

# Teen News

We had a great class on Wednesday night and it is good to see all of you this morning. We appreciate all of you and we are glad when you participate in the activities of the church. We will be having a devotional tonight after the worship service. We hope that all of you will want to stay. Christmas holidays are near and we hope that you have a wonderful time with your family and friends. We have other activities coming up and we will tell you about them soon.

Blake.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

During December, many people who are otherwise irreligious or unconcerned about spiritual things will turn their thoughts to a Child born in Bethlehem over 2,000 years ago. They will often read the story of the birth of Christ with their children, and maybe even teach them the words of some of the beautiful songs that speak of the birth of our Lord. They will pause in front of a nativity scene somewhere and maybe even whisper a fleeting prayer. Some will darken the door of a church building for the first time since last December. I view such events as these with mixed emotions. While God has never commanded people today to observe a special day to commemorate the birth of His Son, I am glad these folks have at least some recognition of a God in heaven who demands their attention. However, I am saddened by the fact that most of these people will never come to know and appreciate the rest of the story! While the entrance of God's Son into the world was incredible, it is only the tip of the iceberg -- it is only one part, one chapter, of what God has done to redeem mankind.

## HAVE YOU READ YOUR POLICY?

People often accuse insurance companies of not honoring their policies. Having spent a few years in that business I know the charge is seldom true. State and federal regulations force insurance companies to honor their policies. Insurers do exactly what they say in their policies; the problem is that most people have never read their copy. What keeps people from reading their policy? Sometimes people trust their agent so they figure there is no reason to question his word. This is sad, for there are a few "bad apples" in every business. Sometimes people claim the policies are too difficult to understand. I believe most people who say this have never attempted to read their policy anyway. I have also noticed that many people look at religion the same way they would a life insurance policy. They put blind trust in a smooth talking salesman (some preacher) and hope that he knows what he is doing. They never read their policy (the Bible) for they imagine that they couldn't understand it anyway. It is much easier to trust a priest or preacher than to read and study for themselves.

The Holy Spirit guided the apostles in the writing of the New Testament (John 16:13). Paul told the Ephesians that "when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ" (Eph. 3:4). The Bible was written so a person with a limited education can read it without difficulty. The Bible can be understood. It is given to us in this life and will be opened before us at the judgement (Rev. 20:12). What you know about God's word, and what you do about it, will determine what He says to you in the final day. **HAVE YOU READ YOUR SPIRITUAL POLICY?**

SELECTED

## DOOR GREETERS

**Dec. 18, 2011**  
**Adam and Diane Harding**

## COMMUNION PREPARATION

**Dec. 18, 2011**  
**Todd Perry**

# Gospel Worker

## Crockett Road Church of Christ

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*  
Blake Baker  
*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

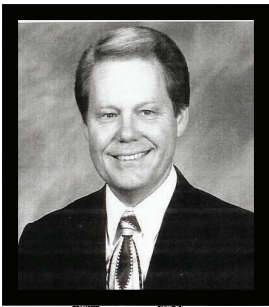
Sun: 9:30 AM Class  
10:30 AM Worship  
5:00 PM Evening  
Wed: 7:00 PM

## WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT

*To help you set and keep your priorities straight, take the following personal inventory.*

1. **Which is more important to you?** Making sure your dog (or cat) gets fed every day or making sure that your child gets daily spiritual nourishment?
2. **Which is more important to you?** Watching television or taking time for prayer and Bible study every day?
3. **Which is more important to you?** Speaking out on current issues or speaking out to help someone understand Bible truth?
4. **Which is more important to you?** The time you spend playing sports, hunting, or fishing or the time you spend with your children?
5. **Which is more important to you?** The time you spend adorning your body or the time you spend improving the inner man?
6. **Which is more important to you? What you think of last Sunday's sermon or what God thinks of your response to the sermon?**
7. **Which is more important to you?** The condition and appearance of your house or what goes on inside your house?
8. **Which is more important to you?** The preacher speaking to you at the door after worship or the preacher speaking to you through the sermon?
9. **Which is more important to you?** The temperature in the church building or the spiritual temperature of the church which meets in the building?
10. **Which is more important to you?** The number of people who show an interest in you or the number of people in whom you show an interest?
11. **Which is more important to you?** The number of people who speak to you at church or the number of people to whom you speak?

## IT'S SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT



# One Places Membership We had Great Holiday party last Tuesday night

*From Dan's desk:*

The abrupt weather change over the last week, has brought “chilly” temperatures to East Texas. It is a welcome change. After surviving the summer heat and 100 degree temperatures all summer, we are glad to see the cooler weather. If you are visiting with us this morning, we want to say welcome and hope you will come again whenever you can. It is always great to see visitors among us each time we meet. We appreciate you being present today. The Annual Holiday fellowship last Tuesday night was great with near 150 present. The food was delicious. Sam did a wonderful job in preparing the meal. A big thank you to James and Sandy Singleterry for the beautiful decorations. There were several who also helped with decorations and they are: Fred and Beth Freeman, Ike and Joyce Weatherly, Audrey Manuel, Jane Davis. December is always a busy month with various activities going on during the month. Tomorrow night Pam Gallaway, Sue Grubbs and Lois King are hosting a card signing and supper at Pam’s home. Christmas cards will be sent to shut-ins in the congregation here. Sometimes we have a tendency to overlook those who cannot come to worship. Last Sunday morning DAVID LAMB asked to place membership with the church here. We welcome him into our fellowship and congregation here at Crockett Rd. He has recently moved back to Palestine to be near his dad. It is good to have you with us David. The beautiful poinsettias remind us that Christmas is near. We will have regular classes on Wednesday Night this week, but the last two Wed. nights of the month we will have devotionals in the church auditorium. See you tonight.

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**



**TO KEEP  
IN OUR PRAYERS**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN  
YOUR PRAYERS:**

MARLENE THOMPSON will have another knee replacement surgery on Wednesday of this week in Houston.

ED FURMAN has learned that his cancer has spread to the bone.

GENE CHANDLER, brother of Bill Chandler and uncle of Lorelee, will have colon cancer surgery on Wednesday in Tyler.

SHANNON SPENCER remains a patient in the East Texas medical center in Tyler.

BENNIE JOE McINNIS, Shelly Franklin’s dad, is in the Palestine Regional .

BILLY RAWSON son of Bill Rawson is in Parkland hospital in Dallas recovering from an auto accident.

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER: Maggie Larsen, Dennis Ellison, Brianne Campos, Billy Whitley, Gary Oliver, Bill Hogan, Billie Bedford, Patricia Manville, Toby Williams, Toni Degelia.

**CARD SIGNING PARTY**

Tomorrow night there will be a Card Signing & Dinner at the home of V.J. & Pam Gallaway. Pam, Sue Grubbs and Lois King will furnish soup. You may bring a plate of cookies or sandwiches, if you like. Lois King will be at the church building at 5 PM to lead you out there or ride with her. If you ride with her, she will bring you back to the church.

**TUESDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS**

This Tuesday, December 13th, we will have class at 9:30 AM, and our annual Gift Exchange and Potluck Luncheon immediately after. Please make plans to be here.



"Honey, I'm sorry...This is all I had to wear! I PROMISE not to leave my suits at the cleaner's again!"

**TEMPER, TEMPER!**

A short fuse is dangerous both in dynamite and in people. Though some think it’s “macho” and smart to “blow off steam” with little or no provocation, God’s word teaches otherwise. Fortunately for all of us, God is slow to anger. *“The Lord is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy”* (Psa. 103:8). Were this not the case, surely each one of us would be destroyed! Whereas men may think having a quick temper is smart, the wise King Solomon says, *“He who is quick-tempered acts foolishly”* (Prov. 14:7). Again he says, *“Do not hasten in your spirit to be angry, For anger rests in the bosom of fools”* (Eccl. 7:9). And once more, *“He that is slow to wrath has great understanding, But he who is impulsive [lit. ‘short of spirit’] exalts folly”* (Prov. 14:29). Someone has written, “The emptier the pot, the more quickly it boils.” Let the quick-tempered take notice! Nor is a short temper a sign of strength. To the contrary, it demonstrates that one lacks the strength to control his passions. *“He who is slow to anger is better than he who takes a city”* (Prov. 16:32). Remember, when steel loses its temper, it becomes weaker; the same is true of people. A short temper is incompatible with God’s will in our lives. *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God”* (James 1:19, 20). Blowing your stack only adds to air pollution!