38  
Year Ago \$2,881.67

Worship

Oct. 16 480  
Oct. 9 515  
Wed. Eve. 251

Bible School

Oct. 16 363  
Oct. 9 409  
Year Ago 374

Budget \$3,825.00

### From the Preacher's Desk (Continued)

remember that this life is a preparation for eternity. We are indeed thankful for the hope we have in Christ of eternal life with Him. Heaven should be sweeter for all of us when we think of these precious ones who will be there.

We had a wonderful meeting Saturday night at Wyatt's Cafeteria on behalf of York College. There were one hundred simultaneous meetings being held and we were all connected by conference phone to York. In our meeting in Tyler we had \$6,090.00 contributed in cash and \$2,100 in pledges for a total of \$8,190.00. We are truly thankful for the generous spirit of all who responded to this appeal. A total of \$1,200,000 came in for York over the nation plus gifts of various kinds in property. We were honored by the presence of sister T. B. Thompson who told of the years she spent as dean of women at York and the wonderful amount of good the college is doing in the mid-west.

We thank Foy Richey for the fine report of the work being done in the area of benevolence by the congregation. We appreciate the work of the dedicated men and women in the Christian Service Center each Thursday morning.

### SERMONS FOR SUNDAY

By George H. Stephenson  
A. M. The Christian's Resources and Responsibilities  
P. M. Helping the Ungodly

The Visitor  
Published weekly except the first week in July and Christmas week by West Erwin Church of Christ, 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas 75702. Second class postage paid at Tyler, Texas.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

The Church With A Heart

### Responses

Denton Phillips came Sunday for prayer.

### Report of Our Sick

Mrs. Erma Sanders is suffering from a broken leg and shoulder. She was injured in a fall last Saturday in her home. She is in Medical Center Hospital.

Karen Porter was injured in an accident last week and has a crushed foot. She is in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. W. B. Talley's husband is a patient in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. Gus Krewall continues to be a patient in Glenwood Hospital.

Jay Bynum is now at his parent's home in Whitehouse.

Mrs. Marie Skeeters and Mrs. Eula Hoppers have gone home from the hospital.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

#### ELDERS

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

#### ASSEMBLIES

Sunday  
Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809



### From the Preacher's Desk

George H. Stephenson

Sunday was a very beautiful day and it was good to be back home following our week in Miami, Oklahoma. Many families were out of town including a number who were in Abilene for the A.C.U. Homecoming. It was good to have some visitors with us who were in town for the Rose Festival.

We enjoyed being with the church in Miami again. This was our fourth meeting there in a period of seventeen years. We promised to return again in six years - the Lord willing. Bobby Key has been the faithful preacher for this good church for twenty years.

While in the meeting we were saddened to hear of the deaths of Jackie Bynum and her little son and daughter. Our prayers are with Jay and all of the loved ones. At such a time all of us should be impressed with the uncertainty of life. We should

(Continued on back page)

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

AND NEIGHBORS

TO HEAR



HARVEY PORTER

PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS

NOVEMBER 6 - 10

Sunday 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.  
Monday thru Thursday 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.

## Harvey Porter

Harvey Porter graduated in 1952 from Abilene Christian College with a major in Bible and a minor in Greek. He is married to the former Sue Gibson, 1950 graduate of ACC and older daughter of Doctor and Mrs. J. P. Gibson of Abilene. They have four children: Paula, wife of Jim Hutton; Carla, married to Glen Williams; and Joel and Sammy, still at home. Porter preached 2½ years in Tyler, Texas and 2 years in Georgetown, Texas. He began in 1956 preaching in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the San Pedro Church of Christ (first preacher there) with 30 members. After 9 years, sold all this property and moved to present location of the Montgomery Boulevard Church of Christ in 1965. He has been in Albuquerque 21 years with the same congregation - present membership is 1,045.

In 1965 Porter made a trip to London, Rome, Egypt, Greece, and the Bible Lands. He photographed sights and artifacts of Biblical significance. In 1968, he made a study trip to British Museum in London, and also visited Oxford and Edinburgh, Scotland. During this trip slides were made of Biblical artifacts significant to Archaeology. In 1969 a study trip was made to the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago. Slides were made of more artifacts, especially from Assyria and Babylon. In that same year a study trip was made to the University of Pennsylvania. Slides were made of artifacts from Ancient Sumer, Babylon and Persia. In 1971 a study trip was made to Rome and Cairo with special permission to photograph in the Egyptian Museum. Presentation of this series has been given to several of our Christian Colleges on lecture programs, and to many congregations in a study series. Porter was a tour guide for Holy Land trips in the summers of 1972, 1973, 1974, and 1976. He is a member of ACU Advisory Board and Chancellor's Counsel for Pepperdine University. The bulletin of the church, The Christian Exhorter, which he writes, won the 20th Century Christian "Bulletin of the Year" Award in 1972. He usually holds four Gospel Meetings per year. He has written for such publications as Firm Foundation, 20th Century Christian, and Power for Today. He is presently filming a series of 13 presentations of The Bible and Archaeology for New Mexico Educational TV which will be shown statewide in the Fall of 1977.

## A WEEK TO REMEMBER!

Nov. 5th — Youth Happening

Nov. 6th — Friends & Neighbors Sunday

600 in Bible School

Nov. 6th - 10th — Meeting with  
Harvey Porter

### Wedding Shower

There will be a miscellaneous wedding shower for Becky Young Saturday afternoon from 2:30 - 4:30 (come and go) at 4011 Pinedale.

### HIGH SCHOOL DAY AT ACU

High School Day is Saturday, October 29 at Abilene Christian University. Hillard Hughes will be taking the bus. If you plan to go, you will need to let Hillard or Dave Anderson know by Wednesday, October 26.

## Are You A "Self-Starter"?

A few years ago I was talking with a young business man who was describing the difficulties of finding men with initiative, "get-up and go." He stated there were many who would do a good job if you stood over them and told them each step to follow, but they never looked for anything extra to do.

There are very few of us who are "self-starters." We may need to recognize this condition in our life if it does exist. It will keep us from accomplishing many worthwhile things. It will make life a drudge, for we will put off doing things that we know need to be done. It will cause us to shun responsibility and give tasks to someone else.

If we do have this rare asset of getting ourselves moving in our secular work, we will also have it in the Lord's work too. Look at some of the many passages that are speaking to this point:

"But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing" (Galatians 4:18).

"So then as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men..." (Galatians 6:10).

"Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming (buying up the opportunity) the time" (Colossians 4:5).

"Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14).

"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1).

The children of God should not be begged to do His work. No child of God should be begged to give to the work of Jesus, to come and worship on the Lord's Day, to visit and help his fellow-Christian whom he loves. He is a "self-starter" spiritually. His love for Jesus and His church motivates him to do what needs to be done when he sees it. He would not entertain the thought that if he waits maybe someone else in the church will do it. He is "ready unto every good work."

Let's not have to be pushed, threatened, scared, or begged to move for Jesus.

...Harvey Porter

## Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, visits and the lovely "Flowers of Friendship" book when I was in the hospital. Your thoughtfulness and concern is deeply appreciated.

In Christian love,  
Weldon Dawson

### THE GROCERY PICK-UP

Remember - the young people of the congregation will be coming by your home on this Saturday morning to pick up the non-perishable groceries you have to contribute to the benevolent work of the church. Please place your contributions on the porch of your house. If you are not called on, please bring it to the building on Sunday.

### FROM THE BROADWAY CHURCH

The Broadway congregation happily announces their sponsorship of the "Bible Call" telephone tape library. This is a call-in service whereby anyone in Tyler and surrounding areas may have immediate access by phone to recorded messages on hundreds of key Bible subjects. Many brethren across the nation have cooperated in making this information available, and it will surely encourage a greater interest in the Scriptures among the communities of Smith County. "Bible Call" will be in operation within two weeks, Lord willing, and printed brochures of tape subjects will be made available. The Broadway congregation asks for your interest and your prayers for the success of this means of spreading the Word.

## Congratulations

We have learned that Jim and Teresa Handy, formerly of this congregation, are the happy parents of a baby girl, Heather Catherine, born October 3. They live in El Dorado, Arkansas.



**Serving Sunday**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements F. C. Carpenter  
 Prayer Phil Marts  
 Dismiss Francis Bullard  
 Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Don Chaffin  
 Prayer Jack Stringer  
 Dismiss DeRay Bennett

**Serving Communion Sunday**

C. B. Hardin John Teague  
 Sam Bailey Bob Threadgill  
 Olen Holland Milburn Cook  
 Steve Higginbotham DeRay Bennett  
 Greeters for Sunday  
 Don Chaffin Milburn Cook  
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 Wednesday 231

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 Oct. 16 409  
 Oct. 9 378  
 Year Ago 374  
 Weekly  
 Budget \$3,825.00

**Report of Our Sick**

Mrs. Marie Skeeters is a patient in Glenwood Hospital.  
 Mrs. Gus Krewall has pneumonia. She is in Glenwood Hospital.  
 Mrs. Eula Hoppers in in Medical Center.  
 Jay Bynum is in Medical Center.  
 Jim Latham, a cousin of Mrs. Leona McElroy from Athens, is a patient in Medical Center Hospital.

**FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK (continued)**

know that some of our members will be at the Homecoming of A. C. U. in Abilene.

Our meeting with Harvey Porter is just three weeks away. Harvey is loved here for the work he did here many years ago as a young man when he served as an associate preacher for this congregation. He has done an outstanding work in Albuquerque, New Mexico. We look forward to a pleasant time with him. Let us be working and praying that God's blessings may be with Him and with us as we engage in this evangelistic effort November 6 - 10.

We want 600 in Bible School on the first day of the meeting. This will be the largest attendance in the history of the West Erwin congregation. Let's do our part to make this come true.

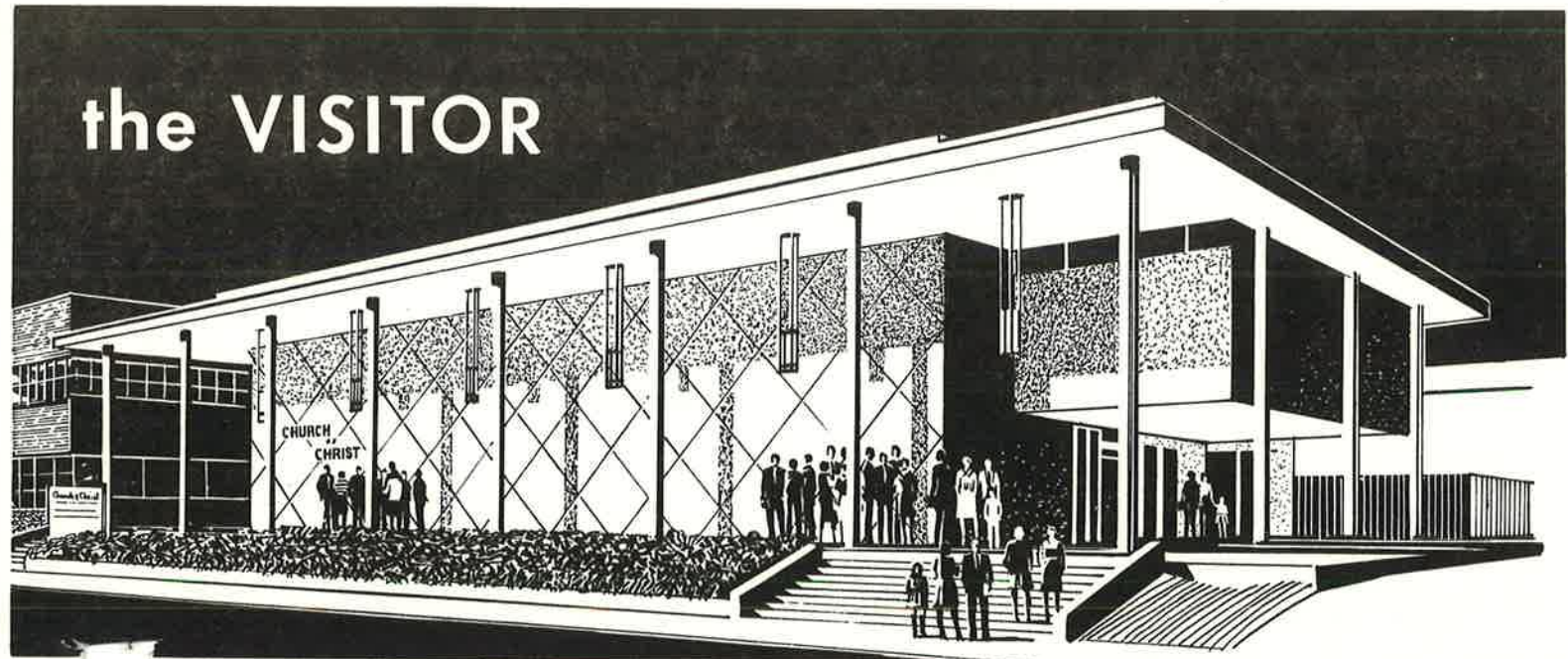
**Area Meeting**

Fred Bandy will be the speaker in a Gospel Meeting at the Troup Church of Christ October 16 - 21. Weekday services will be at 7:30 p. m.

**Remember**

The grocery truck from the Medina Children's Home will be here the first week in November to pick up the canned peaches we have for them. Please continue to bring canned peaches and place them in the barrels in the foyer.

The Visitor  
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WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

This week finds me in a meeting with the church in Miami, Oklahoma. Miami is in the northeastern corner of the state not far from the Missouri and Kansas borders. I have preached in several meetings with this church in the past twenty years. Bobby Key has served as the capable local evangelist during all of these years.

This will be my third gospel meeting in 1977 and I am to preach in one other in November in Denver, Colorado. I preached in five meetings in 1976. After this year I do not plan to preach in as many meetings as I have these past two years. I am glad to meet with other Christians and hope to do good away from home, but I always look forward to being home again. We look forward to seeing you Sunday and hope to have a number of visitors who will be here for the annual Rose Festival. We

(continued on the back page)

**GEORGE H. STEPHENSON**  
 requests the pleasure of your company at a dinner to meet  
**MRS. T. B. THOMPSON**  
 Dean-Emeritus of Women, York College  
 the guest of honor  
 of the  
**\$2 MILLION DAY FOR YORK COLLEGE**  
 Wyatt's Cafeteria, 1221 S. Buckham, Tyler  
 Saturday, October 15, 1977 — at 7:00 pm

Dress: Informal  
 Dutch treat, Cafeteria prices

**A WEEK TO REMEMBER!**

- Nov. 5th — Youth Happening**
- Nov. 6th — Friends & Neighbors Sunday**  
 600 in Bible School
- Nov. 6th - 10th — Meeting with Harvey Porter**

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
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**Sunday**  
 Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
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 Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
 Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 420 West Erwin — Tyler, Texas 75702  
 214-592-0809

### COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

I press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus

For a church to be successful in winning souls and growing in numbers, it requires that each man and each woman make a personal commitment to excellence and to victory even though we know deep down that the ultimate victory can never be completely won. Yet that victory must be pursued and it must be wooed with every fiber of our body, with every bit of our might and all of our effort. And each Sunday there is a new encounter. Each day there is a new challenge. We must maintain the spirit, the will to win, the will to excel, for this spirit is enduring, and really this quality is larger and more important than any of the events they occasion. Just as the value of all of our daily efforts are greater, are more enduring really if they create in each one of us a person who grows, a person who understands, one who really lives - one who prevails for a larger and more meaningful victory - not only now but in time and hopefully in eternity. Indeed, I would say that the quality of each man's life is the full measure of that man's personal commitment to excellence and to victory. It teaches that work and sacrifice, and perseverance and competitive drive, and the selflessness, plus a respect for authority is the price that each and every one of us must pay to achieve any goal that is worthwhile.

Jack Paul

### Thank You

Thank you so much for your remembrances of me during my illness. For the prayers, visits, cards and especially brother Stephenson's visits, we are most grateful.

James Massey

Thanks for all the prayers, cards and books. Also a special thanks to Juanita Teague for making it possible for me to attend my sister's funeral. West Erwin is such a loving family. We love you.

Aline Beard

### GROCERY PICK-UP

Our pantry is in need of re-stocking. We will have a grocery pick-up on Saturday, October 22 by our young people. They will be coming by your homes on that Saturday morning to pick up whatever groceries you may want to contribute to the benevolent work of the church.

### Zone Three

Zone 3 will meet Tuesday evening, October 18 at the Ross Walker home, 7:30 p. m.

### SPONSORS NEEDED

We need a home for an after the game fellowship Sunday, October 22 from 10:00 p. m. to 11:30 p. m. This is a senior high activity.

We also need a home to host a parent-youth devotional Sunday, October 30 after worship.

If you can help with these activities, please call Dave Anderson.

A smile is mightier than a grin.

### Responses

Audeen Thedford and Debbie Rushing came Sunday for prayers of the congregation.

### Focus on Families

Robin and Debbie Rushing, 403 N. Parkdale moved to Tyler recently from Houston where they worshipped with the Westbury Church of Christ. They are the parents of a son, Chance, who is 16 months. Debbie is a homemaker and Robin is a nutritional consultant. Robin lived in Tyler with his parents and attended West Erwin as a youngster. We were happy to see his grandparents, the E. V. Rushings, visit here recently. Robin has taught some in the junior high and high school age and Debbie has worked as a co-teacher with 2 and 3 year old children. They both enjoy reading and music. We are happy to have the Rushings in Tyler.



### Let It Shine

David Cord Anderson



A week to remember! That accurately describes November 5 - 10. On November the 5th, West Erwin will host a youth happening. Youth from all over East Texas will be here for that day.

On November 6 our meeting begins with Harvey Porter. On November 6th all Bible School records fall! Over 600 will be present setting a new record of Bible School attendance. In 92 years we have never had over 600 in Bible School. In fact, as best as can be determined 555 is the all-time high.

Sunday, November 6th is Friends and Neighbors Sunday. We're hoping that every family at West Erwin will bring another family to Bible school and worship and then home to eat with that family. We especially want you to bring friends and neighbors that aren't Christians. Begin to pray and think about who you are going to bring with you. What a marvelous way to share the good news of Jesus.

A week to remember! November 5th - Youth Happening. November 6th - over 600 in Bible School. Every family bringing a family to Bible School and worship and then sharing a meal together. Harvey Porter preaching the good news of Jesus from November 6th through the 10th. Indeed it will be a week to remember!

### OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY

Last Saturday afternoon Jay and Jackie Bynum and their two children were in an automobile accident near their home in Plainview, Texas. Jackie and the children were fatally injured. We all share in the sorrow of this great loss. Jay has been brought back to the hospital here in Tyler. Funeral services for Jackie, Joanna Gail and Joshua Wayne were held Tuesday afternoon at the Lloyd James Funeral Home. Brother Hillard Hughes spoke words of comfort to the families. Joanna would have been three in December and Joshua was 10 months. Jackie was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Davis of Carrollton and the daughter-in-law of Mack and Bennie Bynum. She was the granddaughter of brother and sister R. H. Davis, formerly of this congregation, and a niece of Carolyn Womack. We extend our deepest sympathy to Jay, the Mack Bynum family, the Davis and Womack families, and all of the many friends who sorrow with them.

To admit I have been wrong is but saying that I am wiser today than I was yesterday.



<b>Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.</b>	
Announcements	F. C. Carpenter
Prayer	Ron Campbell
Dismiss	Tommy Parrish
<b>Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.</b>	
Announcements	C. E. Caskey
Prayer	Gerald Montgomery
Dismiss	Dan Magee
<b>Serving Communion Sunday</b>	
Hillard Hughes	Wallace Gayle
Bruce Raley	David Hubbard
Roy Driggers	Wayne Fears
Mike Franklin	Stafford Franklin
<b>Greeters for Sunday</b>	
C. E. Caskey	Faber Cauthen
D. C. Jones	

<b>Contributions</b>	
Oct. -9	\$4,221.99
Sept. 25	\$4,170.65
Year Ago	\$3,628.66
<b>Worship</b>	
Oct. 9	558
Sept. 25	558
Wednesday	227
<b>Bible School</b>	
Oct. 9	378
Sept. 25	398
Year Ago	459
<b>Our Weekly Budget</b>	
	\$3,825.00

**IN THE HOSPITALS**

Weldon Dawson had surgery Tuesday in Medical Center Hospital.

**FROM THE PREACHER'S DESK (continued)**

balcony!), elders have changed but the strong faith and dedication of the members have been constant and unshakable! This has been a source of inspiration to me over the years."

Please keep in mind the meeting to be here on October 15 at Wyatt's Cafeteria on behalf of York College. We want you to be part of a tremendous undertaking of brethren throughout the nation to aid in a most worthwhile undertaking. Our special guest of the evening will be Mrs. T. B. Thompson, one of the truly great Christian women of our time. We will have a Dutch Treat Din-

ner at 7:00 p. m. followed by the showing of a film, "A Gift of God." Speaking via conference telephone will be George S. Benson, Jim Bill McInteer, Ira North, and Gary Beauchamp. Jimmy Allen, Professor of Bible, Harding College commented concerning the drive for York:

"When Harding College moved from Morrilton, Ark. to Searcy in 1934, there was an editorial in the Searcy Daily Citizen that said, 'The church is one of the weakest in the community in point of numbers.' Then, Harding was 300 to 400 students in enrollment, the same as York is now. Today the church in Searcy is among the strongest anywhere and its influence is felt throughout the world. Twenty one years ago when York opened its doors there was no congregation in York, Nebraska. Today the largest congregation is in York and it is reaching out to neighboring cities and states through Nebraska campaigns, master apprenticeships and other programs."

Cline Paden of the Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock said concerning the evening: "The immediate benefactor of the evening will be York College. However, there is little doubt that the spirit of cooperation being exhibited will have significant effect upon the entire brotherhood and future programs of work."

We hope you are planning to be with us in Tyler on the 15th.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST      420 WEST ERWIN      TYLER, TEXAS 75702      592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

We appreciate the fine comments we have received in regard to the "new look" of our bulletin. We are very grateful for a fine letter from Billie Harris Frazier in Kensington, Maryland. Billie is the very talkative daughter of Wyche Harris and the late John Harris. She wrote us:

"This is a note saying 'Congratulations!' on the new format for 'The Visitor.' It's easy to read, of high quality printing, informative, interesting and downright inspirational! I've received 'The Visitor' for a number of years and I very much appreciate being on your mailing list. It helps me to keep up with what's going on at West Erwin. I don't know many of the newer members, but I know the old timers well and consider them amongst my best friends on earth!

"I've watched the congregation grow and develop over the years. The building has changed (How I loved that old

Continued on page 3

**the price . . . the prize**

Saturday, November 5, West Erwin will be hosting youth from East Texas in an area wide meeting. Speakers will be Ron Fletcher, Miles Tompkins and Jack Paul. In addition several outstanding youth ministers will teach special classes. Gary Mabry, author and composer of many songs, will be the song leader.

On Sunday morning Wally Wilkerson will teach a special class for junior high and high school students in the auditorium. Several groups of young people will be staying overnight for the Sunday morning class. Overnight housing will be needed for these groups. West Erwin members are urged to call the church office to volunteer housing.

The theme of the happening is "The Price - The Prize" based on Mark 8:34. "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 5 2:00 P.M.  
WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum      C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter      Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809

The Visitor  
Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75702. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.



# Youth Happening the price . . . the prize

If any man would come after me, he must...

**Deny Himself**

**Ron Fletcher  
Clinton, Oklahoma**

**Take Up His Cross**

**Miles Tompkins  
Bammel Road - Houston, Texas**

**Follow Me**

**Jack Paul  
West Erwin - Tyler, Texas**

**Song Leader**

**Gary Mabry  
Highland - Abilene, Texas**

**SPECIAL CLASSES BY OUTSTANDING YOUTH MINISTERS**

**SUNDAY MORNING CLASS Auditorium, 9:30  
How to Save Your Life Wally Wilkerson**

**Southside - Ft Worth, Texas**

**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 5 2:00 P.M.**

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 W. ERWIN  
TYLER, TEXAS 75702**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
DAVID CORD ANDERSON 214/592-0809**

## Welcome

We want to welcome George and Nola Seagler, Rt. 14, Box 389, Tyler, phone 566-1763. The Seaglers formerly worshipped with the Cactus Drive Church in Levelland, Texas. They requested the prayers of the church for more faith and strength in accordance to His Will. We are pleased to have the Seaglers as part of the West Erwin family.

## For Women Only

The South Washington Church of Christ in Marshall, Texas will conduct the Second Annual Women's Autumn Evening Lectureship, Friday evening, October 14. Mrs. Bill (Margaret) Smith, W. Monroe, La., and Mrs. Bill(Dot) Yanko, Conroe, Texas will speak. Registration and supper begin at 5:30 Friday evening. A letter and brochure is posted in the so. foyer.



*Ladies*

YOU ARE INVITED

Wanda Weathers will be the guest teacher for the Ladies' Bible Class on this coming Wednesday, October 12. Wanda is an excellent teacher and we would like to urge the women of the congregation to hear her at ten o'clock Wednesday morning in the chapel.

*Thank You*

We want to express a special "Thank you" to Louise Caskey and Darleene Little for the addition of baby chairs for our nursery.

## Business Meeting

There will be a business meeting of all men in the congregation on Sunday afternoon, 1:30 in the Chapel.

## Sympathy

Ned Duncan's brother-in-law, Sammie Pickle, was killed in Athens last week. He was also a nephew to the late E. C. Pickle. We extend our sympathy to the family.

## Adult Department

### New Bible Class

Sunday, October 9, marks the beginning of a new adult class to be taught by Hillard Hughes. The class will focus on an eight week study of prayer. The class will meet in room 105.

## Thank You

J. Link Haws passed away September 12 in Altus, Oklahoma after a long illness. We desire to express our humble thanks for each expression of sympathy extended to us in his behalf.  
The Haws Family

I wish to express my thanks for the many cards, visits, flowers and many expressions of kindness during my recent surgery.

A special thanks to the 20's class and to brother Stephenson who waited with my family during the surgery.  
W. D. Metcalf

## Zone Two Fellowship



**We're getting together..**

Zone two will have a covered dish supper immediately following the worship service Sunday evening. The meeting will be held in the Smith Building in the Rose Garden. (This is the small white building in the south end of the garden) All zone two members are encouraged to be present. Bring your supper for your family and your guests. Coffee, tea, paper plates, cups, etc. will be furnished.

## Visitation

Zone 2 will meet for visitation Tuesday evening, 7:00 o'clock at the Elwin Crow home.

*The Amazing  
Grace*

Bible Class  
Each Sunday 8:00 A. M. - KLTV

**Serving Sunday**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements Ray Womack  
Prayer C. E. Caskey  
Dismiss Olen Holland

Sunday Evening - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Faber Cauthen  
Prayer Leon Welborn  
Dismiss Keston McFadden  
Serving Communion Sunday

Hillard Hughes Wallace Gayle  
Bruce Raley David Hubbard  
Roy Driggers Wayne Fears  
Mike Franklin Stafford Franklin  
Greeters for Sunday  
Joe Carroll Ron Campbell  
D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

Contributions

Sept. 25 \$4,170.65  
Sept. 18 \$3,924.25  
Year Ago \$3,900.69

Worship

Sept. 25 558  
Sept. 18 467  
Wednesday 251

Bible School

Sept. 25 398  
Sept. 18 420  
Year Ago 418

Our Weekly

Budget \$3,825.00

**Report of Our Sick**

Chris Sevier, young son of the Sam Seviars, underwent surgery Tuesday in Medical Center Hospital.

Mrs. Sledge (Mary) Clinkscales is a patient in Mother Frances Hospital.

Mrs. Frank Cox is in Medical Center Hospital.

W. D. Metcalf expects to go home this week from the hospital.

P. J. Bryant is a patient in Mother Frances Hospital.

**SERMONS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1977**

By George H. Stephenson

A. M. Where is Your Faith? P. M. While Men Slept.

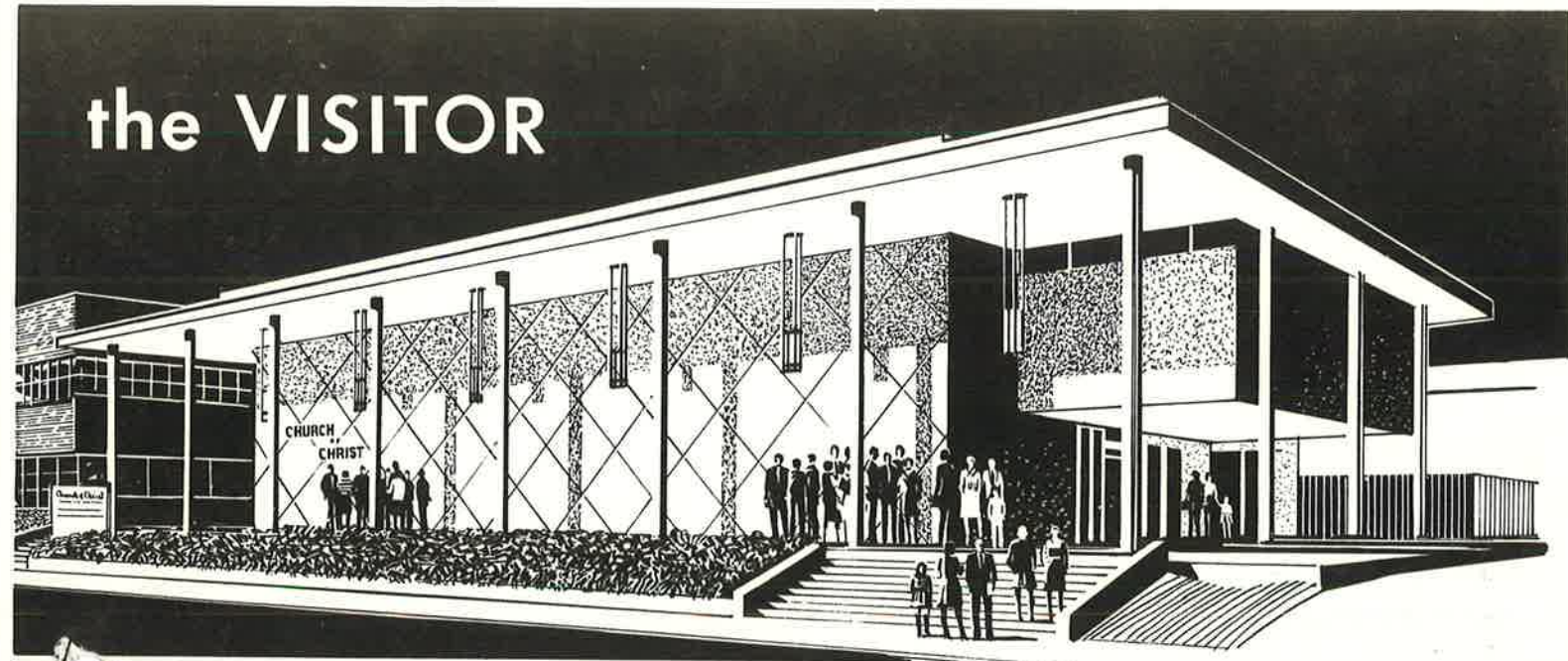
**From the Preacher's Desk - Continued**  
service to the Cause of Christ in Nebraska just as Abilene Christian has been to Texas. The October 15 meeting will be informative and inspirational. Reuel Lemmons and Joe Barnett are heading the campaign for York College in the state of Texas. Outstanding leaders in the church all over the nation are promoting the campaign.

Batsell Barrett Baxter said concerning York, "One of the brightest spots in the church today is the rapid growth taking place in Nebraska and surrounding states, as a result of the training that York College is providing Christian young people. With these dedicated, trained young people to draw upon, the church is growing and spreading rapidly. In the few short years that York College has existed the number of Christians in Nebraska has grown from 800 to 3400. York, the home city of York College, now has the largest congregation in Nebraska, a group numbering 475. The college is located in the midst of a mission field, but the twenty seven faculty members and the 350 students presently enrolled at the school, constitute bright hopes for the future."

**Zone One**

ZONE 1 will meet Tuesday October 4 at 7:30 at the home of Nell and Doc Wright.

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WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

I appreciate the comments of Dave Anderson in regard to the "Baby Banquet" held last Sunday night following our worship. Everything about the banquet was just great and I appreciate the work of Jeanine Hughes, Fleta Butler, Jo Butler and all of the others. How blessed we are in having fine Christian women to be in charge of our very wonderful nursery program. It is thrilling to see the many fine young married people who are now with us at West Erwin. Last Sunday they had 37 in their Bible class - and just a few years ago we had as few as 7. We have some very fine young people who will help to make West Erwin be a great church in years to come.

I do hope that we will have a good number to attend the special meeting on behalf of York College on October 15. York College has a great opportunity to be of (continued on back page)

**Did You Know**

Mrs. T. B. Thompson will be the honored guest at a Dutch Treat Dinner in Tyler at Wyatt's Cafeteria on Saturday evening, October 15. Mrs. Thompson and her late husband lived in Tyler years ago when he served as a minister for the West Erwin congregation. The dinner meeting will be held on behalf of York College in York, Nebraska. Simultaneous meetings in one hundred locations are scheduled for that evening. A film entitled, "The Gift of God" will be shown and Dr. George Benson will speak via a conference telephone connection. We hope that many from West Erwin will plan to attend this meeting in Tyler.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**  
Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809



## Teacher's Meeting

The time for the Teacher's Meeting next Sunday has been changed. Instead of meeting after worship, we will meet at 5:00 o'clock. All teachers are encouraged to be present in room 301 (upstairs - south wing).

TO ANSWER YES OR NO

*Have you noticed that some people have trouble saying "yes" and other people have trouble saying "no"?*

*The people who have trouble saying "no" are guilty people i.e. people with unrealistic guilt feelings. They do not like to say no to their children or their friends because this makes them in some way cruel or unfair in their own eyes. They thus fail in many responsible areas in life. Parents who cannot say no to children, do not do their duty because children need to be refused many things that are harmful to them. And other people in the world will often abuse the person who cannot say no and eventually relationships are destroyed because they cannot survive such a loss of personal integrity and dignity. There must be a stopping place for the services we give to other people.*

*And there are people who cannot say "yes"; Their knee-jerk reaction is always a no answer because they feel safer when they do not agree to anything. Children and peers at length learn never to ask them questions because it is useless. Relationships are thus also destroyed by ones who cannot say yes. These are often authoritarian personalities, who in whatever area of authority they function - as parent, employer, or whatever - hold onto their authority until the last minute and only say yes when forced to do so.*

*What is the Christian perspective in the matter? As follows: To say yes or no depends on two categories. (1) Is it right? (2) Is it wise? The first category is an absolute area. We will say yes to all moral obligations and no to all moral prohibitions. The second area is harder to determine. Is it wise i.e. in relative areas? Is it loving? Does it further my Christian example or diminish it? Does it further the general purposes of good?*

*If I find that my automatic reaction is either always yes or always no, I need to develop a Christian way of responding.*

Bert Mercer

## Responses

Mike Franklin came Sunday morning to be restored.

## Thank You

We want to thank you for the cakes you brought to Boles Home. We are grateful to you for the love you have shown toward the work here. The children enjoy cakes so very much and the house-mothers are always glad to receive them as it is less cooking for them. Thank you again and come and see us when you can.

## Focus on Families

A new family to West Erwin is the John Owens family. John and Jane Owens and their two children, Amy and Jonathan, live at 605 Meadow Creek, phone 561-1996. They recently moved to Tyler from Houston.

Formerly they worshipped with the Eldridge Road church in Sugar Land, Texas where they were both active in Bible School work. Jane has taught in Cradle Roll about 7 years and John in Junior High. They both enjoy and doing things together as a family. John, a Commercial Loan Officer for the Southside State Bank, grew up in Victoria. Jane was reared in San Antonio. Amy, their daughter is eight years old and in the third grade at Rice School. Jonathan is 4 years old.



Mrs. Charlie H. (Eunice) Beasley, formerly Mrs. Eunice Lee, moved to Tyler from Bellaire. She placed membership with West Erwin last June. She and Mr. Beasley were married September 13. Her husband is retired. Their address is Rt. 1 - West Grove, Chandler, Texas, phone 849-6171. Eunice enjoys gardening. She has one daughter and two grandchildren who live in Houston.



## Let It Shine

David Cord Anderson



A great big THANK YOU to Jeanine Hughes, Jo Butler and Fleta Butler for heading up a very successful Baby Banquet. So many contributed to make the evening enjoyable and profitable. Hillard Hughes was the competent (except for the jokes) MC. Thanks to Tom Humphrey for the excellent slides of our children.

Dr. Roger Allen was the guest speaker for the occasion. I appreciate the insights of Roger. I know some anxieties were relieved, new ideas gained and a greater appreciation of God's blessing that we have in our children.

Our nursery has undergone many recent improvements due to the hard work of Fleta Butler. Jeanine Hughes has headed up the teaching role for seven years. I appreciate Jeanine's gift and ministry to our infants and toddlers.

A new brochure on the West Erwin Nursery was distributed to everyone at the banquet. Some helpful information is contained. You may secure a copy in our nursery.

Parenting is an awesome task. To be an effective parent requires time and knowledge. Over a quarter of million parents have taken a course entitled "Parent Effectiveness Training" or P.E.T. P.E.T. teaches methods and skills that can be effectively used by any parent who does not want to leave parenthood to chance or luck. This course is being offered in Tyler for an eight week period of Tuesday evenings beginning October 4. The class meets from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Dr. Ted Lehmann will be the instructor for the course. For further information about the course, please call me.

## A SOLEMN QUESTION

If you were arrested  
for being a Christian,

Would there be  
enough evidence  
to convict you?

## Youthshine

There will be an Area Wide Youth Meeting Saturday night at 7:30 in the Glenwood building with Tony Ash as speaker. His subject will be "The Power of God."

## Coming our way..

Harvey Porter of Albuquerque, New Mexico will be preaching in a Gospel Meeting here at West Erwin, November 6 - 9. Sunday, November 6 is Goal Day. We want to have 600 in Bible School on that day.

## Remember

The grocery truck from the Medina Children's Home will be here the first week in November to pick up the canned peaches we have for them. Please continue to bring canned peaches and place them in the barrels in the foyer.

## Serving Sunday

**Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.**  
 Announcements Dave Anderson  
 Prayer Weldon Dawson  
 Dismiss Harold Browning  
**Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.**  
 Announcements K. Max Haws  
 Prayer Sam Sevier  
 Dismiss Tom Humphrey  
**Serving Communion Sunday**  
 Jamon Kirby Don Weathers  
 Jack Beard Bea Young  
 Cliff Clough Cone Birdwell  
 Ron Lott Wade Weathers  
**Greeters for Sunday**  
 Harold Browning Mack Bynum  
 D. C. Jones

## Our Records

**Contributions**  
 Sept. 18 \$3,924.25  
 Sept. 11 \$4,018.15  
 Year Ago \$3,157.94  
**Worship**  
 Sept. 18 467  
 Sept. 11 495  
 Wednesday 231  
**Bible School**  
 Sept. 18 420  
 Sept. 11 417  
 Year Ago 413  
**Our Weekly Budget**  
 \$3,825.00

## Report of Our Sick

P. J. Bryant is a patient in Mother Frances after suffering a heart attack.  
 James Massey remains in Medical Center recovering from surgery.  
 W. D. Metcalf will have surgery Tuesday. He is in Medical Center.  
 Gayle Campbell is recuperating at home from surgery.

# REACH PEOPLE FOR CHRIST

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

### ELDERS

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

### ASSEMBLIES

**Sunday**  
 Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
 Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
 214-592-0809

From the Preacher's Desk - continued  
 We visited during the meeting with individuals we had baptized in years gone by and with couples for whom I said the marriage ceremony many years ago. The second couple I ever "married" came to the meeting. It was good to see that they are still happily married and faithful Christians. Our wonderful association with Christian friends and loved ones was just a foretaste of heaven itself.

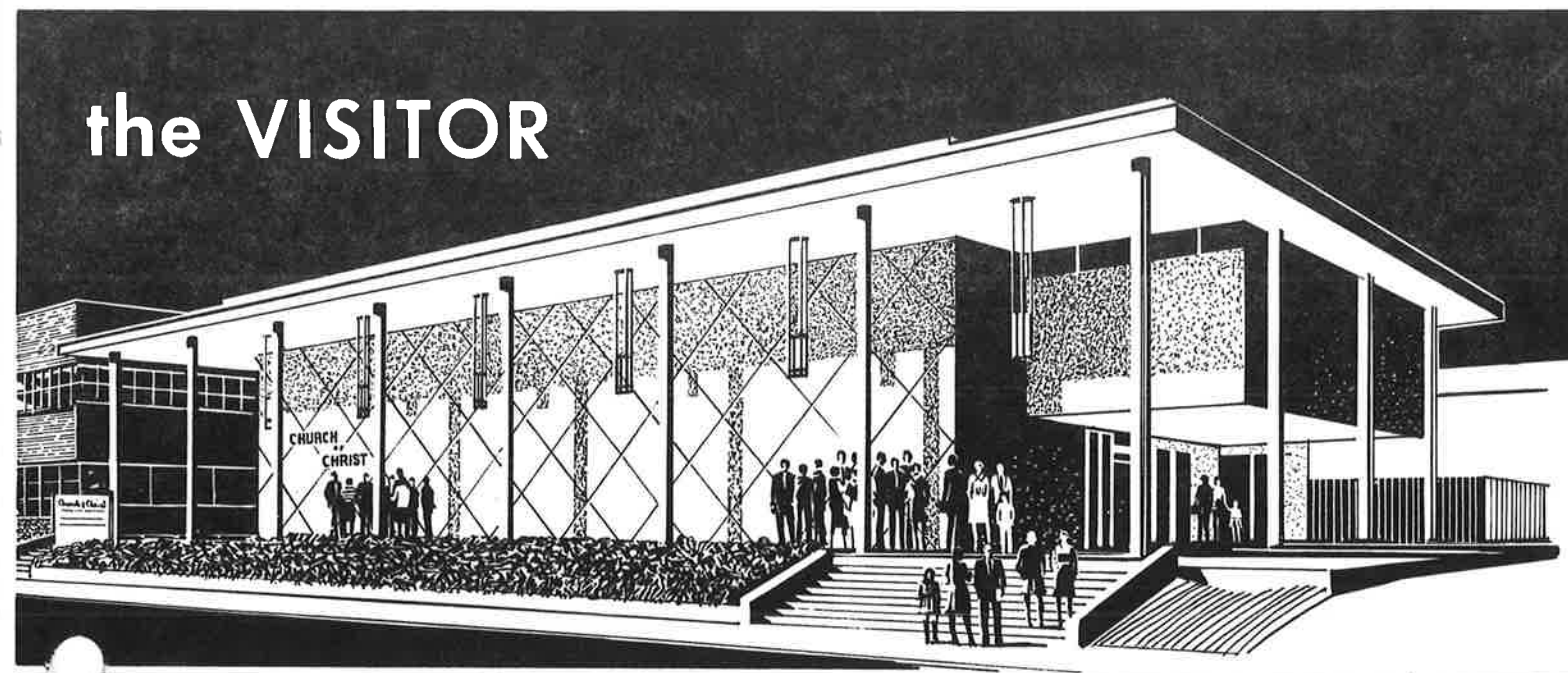
We were saddened during the meeting over the death of our good friend and brother, W. H. Turner. We were thankful that we could return to Tyler for his funeral services. It is wonderful to know that he and his good wife were married for sixty-seven years! They were blessed that all of their children and all ten of their grandchildren are Christians. When we read and hear about the many broken homes of our day how refreshing it is to remember the many who have made a success of their marriages. Last Sunday, the day I preached my annual sermon on marriage, was the fifty-seventh anniversary of brother and sister W. D. Metcalf. Our congratulations and best wishes to this fine couple!

We look forward to our worship and Bible Study together with you on Sunday.

SERMON SUBJECTS September 25  
 10:30 a. m. Is There An Eternal Hell?  
 6:00 p. m. The Way Home (Psalm 51)

The Visitor  
 Published weekly except the first week in July and Christmas week by West Erwin Church of Christ, 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas 75702. Second class postage paid at Tyler, Texas.

# the VISITOR



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

The Church With A Heart



From the  
**Preacher's Desk**  
*George H. Stephenson*

Words cannot express our deep appreciation for the love and kindness shown to our son David and his recent bride, Charlotte, in the beautiful shower given to them Sunday. We are most thankful for those who arranged the shower and for all who gave such generous gifts. You are wonderful people and we love you. David and Charlotte have given their lives to the Lord and we are very thankful for them.

We enjoyed meeting many longtime friends in our four day meeting with the church in Shannon located between Sherman and Denison. There are some fine Christians who worship with this congregation. They have a nice building located on a beautiful hill. It was good to have an old fashioned "dinner on the ground" on Sunday. Tables were set up under the shade of trees and food was brought by the fine Christian women of the congregation.

(Continued on back page)

## Youthshine

The youth met Sunday afternoon to program the youth activities for the fall. Listed below are the dates and activities scheduled:

October 7	Skating Party	Junior High
October 8	After the game	Senior High
October 9	Youth Visitation	Jr. -Sr. High
October 22	After the game	Senior High
October 30	Parent-Youth Devo.	Jr. -Sr. High
November 5	Youth Happening	West Erwin
November 6	Goal Day Wally Wilkerson Pizza Party Monterey House	Jr. -Sr. High Junior High Senior High
November 13	Don Garrett A.C.U.	Senior High
December 2,3	Retreat Doug Kostowski	Pine Cove
December 23	for College Students	Jr. -Sr. High

## Monday Night Bible Study

7:30 P. M. each Monday 203 Alpine



"I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut" (Revelation 3:8)

## OPEN DOORS

Men slam doors against each other, shutting out friendship, freedom and opportunity. But God opens doors to us which no man has the power to shut.

**1. The Open Door of Fellowship With God.** The apostle John was on an isolated island. The door to fellowship with family and friends was shut and locked. But no man could shut the door between John and God. One day he wrote: "I looked, and lo, in heaven an open door!" (Revelation 4:1). No matter what the circumstances, no

one can keep you from fellowship with God.

**2. The Open Door to Successful Living.** Victor Hugo, France's most popular literary figure, was enjoying tremendous success. Then the Emperor was offended by some of his political statements and had him banished. It seemed that the sky had fallen in. But it was in this period of adversity that Hugo really found himself. His most successful novels were given birth in his exile. He returned to France more famous than when he left. Twenty years after being banished he said, "Why was I not exiled before!" If we stay on God's side everything is eventually going to come out right.

**3. The Open Door to Peace of Mind.** No man can destroy your peace of mind, for that is something which is dependent upon the assurance that all is well between you and your maker. If you can hear the Father's "Well done" nothing else really matters.

—JOE R. BARNETT

## An Invitation

You are invited to a baby shower for Shirley McRuiz September 24 from 2-3:30 at the home of Louise Caskey. This is a come-and-go shower.

## Gospel Meeting

Jack Paul will be preaching for a meeting at the Bullard church Sept. 25-29, 7:30 p. m. week-nights, 6:00 p. m. Sunday. Jim Paul will direct the song services.

## Responses

Sheri Rene Dobbs came Sunday asking for the prayers of the church. Sheri is the daughter of Jerald and Sharon Dobbs and lives at Rt. 7, Box 149 H, phone 566-1084.

Coming to place membership with us from the Westbury congregation in Houston are Robin and Debbie Rushing. They live at 403 N. Parkdale, phone 593-6900.

## You Are Invited

All parents of children from birth to two years are invited to a Baby Banquet Sunday evening at 7:30 p. m. The banquet will be held at the Campus Christian Center. Dr. Roger Allen from Glenwood will be the guest speaker.

## Sympathy

Link Haws, brother of M. M. Haws, was buried in Altus, Oklahoma last Thursday. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family.

**LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE  
ANNUAL BIBLE LECTURESHIP  
OCTOBER 16 - 19, 1977**

**YOUTH MINISTER'S SEMINAR  
OCTOBER 17 - 20, 1977**

## Focus on Families

Roland and Amie Roberts came to West Erwin in April of this year. They live at Rt. 1, Chandler, phone 849-6800. Brother Roberts is retired from Humble Pipeline, being a patrol pilot for his last 15 years with them. They have three daughters, Mrs. Bonita Simmons, Mrs. Charlene Talbot, and our own Cherrie Magee. The Roberts have 5 grandsons and also one granddaughter who attends A. C. U. Beekeeping is an interesting hobby of both brother and sister Roberts. She also enjoys gardening and canning.



Steve and Sherry Brown, Rt. 15, Box 370, Lot #615 are both graduates of Texas Eastern University. Steve was baptized by brother Stephenson last fall, and Sherry placed membership at West Erwin in January. They were married Christmas Eve 1976. Steve is a Media Technician at Texas Eastern University and is also taking an electronics course at T. J. C. Sherry's home was in Canton; she taught first grade last year in Terrell and was Youth Director at the Y. M. C. A. this summer. She is now employed at Zales Jewelers.



## Thank You

Thank you for every expression of your love you have shown to us during our time of sorrow. He loved all of you and so do we. May God bless all of you.

The Wesley Turner Family

Your thoughtfulness is appreciated very much. Thank you for all the visits, calls and for your prayers. It meant so much to me. In Christian love,

Tawana Stewart

**We need YOU  
in Bible School!**

## Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

On the front page is a list of activities for the fall. West Erwin youth programmed their own activities. They will need support from parents and interested adults in every activity. If there is an activity you would like to participate in, please let me know. We will need homes in most activities listed.

Speaking of our youth, six of our girls gave of themselves last Saturday in caring for the children of those involved in our Tuesday School-Early Childhood Workshop. Thanks to Virginia Graf, Lorie Henderson, Sandie Henderson, Hill Rowe, Cindy Rowe, and Meredith Womack. In addition they were responsible for setting up the luncheon and cleaning afterwards.

The Workshop this past Saturday was great! Elaine Roberson and Margret Montgomery did an excellent job. We're especially indebted to Kathy Minton, Fonda Wilmarth and Beverly Hale from Shiloh Road. Their presentation was very good. We appreciate their sharing with us.

There will be an important teachers meeting Sunday, October 2 after evening worship. We want to discuss some ideas on building our Bible school attendance and ideas of working toward goal day on November 6. I hope all of our teachers will be present and participate in sharing ideas.

I hope that many of you will be supporting our Jack Paul in the meeting at Bullard. Many of our young people are planning to go on Tuesday night. I know the singing will be great - Jim Paul will be leading. Go to Bullard.



### Serving Sunday

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
Announcements

Dick Higginbotham  
Prayer Elwin Crow  
Dismiss Bruce Raley

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Jamon Kirby  
Prayer Ron Jones  
Dismiss Phil Marts

Serving Communion Sunday

Jamon Kirby Don Weathers  
Jack Beard Ben Young  
Cliff Clough Cone Birdwell  
Ron Lott Wade Weathers

Greeters for Sunday

Leon Welborn Phil Marts  
D. C. Jones

### Our Records

Contributions

Sept. 11 \$4,018.15  
Sept. 4 \$4,136.51  
Year Ago \$2,870.50

Worship

Sept. 11 495  
Sept. 4 487  
Wednesday 278

Bible School

Sept. 11 417  
Sept. 4 388  
Year Ago 381

Budget \$3,825.00

### Report of Our Sick

James Massey remains a patient in Medical Center Hospital where he is to undergo surgery the latter part of the week.

*Amazing Grace*  
BIBLE CLASS  
KLTU - CHANNEL 7  
EVERY SUNDAY MORNING 8:00 TO 8:30

From the Preacher's Desk - continued  
dent and a good teacher. I have heard a number of fine comments concerning his lessons.

I hope that you remember "our missionaries" in your prayers. Every month we distribute reports from these fine men in the various classrooms. They are all interesting and we hope you read them. We are glad that Dr. Roger Knight in his recent visit to Europe visited with the Rudolf Rischer family. We were glad to hear the fine reports of the work being done by Rudolf. David Ingram in Brazil and Kieth Mitchell in New York City continue to work faithfully in teaching others. We are thankful for them!

We hope you will continue to watch and tell others about the Amazing Grace Bible Class each Sunday morning at K. L. T. V. at 8:00. Every week letters come from individuals all over East Texas expressing appreciation for the program. We feel that some are studying the Bible now who will be led to obey the gospel in the near future as a result of the program.

We look forward to seeing you on the Lord's Day. I plan to preach on marriage- as I have been doing every September for many years.

See YOU  
In Bible Class,  
Sunday!

The Visitor  
Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75702. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809  
The Church With A Heart



### From the Preacher's Desk

George H. Stephenson

I am looking forward to the beginning of two courses of study next Wednesday, September 21. I look forward to a study of the gospel of John in the Ladies' Bible Class in the morning and to a study of the book of Isaiah in the auditorium on Wednesday evening. Both of these books should prove to be a helpful study for us.

Our faith in Jesus as the Son of God is strengthened as we study the wonderful gospel written by the "apostle of love". And Isaiah is a book of interest to all who study the Bible for it is quoted more often in the New Testament than any other Old Testament book. I believe you would find it worthwhile to include a study of God's Word on your schedule every Wednesday night.

I want to express my appreciation to Charles Miles for the four lessons he has given on the book of Galatians on Wednesday nights. Charles is a good Bible student.  
(continued on back page)

### TUESDAY SCHOOL

This week marked the beginning of Tuesday School. Under the very capable leadership of Elaine Roberson, Tuesday School Director, seventy children attended the first session. It was a time of smiling faces, joyous singing, sharing, praying, learning of God and His Son. It was a time of renewing friendship with some of our friends from Friday school last year.

How thankful we are for so many dedicated teachers and helpers. Molding young lives is indeed a glory to God.

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you this day shall be upon your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children..."

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**  
Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**  
Sunday  
Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday  
Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809



i guess you've been  
wondering  
who i am

The little boy was about ten years old. He approached me in church one day with a beaming smile, the top of his head decorated by red hair, his face punctuated entirely by freckles. He said to me with cheerful and artless self-importance, "I guess you've been wondering who I am." In order not to dampen his youthful confidence I gave a noncommittal reply, smiling and shaking his hand. He told me his name in the manner of a celebrity granting an autograph. (No identity crisis here!)

This memory suggests a number of thoughts to me, some negative and some positive:

- (1) It would be better for many people to have more confidence than they do. They stand around feeling left out, unappreciated, unrecognized — their own aloofness causing them to be lonely and isolated. If they would only make a more open, direct, and honest effort to be friendly, other people would be more friendly to them. As Solomon said "A man who makes friends must show himself friendly" (Prov. 18:24).
- (2) The young man also reminds me of how self-absorbed most people are, especially most adults in respect of children. Many of us think so much of ourselves that we have little interest in considering the other person's feelings. We sometimes ignore younger people because of our adult preoccupation with things we assume are more important. The children in our homes and churches should occupy a high degree of our focused attention. Jesus regarded children in a special favored way (Mk. 10:13-16).
- (3) And in still a third way, the young man's feelings of importance are a kind of rebuke to all of us. Let us remember there are other people in the world besides ourselves. They have feelings and needs. It is better strategy and certainly more classic Christianity to go about life "Counting one another better than himself (Phil. 2:3) and not seeking one's own good "but each his neighbor's good" (1 Cor. 10:24).

BERT MERCER

#### ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

We appreciate Dr. Walter Adams coming from Abilene Christian University to preach for us last Sunday night. Dean Adams has many friends here at West Erwin.

Beginnings, a musical group, was also with us. They shared with our high school students.

The A. C. U. dinner was an enjoyable occasion. Dr. John Stevens spoke to the crowd at the Rose Center.

Our own Joe Carroll assumes the duties of President of the Tyler Alumni Chapter. Joe will do a great job. Congratulations!

#### Ladies Bible Class

Remember September 21 is the first day of Ladies Bible Class in the chapel. All women are invited to the home of Louise Caskey after class for a covered dish luncheon. Bring any covered dish except meat.

#### New Members

We welcome John and Jane Owens to West Erwin. They come to us from the Eldridge Road congregation in Houston. John is employed with Southside State Bank.

#### An Invitation

There will be a shower for David and Charlotte Stephenson at the W. S. Little home September 18 from 2 till 4 o'clock. This will be a come-and-go shower with a special invitation for the men to attend also.

#### Sympathy

Sister C. T. Beard's sister was buried Thursday in Houston. We extend our sympathy to this family.

Services were held Monday at West Erwin for brother V. H. Turner, a longtime member here. We extend our deepest sympathy to sister Turner and to the Lowrance Family.

#### Workshop

Remember the Workshop for Tuesday School teachers at the West Erwin building Saturday, September 17 at 9:00 a. m. Bring a salad and lunch together at the benevolent building.

#### REPORT ON OUR "PEACH BARRELS"

Our peach barrels are slowly filling up, but at last count we were only halfway to our goal. Please continue to bring canned peaches to go to Medina Children's Home in November.

#### Zone Three

will meet at the Ed Bullard home Tuesday, 7:30 p. m.

#### Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

When Jesus was baptized, the Father said, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:22 With the Father's love embedded deeply upon his heart, Jesus was "led by the Spirit in the desert, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil." Luke 4:2

Jesus loved his Father. He wanted to please him. He wanted to serve him. He wanted to worship him. With such an attitude the devil's plans were thwarted. And after that tremendous mountain top experience, "Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit." Luke 4:14

Today we can have our own mountain top experiences every day. When we set aside a time to spend with God each day, we can thwart Satan's plans. We can become closer to Him. "Come near to God and He will come near to you." James 4:8 Every day we need a time to purify our hearts, to spend time learning more perfectly the will of the Father by studying the Word, and finally to seize the power that comes in prayer.

When we set aside a few minutes of our day to spend with the Lord, then we, too, can come away from our mountain top "in the power of the Spirit" and know that "when the devil had finished all these temptations, he left Him until an opportune time." Luke 4:13

Let our lives be holy and righteous. Let us seek to do the will of the Father. Let us share the good news of Jesus. Let us be receptive to God's will. And then we shall know our Father's heart in the words—"You are my Son whom I love, with you I am well pleased."



### Serving Sunday

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.  
 Announcements Hillard Hughes  
 Prayer Roger Knight  
 Dismiss Guy Potts  
 Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Dave Anderson  
 Prayer Wallace Gayle  
 Dismiss Roy Lane Roberson  
 Serving Communion Sunday

Don Chaffin Elwin Crow  
 Tommy Lowrance Sam Sevier  
 Dwaine Thedford Guy Potts  
 DeRay Bennett Keston McFadden  
 Greeters For Sunday  
 Mack Bynum F. C. Carpenter  
 D. C. Jones

### Our Records

Contributions	
Sept. 4	\$4,136.51
August 28	\$3,399.96
Year Ago	\$3,410.34
Worship	
Sept. 4	487
August 28	479
Wednesday	239
Bible School	
Sept. 4	388
August 28	394
Year Ago	413
Budget	\$3,825.00

**From The Preacher's Desk** - continued days for many years. He has done much good in the Master's Vineyard while supporting himself as Paul did in "making tents." We will be thinking and praying for your services here as Dave preaches in the morning service and Walter Adams from ACU preaches in the evening.

### Gospel Meeting

You are invited to attend a series of lessons on the subject of "Stewardship" by brother Burt Groves of Austin at the church of Christ in Gilmer, Texas, September 12, 13 and 14 at 7:30 each evening.



Congratulations on the "New Look" for The Visitor. I commend you on the format as well as the content. From the front page article in the first issue it sounds as though it will be even better in the future (if that is possible).

I have received the Visitor everywhere I have lived for over 26 years (since early 1951) and have always enjoyed reading it. Janette and I pray that you may always promote the Lord's work and the Lord's people through this media. Thanks for sending it to us in Brazil too.

David Ingram

The Visitor  
 Published weekly except the first week in July and Christmas week by  
 West Erwin Church of Christ,  
 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
 75702. Second class postage paid at Tyler, Texas.

### Report of Our Sick

W. H. Turner continues to be in ICU in Medical Center Hospital. James Massey underwent surgery Tuesday in Medical Center. P. J. Bryant expects to go home from Mother Frances this week. Tawana Stewart has been in Glenwood Hospital but is now at home.

### Responses

Mrs. Sharon Dobbs, Rt. 7, Box 149C, came Sunday to be restored.  
 Miss Dee Gowen, 912 W. Rusk, phone 593-4963, was baptized by C. E. Caskey Sunday morning.

### Business Meeting

Sunday afternoon, 1:30 in the Chapel. All men of the church are invited to be present for the meeting.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

#### ELDERS

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

#### ASSEMBLIES

**Sunday**  
 Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
 Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

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*The Church With A Heart*



**From the Preacher's Desk**  
*George H. Stephenson*

We are very grateful for the fine devotional service on Wednesday evening a week ago which was arranged by Dave Anderson. Isn't it fine to have such a splendid group of young men to participate in a public way. They read two books from the New Testament - First and Second Timothy - and led us in singing and praying. I appreciate Dave having these young men to direct us in this devotional service.

On this coming Sunday I am to begin a four day meeting with the church at Shannon - a rural congregation located between Sherman and Denison. This is one of the oldest congregations in North Texas. All of the area between Sherman and Denison is becoming thickly populated. My life long friend, Bill Smith of Sherman, has been preaching out at Shannon for a number of years. Bill has been employed in secular work, but has preached on Sun- (continued on back page)

### Early Childhood Department



Janet Parker



Jeanine Hughes



Fleta Butler

Pictured above are three important members of our early childhood ministry. The department ranges from birth to four years.

Janet Parker is the coordinator for the department. Janet works with the teachers of ages 2, 3 and 4. In addition she works with the Young Marrieds Class that has adopted this department as a class project.

Jeanine Hughes, well known for her expertise in teaching, will continue to teach and work with the teachers of birth to two years. An additional class will begin soon due to the growth of Jeanine's class.

Fleta Butler has been responsible for all the improvements in our nursery. Fleta has worked hard in shaping up our nursery. Fleta is responsible for the nursery facilities and attendants.

Be looking for some special events to come from this team of God's servants.



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE SCHOOL

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

Nursery	Nursery	Fleta Butler	
Room 109	Beginners	Kathy Hallman	Janie Cauthen
Room 107	Ages 2 and 3	Tawana Stewart	Sher Sevier
Room 108	Age 4	Nadean Bullard	

### PRIMARY

Room 201	Kindergarten		
Room 215	Grade 1	Delle Bullard	
Room 204	Grades 2 and 3	Kay Parrish	

### JUNIOR

Room 209	Grades 4 and 5	Diane Humphrey	Sue Higginbotham
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### YOUTH AND ADULT ELECTIVES

Isaiah	Auditorium	George H. Stephenson	
No Other Foundation	Chapel	Batsell Barrett Baxter (Film)	
For Women Only	Room 105	Kathryn Cauthen	
Personal Evangelism	Room 104	C. E. Caskey	
Puppet Ministry	Room 304	Carolyn Womack	
College	Tyler Junior College	Jack Paul	Fred Kniffen

### WHY I ATTEND LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

1. This is another opportunity to learn more of God's word. Why deprive myself of learning more about how to live?
2. Christ is there. True, He is everywhere, but we have the specific promise that "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
3. Ladies' class offers an opportunity to serve others. For instance, helping in the home of a sick member or neighbor, visitation of ladies who are shut-ins.
4. Other Christians are there who can strengthen me. We need each other's help and encouragement to remain faithful to our Lord. Christian association is more precious than any other that we have.

5. I must remember to put first things first. I should never allow housework, or pleasure or anything other than illness to keep me from an activity which the Elders have arranged for us. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you," Matthew 6:33.

This article recently appeared in the bulletin of the church at Tenth and Broad Streets in Wichita Falls. We would like to have all of the women who can possibly attend to be in our class every Wednesday morning at 10:00 o'clock beginning September 21. GHS

### **Thank You**

We wish to express our appreciation to everyone for the calls, cards, visits and every kindness shown to us during my illness and stay in the hospital. P. J. and Anne Bryant

### **Moved**

The O. C. Beckers plan to move this week to Austin. They have been some of our most devoted and loyal members for many years. We will miss them and pray that God will bless and be with them in their new home.

### DEAN WALTER ADAMS To Speak Sunday Night

Dr. Walter H. Adams is Dean Emeritus of Abilene Christian University. Dean Adams completed the Bachelor of Arts degree in education at Abilene Christian in 1925.

His work with ACU began in 1925 as an instructor in Mathematics. In 1927 he took his Master's degree in education from Stanford University and received his Doctorate in guidance and personnel from Columbia University in 1933. He became Dean of ACU in 1932.

Over his many years in education, Dean Adams has held positions of responsibility with the various education boards and conferences for Texas colleges.

In past years he has been active in civic affairs, serves as an elder for the College Church of Christ in Abilene, and preaches by appointment.

Be sure to hear him here at the West Erwin Church at 6:00 o'clock Sunday evening.

### **Workshop For Pre-School Teachers**

A Workshop for Tuesday School teachers and all pre-school teachers will be held at the West Erwin building Saturday, September 17 at 9:00 a. m. Each one is asked to bring a salad and lunch together at the Benevolent building. Another session of the workshop will be conducted following lunch. Margret Montgomery will be teaching. A nursery will be provided.

### **New Baby**

Kyle and Shirley McRuiz are the parents of a boy born last Saturday. Henry and Becky McRuiz are the happy grandparents.

### **Congratulations**

Dulse LaKaye Murry and Robert Glen Pyle were married Sunday night in Austin. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Murry and the granddaughter of Mrs. Ann M. Bryant.

TUESDAY SCHOOL will begin Tuesday, September 13 at 9:00 a. m. Approximately 70 children are enrolled in our school.

### **You Are Invited**

The Broadway congregation cordially invites you to attend a gathering to mark the occasion of the beginning of construction for their new building Sunday, September 11, at 2:00 p. m. at the site, Broadway at Cumberland Road.

### **Visitation**

ZONE 2 will meet Tuesday evening, 7:00 p. m. at the George Kester Home.

### **Let It Shine**



**David Cord Anderson**

On the front page you can read of three very special people. Janet, Jeanine and Fleta have worked hard in helping our teachers teach our children about Jesus.

Janet Parker has spent an unbelievable amount of time in making the initial steps of a teacher rotation system. We decided to start with the early childhood department in teaching for a six month period and going to a class for a six month period to be charged up again. Janet has been aggressive in securing teachers and helping them with their curriculum needs.

Jeanine Hughes is unexcelled in the cradle roll. Jeanine has a bumper crop of babies. One of the real joys is establishing new classes to accommodate growth needs. I appreciate Jeanine in many areas, but I am especially thankful for her God-given talent of teaching little ones.

Fleta Butler has been especially dedicated in improving our nursery facilities. She has been extremely diligent in attending to details.

I'm very proud of Janet, Jeanine and Fleta. Their contributions to the teaching ministry are immeasurable.

This week my Julie turns 3. I'm thankful that she is taught by dedicated Christian teachers. Julie's life is being shaped by such influences. What an awesome responsibility that God gives us in bringing up children. What joys transpire in the carrying out of those opportunities. It is hard for me to imagine why some parents aren't more diligent in taking advantage of the valuable assistance that comes from dedicated teachers. They are usually the same ones, a few years later, that don't understand why the youth minister can't get through to their children. See you in Bible Class.



**Serving Sunday**

**Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.**  
 Announcements Dave Anderson  
 Prayer Louis E. Jones  
 Dismiss Francis Bullard  
**Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.**  
 Announcements James Phillips  
 Prayer David Hubbard  
 Dismiss Marshall Phillips  
**Serving Communion Sunday**  
 Don Chaffin Elwin Crow  
 Tommy Lowrance Sam Sevier  
 Dwaine Thedford Guy Potts  
 DeRay Bennett Keston McFadden  
**Greeters For Sunday**  
 M. B. Beard Jack Beard  
 D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

**Contributions**  
 August 28 \$3,399.96  
 August 21 \$4,110.68  
 Year Ago \$3,326.22  
**Worship**  
 August 29 479  
 (youth retreat) 28  
 August 21 502  
 Wednesday 278  
**Bible School**  
 August 28 394  
 (youth retreat) 28  
 August 21 422  
 Year Ago 423  
 Budget \$3,825.00

**RESPONSES**

Joel Burgett, 901 N. Johnson, Mineola, Texas, came Sunday to place membership. We welcome Joel to West Erwin.

Mrs. Audie Grier came Sunday confessing wrongs in her life and asking for the prayers of the congregation. We commend sister Grier for her courage and devotion.

**IN THE HOSPITALS**

Brother W. H. Turner is in ICU in Medical Center Hospital.

Brother P. J. Bryant is in ICU in Mother Frances.

**Campus Christian Center**

Tuesday evening will be the beginning of the dinner-devotionals at the Campus Christian Center. All college adults are invited - 6:00 p. m.

**BROTHERHOOD NEWS**

Ira North, the dynamic preacher for the Madison, Tennessee congregation, will become the editor of *The Gospel Advocate* beginning January 1, 1978. Guy N. Woods, well known for his writing and preaching, will be associate editor. *The Advocate* is the oldest publication among our brethren. It began in 1855.

Batsell Barrett Baxter, well known preacher, Bible teacher and speaker for the Herald of Truth radio and television program, is recovering from serious surgery in Nashville, Tenn. We pray that this great and useful man may have many more years in the Lord's service.

I am thrilled when I see reports of great accomplishments by many congregations in the brotherhood. For example, the Sunset church in Lubbock baptized 360 in 1976. The South Haven, Michigan church grew from 70 to 700 in one year. The Crossroads church in Gainesville, Fla. teaches an average of 500 adult non-members through group home Bible studies every week. All of us need to work faithfully, pray diligently - and God will give the increase.

The World Evangelism Forum will be hosted by the Sunset church in Lubbock, from September 16 through September 18 in the new Lubbock Memorial Civic Center. This is the fifth year for this event. Missionaries from all over the world will join thousands of other Christians for what promises to be a very exciting and inspiring meeting.

GHS



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



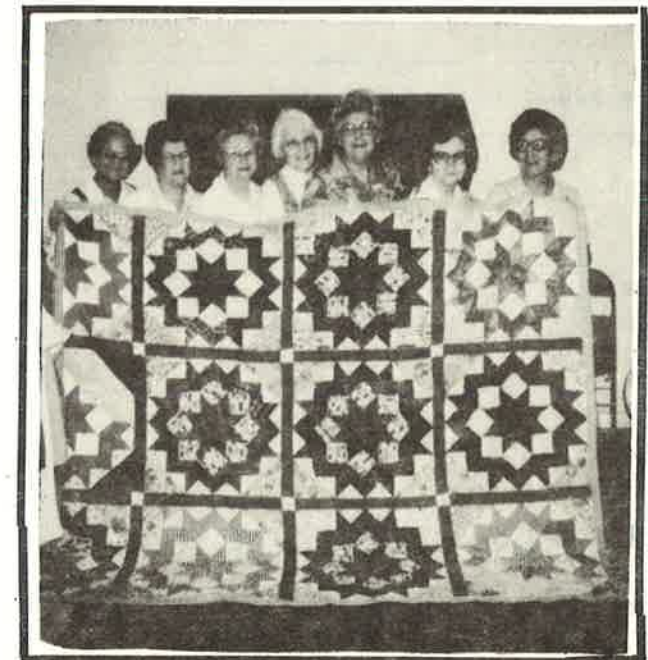
**From the Preacher's Desk**

**George H. Stephenson**

It was good to be back home Sunday after a very enjoyable vacation. I am thankful that we had the opportunity to see many signs, meet some old friends, and visit other congregations. We were glad to have good reports of the preaching by Dave Anderson while we were away.

There was an enthusiastic meeting of leaders from the various congregations in Tyler on Monday evening. Plans are being made for a city wide campaign for Christ in the spring. This should be a great opportunity for all of us to let our light shine in the city of Tyler.

As the fall season approaches we look forward to an increase in attendance and more work being done for the Master. We look forward to this Lord's Day. We will miss those of you who will be away for the holiday, but pray that you will have a safe return home.



Left to right: Mary Richey, Daisy Old, Vera Beard, Ann Lambert, Modena Jones, Adela Scogins, Pauline Daughtry.

**CHRISTIAN CARE CENTER**

Work will resume at the Christian Care Center for benevolence on September 1. An extensive program is being planned that will challenge each of us. The immediate work will be directed toward Boles Home, supplying them with several quilts, and supplying bandages for the Chimala Mission in Tanzania East Africa. Local work will consist of food and clothing for underprivileged in the Tyler area. James Massey and Modena Jones will direct the activities. A work day will be held each Thursday from 9:00 until 11:00 a. m. Let us strive to do more of the Lord's work in this field.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
 Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
 Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
 Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

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**Serving Sunday**

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements Jamon Kirby  
Prayer Dick Higginbotham  
Dismiss John Parker

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Dave Anderson  
Prayer Ray Womaek  
Dismiss Shayne Bennett

Serving Communion Sunday

Fred Kniffen James Phillips  
Morris Hallman David Demic  
Bill Butler, Jr. Joe Willis  
Randy Fletcher Jeff Willis  
Greeters For Sunday  
Ron Jones Mike Munn  
D. C. Jones

**Our Records**

Contributions

August 21 \$4,110.68  
August 14 \$4,094.59  
Year Ago \$2,932.61

Worship

August 21 502  
August 14 515  
Wednesday 293

Bible School

August 21 422  
August 14 400  
Year Ago 400  
(Weekly)  
Budget \$2,932.61

**From The Preacher's Desk (continued)**

(I Cor. 16:1,2). Has Jesus "revolutionized" so much that it is not a sin to go on a picnic instead of assembling with the saints? (Heb. 10:25, 26).

The issue is not the "man" or the "plan." It's not "either... or." It's "both!"

A "go-to-services-but-leave-Christ-out-on Monday" won't work. Likewise, a "love-Jesus-but-I-could-care-less-about-local-church-activities" won't work either.

Is dedication better felt than told? Does His power "guide" your life? Then prove it through your fruits! Fruit may "come from Jesus' power," and not from you-but the fruit still ought to be evident! (Matt. 7:20). Jesus' "fruit" never calls for less outward dedication! Christian liberty does not free us from being as dedicated as Paul was. He also assembled with the saints (Acts 20:7), and believed it was a sin not to do so (Heb. 10:26)!!

There could never be enough said about Christ and His power to live in us. Yet, let's tell it all. To preach a "revolution from cold facts" is part of it, but it is not all. If Christ is to "become our Lord in complete surrender," we are not liberated from church attendance, giving, or work. Instead, we, in response to Jesus, become more obligated by the love-principle to be more diligent than a legalist ever could be!!

Love creates more dedication and responsibility than duty ever could. Christianity is a faith that works through love. To fail to emphasize both is to fail to be Christian.

38

The Visitor  
Published weekly except the first week in July and Christmas week by West Erwin Church of Christ, 420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas 75702. Second class postage paid at Tyler, Texas.



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*

**THANK YOU NOTE**

We want to thank all of our wonderful Christian friends at West Erwin for the flowers, cards, telephone calls, food, and sweetest of all, your prayers. All of these helped us through the crisis. A special thanks to the Chapel class and the 20's class. May God bless and keep all of you.  
Lillian and Oscar Becker

**OUR SYMPATHY**

Mrs. W. O. Rushing's sister was buried Monday in Dallas. We extend our sympathy to the family.  
IN THE HOSPITAL

Julie Anderson, daughter of Dave and Pam underwent a tonsillectomy Tuesday in Mother Frances.

Betty Strait is in Mother Frances for tests.

THE BULLARD Church of Christ will have the 4th Sunday singing, August 28 at 2:30 p. m. All are invited.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

Sunday  
Bible School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
Ladies' Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809

**From the Preacher's Desk**  
*George H. Stephenson*

Guest Editorial. . .  
By Bob Barnhill  
**NOT EITHER/OR.**  
**BUT BOTH**



"Serving Christ is what matters. . . preachers shouldn't use the black whip and preach on attendance, contributions, and visiting. . . a Christian isn't necessarily one who shows up at all the services and works harder than anyone else. . . power through Jesus is the only theme that can revolutionize your life. . . Let Christ guide you and the fruit of His life will be clearly seen."

All right! I'll buy the whole package! It's Biblical. Jesus is to dwell in us. He is our personal Savior; and, He can revolutionize our life. But. . . what then?

Does the "peace of God" cause one to "not forsake the assembly." (Heb. 10:25)? Does the "personal Savior" authorize a freedom from His own commands? (John 14:15). Does "power through Jesus" give us the ability to detach ourselves from the guidance of bishops? (Heb. 13:17). Will "serving Christ" free Christians from giving collectively to carry on God's work?

(continued on back page)

**GET ON THE BUILDING COMMITTEE**

EDITOR'S NOTE: This editorial by Reuel Lemmons appeared in the August 9, 1977, issue of the FIRM FOUNDATION. We feel it is particularly appropriate and perceptive and should be read by every member of the church.

If you are in the average congregation the chances are strong that you are not growing. A strong negative influence over the past 25 years has blunted a phenomenal growth pattern. Some factions have developed and those responsible for them will answer to God in judgment.

There are some very easily recognized characteristics of a growing church. First of all, there must be the desire to grow. We are persuaded that most congregations do not want to grow. They are content with "holding their own."

About 90% of our members are in congregations of 200 or less. Leadership is limited and little is being done to train leadership. It would not take a large number in the average congregation to generate a building boom. If a handful would catch the fever and join the building committee we would begin training leaders. We do not have a dearth of talent, we have a dearth of desire to grow.

Church growth does not come automatically. Every congregation that is growing is paying a great price for the privilege. Those unwilling to pay that price will not grow. We are not speaking here of putting the price in the collection plate and hiring an "expert" to come in to produce growth. Any congregation is looking at a mirage (continued on page 3)



### Get on the Building Committee (continued)

that feels it can hire an expert to rejuvenate the church. The price of church growth is paid in individual effort and in no other coin. Do not think that it can be bought at any other price.

It takes blood and sweat and tears to build a mighty congregation. Elements of discouragement and divisive thought must be eliminated, and, like the rebuilders of Jerusalem's walls, the people must "have a mind to work." If the building committee is limited to a few the work will be too heavy and the progress slow, but if every Christian is willing to pay the price of putting his hand to the task it doesn't take long to build a wall.

In most business meetings we have attended more time was spent on maintaining the status quo and preserving the establishment than upon converting the world. You build churches out of converts. We do not suggest that it is unimportant to "shepherd the flock," but an essential part of that shepherding is to make the flock evangelistic. Church growth comes from this course which is so often completely neglected.

There are 180 million Americans who have no systematic Bible study. We can't get even some of our own to attend Bible school. It is time they got off the critic committee and got on the building committee. There are 50 million Americans with absolutely no personal commitment to Christ in any sense. There are plenty of them out there to build churches out of, if we will simply go hunting. Over three million babies are being born in the U. S. every year. All the church buildings we own would not hold one year's crop. How many will grow up to be heathen? That all depends upon whether you get on the building committee.

If our chief concern in maintenance (call it guarding the faith, shepherding the flock, holding the fort, or whatever you want to call it), we will wither and die. It is not unimportant to consolidate the ground we have gained. In fact we haven't spent enough energy on keeping the

saved saved. But we must make missionaries out of our members. We know of very few elders who are really missionary. It is like getting blood out of a turnip to get most of them to even subscribe to a religious paper so they will know what is going on outside their own congregation—and a lot of them don't know what is going on inside it. It is an almost impossible task to get one of them to go look at a mission field, much less get interested in it. We elders must bear the blame for not developing an evangelical church. We don't like to be told about it, but we can never expect the army to outdistance its generals. Elders ought to set the pattern by getting on the building committee. Great churches are built; they do not just happen.

Any time the elders, deacons, Bible class teachers and other leaders spend most of their efforts on internal operations the church will not grow. It is not a perpetual motion machine. It has to be fed from the outside. Every phase of the church's work must have an evangelistic outreach or the church will not grow.

"Every member a missionary" would be a good slogan. All in the world a missionary is is a member of some church who is trying to reach someone who is not "us." New people can be brought into the kingdom in our own home town much easier and at much less expense than in some remote area of the earth possessed of a strange culture. If we are to build churches we are going to have to get on the building committee and get over the culture shock of going to our own neighbors with the gospel. Live churches grow live churches. Dead church members grow dead churches.

We wonder sometimes if our people believe that local church growth is God's will. Do we, really? The slowness with which we rush to get on the building committee would indicate that most of us have our doubts. Until we put everything we've got into it we have no reason to think that God who put everything he had into it is pleased with us.

George and Alice Stephenson will be home for worship Sunday. It will be good to have them home from vacation. We are happy to have Foy and Mary Richey back home. They have been away in Alaska most of the summer.

### FROM CAMPUS CHRISTIAN CENTER

The Campus Christian Center will kick-off its fall program with a special dinner and worship period this coming Wednesday (August 31) at 6:00 p. m. All college age adults are invited.

### CLASS CHANGES

September 4 is the day designated for class changes. Children will go directly to their new classes. Early childhood department teachers will show their students their new classroom on Sunday, August 28th.

### BACK TO SCHOOL DEVOTIONAL

Wednesday, August 31 all classes except the early childhood department (4 years and before) will meet in the auditorium for a devotional.

### HIGH SCHOOL BEGINS NEW STUDY

September 4 marks the beginning of a 13 week study of the gospel of John. Grades 9 - 12 will be taught by David Cord Anderson.

### WORD POLLUTION: Grumbling

By Joe Goodspeed

From 20th Century Christian

Man has made an outcast of the drunkard, strung an emblazoned red "A" around the neck of the adulteress, hung the witch, and cut off the hands of the thief.

But the grumbler has been acquitted.

Whoever heard of tying the grumbler to a stake and pulling out his tongue by the roots?

But in a list of warnings to the Corinthians, Paul has "grumbling" with these unrighteous sisters: lust, idolatry, fornication, and trying the patience of God.

If "birds of a feather flock together," this covey shows grumbling for the spiritually filthy sin it is.

And you know why! The grumbler spreads unhappiness and discouragement everywhere he opens his mumbling mouth. He casts a black vapor of noxious fumes everywhere he gives vent to his pessimism. He pours polluted water on the plants of creativity we are trying to nourish. He verbally kicks and stamps into the ground the courage and hope we are trying to develop.

Adults: Let's build up and encourage young people and put an example of uplifting, optimistic conversation before them. Young people: Bad mouthing your parents or low rating the church is a sin - one that you can't afford and a discouragement that you surely don't want.

There have been times when our conversation has "talked down" the church, disheartened the faith of others, thrown cold water in the face of Christ.

Let's be careful.

Let's "talk the church up." Encourage the brethren. Up with the cheers. Careful with the jeers. Morale is everybody's business!



### Let It Shine

#### David Cord Anderson

Six Flags and All Night Movies was great! 62 journeyed to Arlington for a tiring but fun day. Thank you to Louis Jones, Dick Higginbotham, Ralph Rowe and Ron Lott for transportation and being "good guys." Thanks to Fred and Sara Powell for meeting us at the Campus Center and staying up all night and helping us out. And thanks to that wonderful breakfast crew - Marian Rowe, Elaine Roberson, Harvey and Mary Evelyn Grier, Jane Jones, Sue Higginbotham, Hillard and Jeanine Hughes. Most of all, I'm thankful for "my kids." They were fantastic! We have a right to be proud of them.

I'm especially thankful for Morris Hallman. Morris got the air conditioner on the bus working properly. Thanks Morris.

This weekend will be an enriching experience. The retreat at Pine Cove for junior high and high school students will provide the setting for the committing of our lives on a deeper level as this new school year begins. Pray for our youth as they prepare themselves for new opportunities of growth and service.

Last Monday night 38 gathered together to study God's Word. The book of Galatians provides great insight into the depth of God's grace.

This week I'm a little sad. Our college students will be returning to school. I'm going to miss them. Kim Hughes and Kay Montgomery have been a source of inspiration to the entire youth group. I think it is appropriate that they were honored at our Monday Night Bible Study by those that have especially been encouraged by their lives. Kim and Kay have always been loyal to Jesus and His people. Abilene Christian University count your blessings!

This afternoon (Monday) my daughter goes into the hospital for a tonsillectomy Tuesday morning. It's always an uneasy moment when it's your own.

### Serving Sunday

Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.

Announcements Roger Knight

Prayer Joe McBee

Dismiss Wayne Reynolds

Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.

Announcements Roy Roberson

Prayer F. C. Carpenter

Dismiss Ron Lott

Serving Communion Sunday

Fred Kniffen James Phillips

Morris Hallman David Demic

Bill Butler, Jr. Joe Willis

Randy Fletcher Jeff Willis

Greeters for Sunday

Hillard Hughes George Kester

D. C. Jones

### Our Records

#### Contributions

August 14 \$4,094.59

August 7 \$3,419.03

Year Ago \$2,816.05

Budget \$3,825.00

#### Worship

August 14

August 7

Wednesday

515<sup>502</sup>

470

248<sup>193</sup>

#### Bible School

August 14

August 7

Year Ago

400<sup>422</sup>

382

392

### From The Preacher's Desk (continued)

glad to attend a gospel meeting in progress in Collinsville in which Guy Purdy, local evangelist in Center, was doing the preaching. The church in Collinsville has a precious place in my heart - for it was here I first heard God's Word preached and saw humble people worship God. It was here I confessed my faith and was baptized. It was here that I first preached while a teen ager. Here, when I was fifteen, I was teaching a class of about sixty young people in a town of about 500 population. One of the class members later became my wife who has been such a great source of strength and help in all of the years I have tried to preach the gospel.

We hope that all of you will consider this a personal greeting and that you will know that you are in our prayers as we trust we are in yours.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

August 26 - 28

Junior High - High School Retreat

September 24

East Texas Summer Youth Series  
Planning Session

November 5

Youth Happening

November 6

Goal Day - 600 in Bible School

November 6 - 10

Gospel Meeting - Harvey Porter

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### Responses

Mrs. Ella Hibbard and Virginia Graf came Sunday to ask for the prayers of the church.

### Thank You

We wish to express our thanks for the lovely flowers, food, cards, and your words of comfort in a time of sorrow. May God bless each and every one.

The Family of M. H. Bullard

(Dell and Edgar

Nadean, Francis and Jan)

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY by David Cord Anderson

A. M. "He Arose" P. M. "Make Love Your Aim"

OUR PEACH BARRELS are filling with canned peaches.

The truck from the Medina Children's Home will be here in November to pick them up. We want to have a six months supply ready for them.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

#### ELDERS

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

#### ASSEMBLIES

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The Church With A Heart



### From the Preacher's Desk

George H. Stephenson

This column is being written in Columbia, Missouri where we have come for the wedding of our son, David, and Charlotte Jones. David and Charlotte met in Lubbock where both of them were learning more of God's Word. They have a great faith and have expressed a strong desire to be useful servants in God's Kingdom. We pray that the Lord will bless their union and we ask your prayers for them.

We have enjoyed meeting some lovely Christians in this beautiful little city of Columbia, the home of the University of Missouri, and several other colleges. A cool wave has brought some very beautiful weather with temperatures dropping into the "fifties" at night.

On our way here we went by our hometown of Collinsville, Texas to be present for the eighty-ninth birthday of our Mother Miller. She was grateful for many cards and notes from friends in Tyler. We were

(continued on back page)

## WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO GO TO AN OLD, DOWNTOWN CHURCH?

Dick Marcear, Central Church of Christ  
Amarillo, Texas

The action in business is definitely shifting to the suburbs. Businesses in the downtown area in cities all over America are shutting down and opening up in shopping centers in suburbia. With this being the trend, why would anyone in the suburbs want to go to an old, downtown church? Let me begin by saying that I am happy to be at an "old, downtown church." Why? Let me list some reasons:

1. ALL PEOPLE FEEL WELCOME. A church in a suburb usually has only one "class" of people. Some are in rich areas, others in poor areas. But a downtown church has all types of people. At a downtown church you have a "melting pot" of people of all ages, social classes, and colors. Here a person who is rich or poor can feel free to bring his friends knowing that they will find a warm welcome. I'm thankful that Central is an old, downtown church where all can feel the "oneness" for which Christ died.
2. TRADITIONS. Cadillac advertises that it traditionally has the finest cars on the market. This means they have proven themselves. You know what they stand for and what you are going to get when you buy one. Football powers such as Oklahoma, Texas, Southern Cal., etc., recruit young players on tradition. "We have always been winners... traditionally we will be

(Continued on Page 3)



"O that I had in the desert a wayfarers' lodging place, that I might leave my people and go away from them" (Jeremiah 9:2).

## GETTING AWAY FROM IT ALL

Jeremiah had had it up to here! He wanted to get away from it all—to escape to some secret hideaway. And not without reason. He had preached his heart out, with no results.

Not only were there no responses—the congregation was downright hostile. They said, "... let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more." They said, "Do not prophesy in the name of the Lord, or you will die by our hand" (Jeremiah 11:19, 21).

No wonder he felt the urge to get away. If he had quit the congregation would have applauded his resignation speech, because they didn't like him or his sermons.

A vacation would have been nice—a leave of absence better. Bets of all would have been giving it up altogether, never having to face that bunch of malcontents again.

But he couldn't quit. God had called him to preach. It was a distasteful assignment—but it was God-given so he refused to resign. He stayed with that job for 40 years. And the people never changed! During his lifetime his ministry could not be considered successful.

Many a successful person has died convinced that his life's work had failed. Within arm's reach of most of the preachers who read these words is a six-volume set of Bible commentaries by Matthew Henry. Matthew died convinced that his life had been wasted—that he had done nothing worthwhile. But today, through the influence of his writings, he finds his way into nearly every sermon that's preached.

What task has God given you? Preacher? Teacher? Mother? Father? He can use you in any honorable work. In the moment of discouragement, don't lose your sense of mission. You may be sure that "... in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Your job is not to be *successful*, but to be *faithful*! If you will be faithful God will see to it that you're successful.

—JOE R. BARNETT

## Why Would Anyone... (Continued)

better than others," they say. The same is true with Central. This church has proven itself over the years to be a great church. Central has a heritage of working, loving, and effectively serving the Lord. As I was contemplating the move to Central, Charles Hodge told me, "Central is one of the 5 best churches in the brotherhood." It has traditions!

3. YOUR MONEY IS FOR WORK. The question, "Where is my money going to be spent?" is of interest both to new and old members. There is an excitement generated by building a new building. Once in Tulsa, and again in Fort Worth I was involved in building programs. But, an old, downtown church has its building paid for. You know when you give a dollar that it will be used to preach the Gospel, serve the needy, etc. I'm personally motivated to give more for souls than bricks. Our building was built in 1929. To me it was wise planning to stay where we are and spend our money to spread the Gospel. I'm glad to be in an old, downtown church.

## NEW STUDY FOR YOUNG MARRIEDS

The Young Marrieds Class (room 106) beginning, August 21st will begin a group discussion of Philipians. All young married couples are invited.

## TUESDAY SCHOOL WORKERS

All workers in our Tuesday School program are asked to meet, Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, August 23rd. If anyone can donate any of the following items, please call Elaine Johnson: record players (3), small tables, building blocks, baby dolls and cradles, toy dishes, puzzles (children), paint easels and doll clothes.

**REMEMBER** to bring cakes for Boles Home before Thursday morning, the 25th. Ron Jones has volunteered to take the cakes to the home. Let's have a good supply.

## FROM THE CAMPUS CHRISTIAN CENTER

Want to increase your Bible knowledge and get college credit for it? Our Church of Christ Bible Chair at Tyler Junior College will be offering the following day and night courses: Old Testament; Life of Christ; and World Religions. These courses can also be taken for non-credit free of charge. Contact Larry Heath (593-0542 or 593-8181) for more information.

**NANCY OWINGS**, former member of West Erwin, is now working in Switzerland. Her address is Tannstrasse 24, 8307 Effretikan, Switzerland.

## Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

"Mandate for Direction" is the theme of our fall retreat. August 26, 27, 28 will be spiritually enriching as the 6th grade through high school study the book of Jonah. Pine Cove will provide the beautiful setting for this study of God's will for our lives.

The bus will leave the church parking lot at 2:00 Friday afternoon. Others may come at any time. The weekend together will give us an opportunity to explore questions as "Where am I going?" Sharing sessions, quiet time, and a sunrise communion service will highlight the retreat. The bus will return to the church parking lot at 11:30 Sunday morning.

Cost for the two nights and five meals will be \$10.00. Friends are invited.

Thank you for kind responses to the messages Sunday. You are encouraging to me. I appreciate your spirit of love.

I'm glad George and Alice Stephenson are having an opportunity to take some time off. I appreciate George more and more all the time. There is no substitute for the wisdom that comes from many, many hours of study and prayer over the years. We are indeed blessed.

Last Thursday I accompanied Jack Paul to Fort Worth as he spoke at the final session of the Summer Youth Series. 967 young people were present as Jack spoke on "Total Commitment." 66 responded to the invitation. I'm thankful to have Jack here. He means so much to us.

I'm glad that Rufus Johnson is coming to Tyler. Rufus has accepted the pulpit ministry at North Tenneha. The Johnsons will be moving here at the end of the month from Palestine, Texas. Welcome!

I'm looking forward to seeing you Sunday!

## OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS

### Tyler Junior College

Rosemary Center  
Charlie Cook  
Randy Fletcher  
Vicki Fletcher  
Mike Franklin  
Steve Higginbotham  
Bart Lemons  
Ron Lott  
Keston McFadden  
Mike Mackey  
Prissy Potts  
Denise Terry

### Central State University

(Oklahoma)  
Ginger Bray

### Abilene Christian University

Matt Haws  
Kim Hughes  
Grant Knight  
Lee Knight  
Paul Knight  
Kay Montgomery  
Hunt Rowe  
Laurie Rowe  
Walker Weathers  
Mark Whitworth  
Becky Young

### Lubbock Christian College

Ken Jones

### East Texas State University

Kevin Womack  
Rick Higginbotham

### North Texas State University

Kenny Browning

### Texas A & M

Tony Fears  
Edwin Pickle  
Holly Womack

### Texas Eastern University

Debra Driggers  
Karen Green  
Tim Holt

### Texas Eastern School of Nursing

Laneva Turner

### Texas Tech

Marty Stitt  
Dwain Strait

<u>Morning Worship - 10:30 a. m.</u>		<u>Contributions</u>	
Announcements	C. B. Hardin	August 7	\$3,419.03
Prayer	Roland Roberts	July 31	\$3,235.73
Dismiss	Henry McRuiz	Year Ago	\$3,374.96
<u>Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.</u>		Budget	\$3,825.00
Announcements	Mack Bynum	<u>Worship</u>	
Prayer	Tommy Parrish	August 7 (a. m.)	470
Dismiss	Harley Turner	July 31 (a. m.)	503
<u>Serving Communion Sunday</u>		Wednesday	285
J. C. Payne	David Thurman	<u>Bible School</u>	
Charles Lemons	Odell Malone	August 7	382
Wayne Terry	K. Max Haws	July 31	353
Ray Magee	Denton Phillips	Year Ago	380
<u>Greeters for Sunday</u>			
David Hubbard	Cullen Gilliam		

D. C. Jones  
**SERMONS FOR SUNDAY** - by David Cord Anderson  
 10:30 a. m. The Honey Lickers  
 6:00 p. m. A Day of Good News

**Sympathy**

We extend our sincere sympathy to the Bullard families. The father of Ed and Francis Bullard passed away last Thursday and was buried on Saturday in Gallatin, Tenn.

**Report of Our Sick**

Brother O. C. Becker continues to be a patient in Mother Frances. Brother Ted Snipes underwent surgery Tuesday in Mother Frances. Brother P. J. Bryant has gone home.

**RESPONSES**

Brother Ed Naul came Sunday to ask for the prayers of the congregation.  
 CAKES FOR BOLES HOME - We are scheduled to supply cakes for Boles Home August 25. Plan to bring your cakes on Wednesday. A volunteer is needed to take them on the 25.

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
 David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
 F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
 Dr. L. Roger Knight

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 (Sept. thru May)  
 Bible Classes ..... 7:30 p.m.

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**From The Preacher's Desk (continued)**

I want to thank the men who will be teaching my Bible classes during my absence. Charles Miles will be teaching the auditorium class on Wednesday evenings and Ira Wright will be teaching my chapel class on Sunday morning. Both of these men are good teachers and we are thankful for them.

The West Erwin church is blessed with talent. We are glad that Hillard Hughes, who worked full time with us for six years, is still very active in the work at West Erwin. Another man who is a splendid teacher as well as preacher is Olen Holland. He has taught my chapel class on several occasions. Forest McFadden is another fine teacher and preacher whose membership is with us. He preaches in Brownsboro on Sundays but his family is with us all the time. And then we also have the Jack Pauls here. Jack is one of the finest preachers anywhere. He is doing an outstanding work in Sulphur Springs and is used in meetings all over our brotherhood. His lessons on Church Growth greatly blessed us.

Another man who has meant much to West Erwin as a teacher and preacher is W. D. Metcalf. During depression days he donated his services as a preacher for this church. He is a man of great faith with a splendid knowledge of God's Word. We are thankful for him and his good wife.

Of course, we are thankful for all of you who teach both publicly and privately. Every Christian should be a minister or servant for Jesus Christ. May God bless each of you in His service.

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*The Church With A Heart*



From the  
**Preacher's Desk**  
 George H. Stephenson

Vacations have had their effect on our attendance the past two weeks. We have had visitors to come our way, but this has not made up for the numbers of our own people who have been absent. We are glad for the opportunities afforded us to have vacations and we hope that they will bring us needed refreshment of spirit and enable us to work more efficiently in the days ahead. Alice and I are looking forward to our own vacation which will take us out of town for the next two Lord's Days.

David Cord Anderson will be preaching in our absence. We are glad to have him as a co-laborer here at West Erwin. He is a sincere, dedicated Christian and we hope you will support him in his preaching of the Word while I am away. He is working very faithfully with our young people and in our Bible School program. It is not easy to find qualified educational directors. I know of a number of congregations who are trying to find such men now.

(continued on back page)

**NEITHER SHALL THE FATHER**

By Hardeman Nichols

There is always pain in sensitive hearts when anyone turns from the way of righteousness. The grief is more intense in those who love the apostate the most. Almost always in this number are some godly parents who have sacrificed and served, and would gladly spend and be spent for the welfare of their children. Their hearts bear the sorrow of departed children. It is a departure heavy as that of death - sons or daughters who have departed from Christ and the church.

Can one be sure how often it happens? But it does, and with greater frequency than we are willing to admit, children grow up, leave home, and leave their God. Parents, knowing the terrible consequences of apostasy, suffer untold anguish in their hearts.

In most of these cases, their burdens are multiplied by implications of blame, worn by these fathers and mothers like a cross lashed to their shoulders. "Where did we go wrong?" "What should we have done that we neglected?" The larger measure of this is self-imposed; but there may be the occasional accusation from one who says, "The parents are to blame. We don't know where they missed it; but if they had brought up their children in the right way, they would still be faithful." Remember Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it."

I feel I can speak upon this subject without appearing to defend a personal situation. Those of us whose children have remained steadfast in the faith are thankful to God; yet we cannot claim that their faithfulness is due to the perfection of our training them in their youth. Every parent can see

(continued on page 2)



where mistakes were made and where they could have improved. While we rejoice in their loyalty to Christ we realize that our children now grown have their own accountability. They are individuals who are responsible to God for their own lives.

Just as parents cannot take the credit for the faithfulness of their children, neither should they be blamed for their unfaithfulness. We speak here only of those who brought their families up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Fathers and mothers who neglected to do this are another matter. And even then, there is the fact of personal individual responsibility of every son and daughter to obey God, regardless of their early training.

This brings us to the question. What about Proverbs 22:6? The way some people have tried to apply it, one is led to believe that it means children cannot get away from their early training. If so, is the possibility of apostasy in such cases an impossibility? Also, what about the conversion of one brought up without God or in error? Can he leave his early training? This proverb when properly understood will be seen as a general rule; but there are exceptions to rules. The Bible says, "It is appointed unto man once to die" (Hebrews 9:27); but what of Enoch or Elijah and those living when the Lord returns in the end of the world?)

Proverbs also have exceptions. For example, Proverbs 16:7: "When a man's ways please Jehovah, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." Christ pleased the Lord and his enemies

crucified him. One does not need to explain what happened to the apostles and martyrs.

The general rule does not obviate the exceptions, especially in such proverbs that deal with children. Throughout that entire book, the wise father emphasizes the personal responsibility of the son. As an example, note Proverbs 2:1-5. "My son, if thou wilt receive my words and lay up my commandments with thee, so as to incline thine ear unto wisdom... then thou shalt understand the fear of Jehovah, and find the knowledge of God." It is a conditional sentence.

Proverbs 1:8 entreats, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother." Also Proverbs 3:1: "My son, forget not my law." Both show it is possible for one so trained to forsake and forget.

We have taught long and well that a son does not inherit sin from his father and a solid proof has been Ezekiel 18:20: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die: the son shall not bear the iniquity of the father." But there is another part to that verse: "Neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."

Children shall stand before God for individual accountability. As Solomon said to his son in Proverbs 9:12, "If thou art wise, thou art wise for thyself; and if thou scoffest, thou alone shall bear it."

### You Are Invited

There will be a "come and go" miscellaneous Wedding Shower Sunday afternoon honoring Trudy Howard from 2:30 to 4:00 o'clock, 322 Winchester.

### Gospel Meeting

Don Kleppe will conduct a Gospel Meeting at the Northwest church, August 14 - 17. He is the new preacher for the congregation. You are invited.

### Business Meeting

- Sunday afternoon, 1:30 in the Chapel. All men are invited to attend.

REMEMBER to bring canned peaches to fill the barrel in the foyer. The peaches are for Medina Childrens Home.

ZONE 3 will meet at 7:30 Tuesday evening at the Don Weathers home.

### Focus on Families

We are happy that Ira and Lola Wright and their son, Ted now make their home in Tyler and worship at the West Erwin church. They moved here from Denison, Texas the last of May. Their address is 1123 Dogwood, phone 597-0011. Brother Wright is retired after being in the foundry business in Denison for 27 years. He served as an elder there for 32 years. In addition to Ted, the Wrights have two other sons. Don lives in New York and Ira Lee lives in Grand Prairie and serves as an elder for the Turnpike church. Brother Wright enjoys fishing and hunting and compliments his wife on being a wonderful homemaker and very good cook. They are proud to have six grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Ted Wright lives with his family and is employed at the First Federal Savings and Loan Association.

Tom and Diane Humphrey and baby son, Jay (13 mo.), live at 2018 So. Robertson, phone 593-7560. They placed membership with us last February. They formerly lived in Richardson. Diane taught English and Spanish for five years in Richardson High. Tom is now working for the Cabell Division of Southland Corp. He and Diane attend the young couples class on Sunday morning and Diane is now teaching in the Primary department on Wednesday evenings. Tom likes to play golf, fish and photography. Diane does not work away from home now. Her hobbies are sewing and crochet.

### WILL YOU HELP?

Volunteers are needed to help with Tuesday School which begins September 13th. Elaine Roberson coordinates the work. Please contact her soon if you can assist in any phase of the program. Also, donations of the following items are needed: record players (3), small tables, building blocks, baby dolls and cradles, toy dishes, puzzles (children), paint easels, and doll or baby clothes.



### Let It Shine



David Cord Anderson

Monday Night Bible Study had a great start! 33 college, high school and junior high students met for the first study session. Included in the figure were six visitors. I'm thankful that we are blessed with youth that love to study God's Word! Monday Night Bible Study is open to anyone who wants to study the Word. Why don't you come?

Some needed improvements have been made by our youth. DeRay Bennett and crew cleaned up our bus. Thanks to Shane Bennett, Ken Giles, Eric Gambrel, and the Roberson family for the assistance. Cathy Crow and Angel Carpenter painted many of our chairs in the early childhood department. They were aided by one mother and one father (thanks). The high school room was completed redecorated by Kay Montgomery, Kim Hughes and their crew - Laurie Hughes, Denise Terry, Janet Kniffen, Cindy Rowe and Laurie Rowe. Room 301 is really beautiful and informative. Thank you for your help and your sweet spirit.

By popular demand there will be a return trip to Six Flags. August 19 we will journey to Dallas. We will leave at midnight coming back to Tyler and All Night Movies. Some gracious and brave mothers will then fix breakfast for the group. Coupons will allow us to Six Flags for only \$3.75 per person. What a night! (I can hardly wait)! Louis Jones volunteered to drive the bus. We will need additional parents to be ready to take cars in addition to the bus. Please see me if you can help.

"TURN YOUR SCARS INTO STARS."  
--Robert H. Schuller

Mrs. Gipsy Y. Howard  
requests the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of her daughter  
Trudy Gay Howard  
to  
Mr. Jack Johnston  
on Saturday, the twentieth of August  
nineteen hundred and seventy-seven  
at two o'clock in the afternoon  
West Erwin Church of Christ  
Tyler, Texas  
Reception follows  
Fountain Room  
Rose Garden Center



**Serving Sunday** August 7, 1977 **Our Records**

**Morning Worship - 10:20 a. m.**

Announcements David Anderson  
Prayer Milburn Cook  
Dismiss Jack Stringer

**Evening Worship - 6:00 p. m.**

Announcements George Kester  
Prayer Ron Campbell  
Dismiss Stafford Franklin

**Serving Communion Sunday**

J. C. Payne David Thurman  
Charles Lemons Odell Malone  
Wayne Terry K. Max Haws  
Ray Magee Denton Phillips  
Greeters For Sunday

Don Weathers Louis E. Jones

**Contributions**

July 31 \$3,235.73  
July 24 \$3,980.29  
Year Ago \$3,150.44  
Budget \$3,825.00

**Worship**

July 31 (a. m.) 503  
July 24 (a. m.) 531  
Wednesday 256

**Bible School**

July 31 353  
July 24 412  
Year Ago 382

D. C. Jones

SERMONS FOR SUNDAY by George H. Stephenson

10:20 a. m. A Great Believer

6:00 p. m. What Does the Blood of Abel Say?

**Report of Our Sick**

Mrs. W. O. Rushing's sister is critically ill in Austin. The father of Ed and Francis Bullard is very ill in Tenn. O. C. Becker continues to be in Mother Frances and P. J. Bryant is in ICU of Mother Frances following a heart attack.

**Congratulations**

to Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Byrd who are the grandparents of Nathan Coleman born July 27 to Jerry and Linda Brown in Dallas.

**THANK YOU NOTES**

Thank you for the flowers and visits and the nice book from the church. A special thanks to the 20's class for their card. A. E. Bedford

Thank you for your prayers and for every act of kindness shown to us during the time of my surgery and recovery. Your concern has been greatly appreciated.

Kenneth Bennett

George H. Stephenson, Minister  
David Cord Anderson, Minister of Education & Youth

**ELDERS**

Mack Bynum C. E. Caskey  
F. C. Carpenter Faber Cauthen  
Dr. L. Roger Knight

**ASSEMBLIES**

**Sunday**  
Bible School . . . . . 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Ladies' Bible Class . . . . . 10:00 a.m.  
(Sept. thru May)  
Bible Classes . . . . . 7:30 p.m.

**WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
420 West Erwin - Tyler, Texas 75702  
214-592-0809

**From The Preacher's Desk (continued)**

with you on August 1, 1968. I would be most ungrateful if I did not express to you my sincere appreciation for every kindness and favor shown to us during the years we have been privileged to live here.

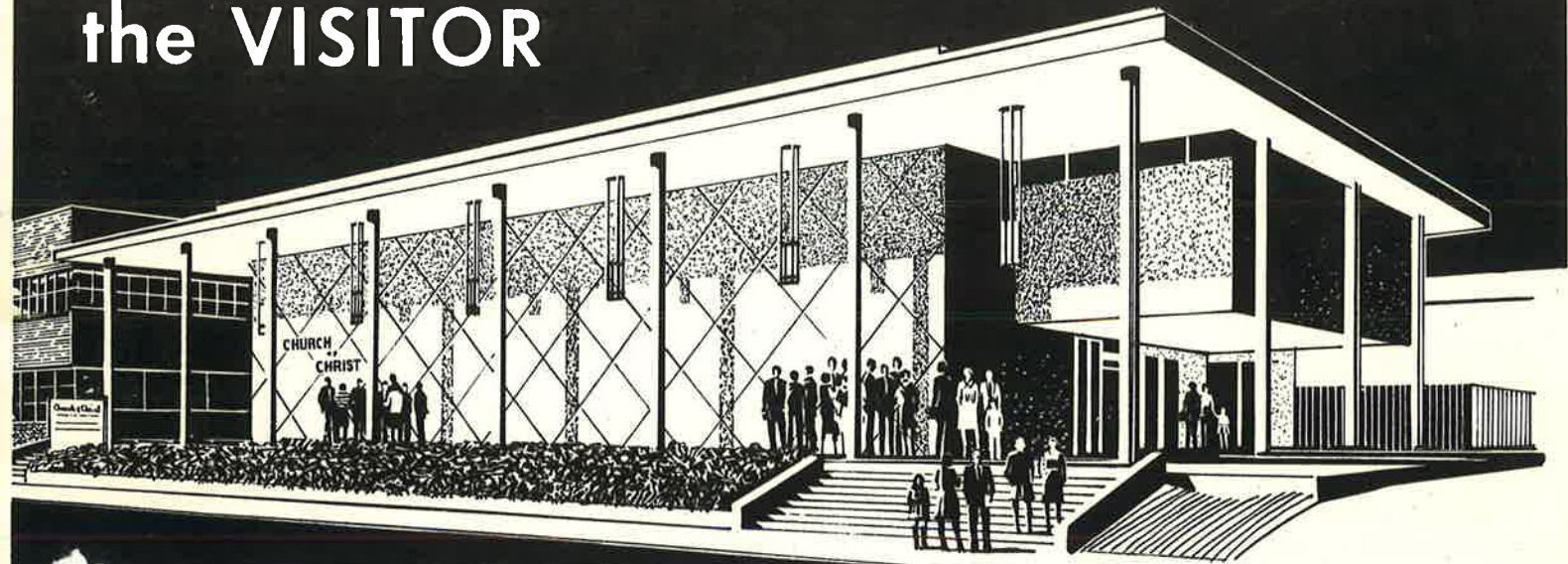
Looking back over the past nine years I am reminded of the many changes which have taken place. There is not a man serving as an elder at West Erwin now who was an elder when we moved here. I recently wrote a letter to our present elders in which I told them that I remembered very kindly the elders who once served but that I am grateful for the devotion and service of our present eldership.

There is a measure of sadness in our hearts today as we think of many who are no longer with us because of death. There are many whom we miss but we are thankful for the hope of a much better life than this. Much sadder than the loss by death is the thought that there are those, once faithful, who have left the Lord out of their lives. How sad to know that there are those like Demas of old of whom Paul said, "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world," (2 Tim. 4:10).

We rejoice when we think of the many fine boys and girls who have grown into useful men and women. We rejoice because of the many fine Christians who have become a part of our family at West Erwin. I feel that there is a spirit of love prevailing among us. We ask for your prayers that we may be able to do a greater work for the Lord in the future than ever before. We love and appreciate all of you.

The Visitor  
Published weekly except the  
first week in July and  
Christmas week by  
West Erwin Church of Christ,  
420 West Erwin, Tyler, Texas  
75702. Second class postage  
paid at Tyler, Texas.

**the VISITOR**



WEST ERWIN CHURCH OF CHRIST 420 WEST ERWIN TYLER, TEXAS 75702 592-0809

*The Church With A Heart*



**From the  
Preacher's Desk**

*George H. Stephenson*

We surely hope you like the new and enlarged "Visitor." For many years the bulletin has been called The Visitor. We would like for the bulletin to be just that - a friendly visitor in your home every week. I wish it were possible to visit with every member at West Erwin every week. Since this is impossible, I do hope you will regard my column as a visit with you.

We want The Visitor to promote the Cause of Christ everywhere and especially at West Erwin. We want it to be informative and inspirational. We want it to be a tool in our efforts to show interest and love for each other. If you know interesting items about any of our members which you feel should be included in The Visitor, please let us know.

Nine years have passed since my family and I moved to Tyler and I assumed the duties of an evangelist for the West Erwin Street congregation. We began our work

(Continued on back page.)

**New Look for "The Visitor"**

"The Visitor" has a new look. It is the desire of the elders to provide more effective communication within the congregation. The new format will provide additional space to share more opportunities of growth and service.

One of the new features of "The Visitor" will be an article each week highlighting families here at West Erwin. Appearing periodically will be articles from the elders. Weekly features will include articles by George H. Stephenson and David Cord Anderson. Inspirational messages will be shared weekly. In addition, news of West Erwin family members will continue to be an important part of the new format.

You can be of great assistance by observing a Monday noon deadline for all bulletin items.

The Elders

**Monday Night Bible Study Resumes**

August 1st marked the continuation of the Monday Night Bible Study after the July break. The Bible Study will center around a study of Galatians during the month of August.

Monday Night Bible Study meets at 7:30 each week at the home of David and Pam Anderson. Designed primarily for Junior High and High School, the study is open to everyone. Parents are especially invited to attend. The hour is composed of singing, prayer, and the study of God's will for our lives.



*We invite you to share with us  
Charlotte Margaret Jones  
and  
John David Stephenson  
as we unite in a covenant relationship  
before God  
entrusting our love to each other  
and committing our lives  
to serve our Creator  
as One  
August thirteenth  
Nineteen hundred and seventy-seven  
two o'clock in the afternoon  
Stadium Church of Christ  
Columbia, Missouri*

### **An Invitation**

There will be a Gift Brunch honoring Terri Young, bride of Rodger Young, at 1925 Courtney from 10 until 11:30 Saturday morning, August 6.

### **Thank You**

A few months ago our love for you was based on the knowledge that we were brothers and sisters in Christ. But, in recent weeks, as we have shared hours of joy and sadness, that love has deepened and become more meaningful to us. We have come to know so many of you better as you came to the hospital and sat with us, called, visited, sent cards and all the generous loving things you did which has created a very strong bond of love between us all. On behalf of Laurie and all her family, we are deeply grateful.  
Dale and Dot White

I want to express my appreciation for the visits, food, cards, and flowers. Also, I want to express a very special thanks to the Chapel class and to the 20's class for remembering me.

Eleanor Smith

*Mrs. Jean Porter Fuller  
and  
Mr. Waller A. Fuller, Jr.  
invite you to share in the joy of  
the marriage uniting their daughter  
Aina Jean  
to*

*Mr. Frank P. McClure  
This celebration of love will be  
on Friday, the twelfth of August  
nineteen hundred and seventy-seven  
at three o'clock in the afternoon  
West Erwin Church of Christ  
Tyler, Texas*

*Reception  
immediately following the ceremony  
Woman's Building  
911 South Broadway*

### **Responses**

Terry Warren, Rt. 1, Box 247, phone 592-0089, came Sunday morning to be baptized. He works for McEvoy Oil Field Equipment Co. Terry is a nephew of Pat McCarley. We welcome him.

Kenneth Giles, after a period of study with David Anderson Sunday afternoon, was baptized at the beginning of the worship service Sunday night. His address is Rt. 7, Box 149F, phone 566-1216. We are happy to welcome Ken.

Denise Terry came Sunday morning to ask for the prayers of the church.

ZONE 2 will meet Tuesday evening, 7:00 o'clock at the Forest McFadden Home, 2700 Meadowlark.

The last meeting of the Summer Youth Series will be Tuesday evening, 7:30 at the Glenwood church.

### **Focus on Families**

Kay and Tommy Parrish came to West Erwin in May of this year. They formerly worshipped with the Northwest congregation. Kay is the former Kay Singleton and originally from West Erwin. They have a daughter, Shara, nine years old and in the 4th grade in Clarkston. Their son, Jeffrey, is six and will be in the first grade when school begins. Tommy's business is Parrish Generator & Starter Service. Kay plans to work part time for Ad-Gifts when school begins. She is teaching in the primary department on Wednesday evenings. Enjoying their boat together is a family hobby. Their address is 3115 Andy Lane, phone 593-128.



Carolyn and Leon Welborn moved to Tyler from Chattanooga, Tenn. about four years ago. They are originally from Greenville. They came to us from the Northwest church in May. Their daughter, Cheryl, is seven and in the 2nd grade. Their address is 618 Purdue, phone 561-3624. Leon is a CPA and partner in the firm of Bryant and Welborn with offices in the Heritage Bank Bldg. He is a leader in the discussion class of young couples. He enjoys golf every now and then. Carolyn is teaching on Sunday morning in the 5th grade class.



Linda and Phillip Marts, 3803 West Elm, phone 593-8067, came to us from the Northwest church in April. They have a daughter, Melissa, 4 years old. They came to Tyler in 1969 from Sulphur Springs. Linda is originally from Pittsburg, Texas. She is a homemaker, has taught 2nd grade in Winona, and also taught a year in Tyler Commercial College before Melissa was born. She plans to attend Texas Eastern in the future for her Master's degree. She is now teaching 5 year olds on Sunday morning. Leon is an engineer with General Electric. He enjoys fishing and golf.



### **Let It Shine**

**David Cord Anderson**



The Abilene Christian University Bible Teacher's Workshop was really great. Doug Kostowski, Robert Oglesby, Prentice Meador, Ira North, Dan Whitaker, Jim Bill McInteer and Byron Williamson were inspiring and helpful. Next years theme is "Madison Returns." The entire workshop will be hosted by Ira North and the Madison Staff. I hope that many will take vacations and take advantage of this tremendous opportunity.

One of the real highlights of the workshop this year was NTI. The National training Institute is a professional Training ministry developed for Churches of Christ. I believe the six hour program is the best teacher training available. NTI will return to Tyler with a new course, November 18 and 19. Plan to attend - even if you attended last year.

I'm looking forward to Monday Night Bible Study that resumes this week. "I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation of everyone who believes," Romans 1:16. I'm thankful for Kenneth Giles' decision to be buried with his Lord in baptism. Ken has been coming to our Monday Night Bible Study for several months and attending assemblies for several weeks. We rejoice with the angels in heaven!

I hope you will enjoy the new format of "The Visitor." It was redesigned to provide greater communication within the West Erwin family.