

# Teen News

We only have 4 practices left until LTC, the participants are working hard on their events. If you are a participant that is in photography, children's book, scripture challenge, or reading challenge, you need to be working hard to get those done before we go to LTC.

Parents that are going to LTC, if you have not paid for your hotel room, please do so as soon as possible, we need to have the money before we go to the convention.

## MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER

Tomorrow night we will meet again for Monday Night for the Master. We will meet at 6:15 to share a meal of Taco Salad and then begin our work at 7 PM. This is a wonderful program and all of your efforts are appreciated by your elders, but most especially by our Lord. Consider joining us.

Our sympathy is extended to Gayle Hamilton in the death of her brother-in-law, EVAN GULLIORY, JR. He passed away on Monday morning. His services were held in Kinder, LA.

## CHURCH BLOOPERS

1. Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
2. The outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are afflicted with any church.
3. Ushers will eat latecomers.
4. Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.



## Those to Serve April 2011

### AM . Opening

- 3 James Singleterry  
10 Robert Duzan  
17 Adam Harding  
24 Kyle Lock

### A.M. Closing

- 3 Jeff Sumrall  
10 J.B. Matlock  
17 Dwight Franklin  
24 Jim Cook

### P.M. Opening

- 3 Steve Camp  
10 Jerry Thompson  
17 Johnny Jenkins  
24 Bernie Baur

### P.M. Closing

- 3 Ben Rhone  
10 Bob Stech  
17 Dale Sparks  
24 Tom Watson

## Serve Communion

Travis Cook

Blake Baker

Alex Lowe

Caleb Ellison

Josh Shellenbarger

Travis Higginbotham

Austen Evans

Zachary Phillips

## Communion Preparation



- 3 James & Sandy Singleterry  
10 Fred & Beth Freeman  
17 Jim & Gerry Hahn  
24 David & Jennifer Sparks

## DOOR GREETERS

**April 3, 2011**

**Frank & Patsy McClelland**

## COMMUNION PREPARATION

**April 3, 2011**

**James & Sandy Singleterry**

# Gospel Worker

1717 Crockett Road; P.O. Box 288  
Palestine, Texas 75802  
903/723-6291  
[www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org](http://www.crockettroadchurchofchrist.org)

### **MINISTERS**

Dan D. Manuel  
*Pulpit Minister*  
Joshua Shellenbarger  
*Youth Minister*  
Bernie Baur  
*Personal Evangelism*

### **ELDERS**

Dan D. Manuel  
Dale Sparks

### **DEACONS**

Henry Baker  
Sam Ellis  
Dwight Franklin  
Adam Harding  
Kyle Lock

### **SECRETARY**

Lorelee Reeder

### **MISSIONS & OUTREACH**

Brown Trail School of  
Preaching, Bedford, TX  
Jose Cuadras—Mexico  
*School of Preaching*  
Hershel Bearden  
*India Mission*  
Ken Upchurch  
*Tanzania Africa Work*  
Central TX Children's  
Home—Buda, TX  
Tipton Children's Home  
*Tipton, OK*  
Gospel Broadcast Network

### **ASSEMBLY TIMES**

Sun: 9:30 AM Class  
10:30 AM Worship  
6:00 PM Evening  
Wed: 7:00 PM

### **"My Shadow"**

*"They brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them." (Acts 5:15)*

There is an old song, "Me and My Shadow." Each of us does have a shadow, our influence. As the tiniest hair will cast a shadow, each life casts its shadow of influence. You have been influenced by the lives of others more than you probably realize, for better or worse; and you will influence others more than you probably realize, for better or worse. We pass this way but once; how important it is for our influence to cast a shadow of blessing. This begins with the ones we love most, our im-mediate family. I believe Henry Drummond hit the nail on the head when he said, "The home is the supreme conductor of Christianity." My shadow is there every single day!

Paul was giving invaluable instruction to all of us as well as the young preacher Timothy, when he wrote, "*Set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity.*" (I Timothy 4:12) Never question nor underestimate the tremendous power of your shadow on the lives of others. Charles Hodge, in his inimitable style, is fond of saying, "When small men cast long shadows, it is almost sundown." But, as a committed disciple and servant of Jesus, you will never be a small person; you will be a big person, a "great" person, to use Jesus' words in Matthew 20:26. Live so that if people get to know you better, they will get to know Christ better.

It is not unusual for lives, careers and souls to be saved or lost through influence.

*"A breath can fan love's flame to burning,  
Make firm resolve of trembling doubt,  
But strange! At fickle fancy's turning,  
The selfsame breath can blow it out."*

Tertullian, one of the early church leaders, said that he and most of the converts who came out of paganism in his day were won to Christ, not by books and sermons, but by observing how Christians lived and died. The early Christians cast a shadow from the "light of the world" Himself, Jesus Christ.

Phillips Brooks wrote, "No man or woman of the humblest sort can really be strong, gentle, pure, and good without somebody being helped and comforted by the very existence of that goodness."



## Welcome to the Dogwood Trails and our worship service this morning.



### From Dan's desk:

If you are visiting in our city for the Dogwood Trails we are glad you have come to worship with us this morning. The dogwood have been just beautiful this year and we hope you enjoy them. The month of March is just about gone and April will be ushered in soon. As Brother Mark Johnson prayed last week, we do need rain. I know that you will join me and others as asking the good Lord to provide the rain that is so badly needed. Last Sunday was a wonderful day. The "Texas Top Guns" helped provide the meal, cooked the brisket and chicken. It was delicious. We know that everyone that was present really enjoyed the meal and the fellowship that was equal to it. GARY OLIVER told his story about the preacher. It was great. Thanks Gary. Thank you also for the birthday cake. It is hard to believe that another year has passed. Thanks for being the wonderful people you are to my family, and so many others. Thanks also to SANDY SINGLETERRY and those who helped in the kitchen to make sure that the meal was on the table. FRED & BETH FREE-MAN, PAM BOYETT, LINDA HENRY, DIANE WILCHER, JANE DAVIS, MARTHA OLIVER, and others. It was a memorable occasion and we also want to thank the "Top Guns" for setting up the display of the old chuck wagon and artifacts in front of the church building. It created a lot of curiosity on the part of those who drove by the building. We will look forward to seeing each of you tonight.

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**



### TO KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

#### PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

**MARK JOHNSON** had a heart cath on Monday. He had 4 blockages and immediately had to have 4 stents put in.

**JANE GRUMBLES** had eye surgery in Dallas also on Monday. She is doing well and back in Palestine.

**MARLENE THOMPSON** is still in the Mother Francis Hospital in Tyler for rehab.

**JESSE STROUD**, former member here, has been moved to a hospice facility. She is very ill.

**CONTINUE TO REMEMBER:** Dennis Ellison, Gary Oliver, Vonolga Roberson, Mary Ann Chapman, Ed Furman, Bill Hogan, Bob Burchfield, Ruth Cox, Sybil Perry, Hunter Sheridan, Toby Williams, Gerald Wilcher, and Danny Sumrall.

**Servicemen:** Jeffery Dixon, Adam Keck, Blaine Kline, & Jason Mottern.



## "How Long Do You Preach?"

There are very few subjects over which preachers receive more criticism than the length of their sermons. Ezra read the Book of the Law to the people "from morning until midday" (Neh. 8:3), and while at Troas the apostle Paul preached a sermon and "continued his message until midnight" (Acts 20:7). When people ask me how long I preach, I usually respond, "Until I get done." I am not trying to be flip about the subject, but the length of a sermon depends upon the topic..

I've heard older preachers harshly criticize younger men for not preaching long enough. Sometimes this criticism is just—other times it is simply an attempt by a long-winded preacher to justify himself.

Preachers usually don't like to admit it, but long sermons are often the result of poor sermon preparation. Another factor to consider is the speed at which a preacher speaks. I know of several preachers who could cut the length of their sermon in half if they would simply speed up their rate of speaking—as an added bonus their audience might even be able to stay awake during the sermon!

I am reminded of the man who went to the dentist to have a tooth removed. The patient inquired as to the cost for removing a tooth and the dentist told him it would be \$90. The man told the dentist it seemed like a lot of money for a few seconds work. The dentist told his patient, "Well, if it would make you feel better, I can pull the tooth out real slow!" I feel the same way about sermons—if you think I preach too short of a lesson, I could just slow down my rate of speaking.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**