

Good morning and thanks for being here! I hope things are going well at school. I want you all to know that Keri and I are praying for each one of you. Remember, next Sunday is promotion day for Sunday school. I want to encourage all of you to be here. I hope vou have a wonderful week.

LAUGHTER IS GOOD MEDICINE

An unmarried airl who worked in a busy office arrived one morning and began passing out big cigars and candy, both tied with blue ribbons. When asked what the occasion was, she proudly displayed a new diamond solitaire ring on her third finger, left hand, and announced, "It's a boy, six feet tall and 190 lbs.

"If you'll make the toast and pour the sweetheart." said the newlywed iuice. will ready." "breakfast be bride. "Good, what are we having for breakfast." said the new husband. "Toast and juice," she replied.

Then there was a man who said. "I never knew what real happiness was until I got married; and then it was too late."



Ben

10 Doug Lowe

24 Charles Steen

Sept. 2017 A.M .Opening A.M. Closing **Doug Rader** 3 J. B. Matlock

Kermit Grimsley 17 Wayne Cartwright Luke Lane

Jerry Sturgess

P. M. Opening P. M. Closing **Brandon Franklin 3** Robert Duzan 10 George Wooden **Dale Sparks 17** Henry Baker **Tom Watson** 24 Kyle Lock **Billy Lane**

Serve Communion

Jody Radford Ouinn Glass Kolby Radford **Jim Ricard** James Singleterry **Doug Rader Richard Giles Billy Lane**

Communion Preparation

3 Fred Freeman

- **10 Phillip Castillo**
- 17 Andy Link
- 24 Jane Grumbles

DOOR GREETERS Sept. 3 J.B. & Joyce Matlock **COMMUNION PREPARATION** Sept. 3 **Fred Freeman**



Promotion next Sunday in Bible Class. Plan to be present.

From Dan's desk:



Thank you for coming to worship this morning. Visitors are always welcome. My thanks to Dwight for his lesson on "Liberalism" while I was in Longview last Wednesday night. I know he did a great job. I have heard many comments about the lesson. We appreciate Dwight, as well as Dale, who both do so much for the church here. I don't know if you watched the solar eclipse or not. When we view the majesty of God we come to understand just how marvelous are His works. The eclipse didn't just happen. God set everything in order and it all moves by the hand of God. "The heavens declare the glory of God and the earth showeth forth His handiwork." Psalm 19:1. We will have promotion in Bible class next Sunday. Young people are asked to go to their new class next Sunday morning at 9:30 A.M. You will notice on the front page of the bulletin this week that we have listed the classes and teachers for this year. We are so grateful for the time and effort put forth by those who are teaching. A lot of work and preparation takes place each week on their part. Where would the church be without capable Bible school teachers. We are blessed at Crockett Rd. with a number of folks who give so much of their time and those who use their talent for the glory of the Lord and the edification of others. If you know of those who are not attending Bible classes on Sunday morning or Wednesday nights do what you can to encourage them to come. Our Children's Bible Hour will resume two weeks from tonight and the ladies Bible class will resume on Sept. 12th. See you tonight. DAN

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES





<u>SAM ELLIS</u> is in rehab at UT Medical Center in Tyler. He is doing better. <u>KEVIN SHERROD</u> test results were good.

<u>ED FURMAN</u> continues to undergo radiation treatments.

HOWARD & MAURINE ELLIS, parents of Sam Ellis, are both in the hospital in Dallas area.

<u>PERRY COWAN</u>, preacher at Shady Grove, had thyroid surgery on Tuesday in Tyler.

EARL MILNER, JR., brother of Carol Ann Cartwright, has been ill and is going through tests.

Continue to remember all these and those on the prayer list in your prayers.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to Kent Johnson in the death of his sister, Brenda. She passed away last week. Her services are pending at this time.

WELCOME VISITORS

A big hearty welcome to those visiting today. Allow us to meet and greet you following the worship service this morning. At the end of the service today you will be given a gift bag from our congregation. "It is a small gift, but it comes from big hearts." Thanks again for coming.

MOVING ON TO MATURITY

It is easily discernible that living things naturally mature into fully developed organisms. Our physical bodies, assuming we live long enough, inevitably grow from miniscule fertilized eggs into functional adults. Likewise, under normal conditions, all kinds of animals, insects, and vegetation automatically grow up. From the mustard seed to the aardvark, countless living things are purposefully designed by God to naturally reach maturity. In contrast to physical life, spiritual maturity is by no means a foregone conclusion! Many Christians, however, mistakenly assume that maturity in years equates to maturity in spiritual things. In reality, the scriptures point out that developing spiritually is a conscious choice that one makes, not the inescapable result of living in the world for a number of years. Consider Elihu's words when he shrewdly remarked, "it is the spirit in man, the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand. It is not the old who are wise, nor the aged who understand what is right" (Job 32:8-9, ESV). Although the three friends of Job were advanced in years and had plenty of advice for their comrade, they were certainly lacking in wisdom! In my own life, I have noted with surprise that some young men I know are far more spiritually mature than some of their older, more experienced brothers in Christ, despite a huge gap in years. When considering what spiritual maturity is and how it may be obtained, Hebrews 5:11-14 offers great insight. We should consider ourselves and our character. SELECTED