

Christmas is 8 days away! I know you all are excited to take a break from school and celebrate Christmas with family. I hope this week is a good one for you all. Thanks to those you came to the youth Christmas party last Wednesday. We had a great time! Please remember to study your Bible and pray this **BEN** week.

**EVENING SERVICE TIME CHANGE ON DEC. 24th** On Christmas Eve we will meet at 1:30 P.M. for the evening worship service instead of the regular time of 6 P.M. Please note.

#### **CARD SIGNING**

Thanks to Pam Gallaway for opening her home last Tuesday night for the purpose of signing cards to the sick and bereaved. The food and fellowship was great and we all enjoyed being together.

**SPECIAL GIFTS:** This Sunday morning we will be collecting money from anyone who would like to contribute to a fund to help under privileged children from some of our area schools. We are compiling a list from several of our teachers of children they know who need our help. If you would like to help, please give your contributions to any of the Elders, Deacons or Lorelee.

#### "PUBLIC PRAYER"

Someone reported the following note was posted in the hall of a California high school: "In the event of an earthquake, the Supreme Court ban on prayer in public schools will be temporarily lifted." That little note reminds us there are times when faith in God becomes extremely important. Would vou pray in the event of an earthquake? In Acts 27 the apostle Paul is praying- not in an earthquake, but on a ship in a terrible storm on the Mediterranean Sea. For many days the ship Paul is on is driven helplessly on an angry, storm-tossed sea. Notice at least one lesson which can be drawn from this incident- Paul believed in going public with his faith! After urging all on board to eat, Acts 27:35 reads, "And when he had said these things, he took bread and gave thanks to God in the presence of them all; and when he had broken it he began to eat." In verse 37 Luke adds, "And in all we were two hundred and seventy-six persons on the ship." So far as the inspired record states, Paul, Luke (the writer of Acts), and a brother in Christ named Aristarchus were the only Christians on board the ship (see verses 1 and 2). Without shame or hesitation, Paul bowed his head and prayed a public prayer in the presence of 273 non-Christians! Were there no people of different religious beliefs on board that ship who might be offended by a Christian praying in public? Yes-273 of them, and maybe even an atheist or two! But Paul prays anyway! He is compelled to go public with his faith even if in so doing he offends some people! SELECTED

## **DOOR GREETERS**

Dec. 24th Pam Gallaway & Sue Grubbs

**COMMUNION PREPARATION** Dec. 24th Charles & Shelia McCullough

# Gospel Worker Crockett Road Church of Christ

1717 Crockett Road; P.O. Box 288 Palestine, Texas 75802 903/723-6291

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#### **MINISTERS**

Dan D. Manuel **Pulpit Minister** Ben Rhone Youth Minister

#### **ELDERS**

**Dwight Franklin** Dan D. Manuel Dale Sparks

#### **DEACONS**

Henry Baker Johnny Jenkins Kvle Lock R.D. Prince

#### **SECRETARY**

Lorelee Reeder

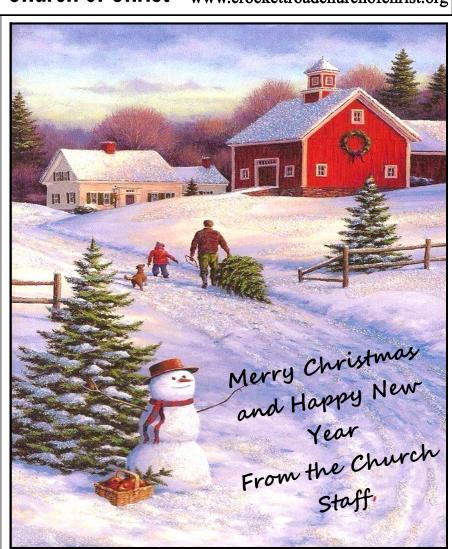
#### **MISSIONS**

**Brown Trail School of** Preaching, Bedford, TX Jose Cuadras-Mexico Hershel Bearden -India Steve Handley-Prison Ministry Central TX Children's Home—Buda, TX **Tipton Home** Tipton, OK GBN T.V. NETWORK GIVE ME THE BIBLE T.V. Program KETK-NBC 56 Tyler, TX. FOX 44 KWKT-Waco, TX FOX 33 KMSS

Shreveport, LA. NBC 28 KYLE, Bryan-College Station, TX. NBC 53-KLSB Lufkin, TX. FOX 29 KVHP Lake Charles, LA. ABC 10—KTEN Sherman-Denison, TX

#### **ASSEMBLY TIMES**

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



Sunday evening worship service next Sunday at 1:30 P.M. Please make a note of this change.

**VOLUME 53 NUMBER 49** Dec. 17, 2017

## Service schedule changes, please take note and make any adjustments.





As Christmas draws closer we want to remind you that next Sunday afternoon, we will meet at 1:30 for the evening worship service. We will not meet at 6 P.M. as usual. Please make a note of that change. We will meet as usual on Sunday morning. Please be reminded that on Wednesday night Dec. 20th and 27th we will have devotional services in the church auditorium. Many will be out of town and young people will be out of school and we always make that change each year. It is great to have each of you in worship and Bible class today. If you are visiting with us, please stay for a few minutes and let us meet you. Several in the congregation have been ill recently and several have been hospitalized. We want to continue to lift up prayers to our Father on their behalf. We are again providing assistance to the families of those who are underprivileged. If you would be willing and desire to help with this, you can give your money to one of the Elders, Deacons or Lorelee. There are several young people that are in need and we want to help them again also. We always appreciate your generosity and kindness to those in need. We will need your help by today, so purchases can be made for them. We are so fortunate to have been so blessed by God. There are so many who have so much less and are dependent on others. This is one way we can reach out to them in love. Remember to pray for our missionaries who are proclaiming the gospel in foreign fields. We ask that you remember those serving in the U.S. military around the world who are away from their families. We hope to see each of you tonight at the evening service at 6 P.M. DAN

### PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES





**GERALD MORRIS son of Patsy** Bush, suffered a stroke and is in the hospital in Tyler. SANDY SINGLETERRY has been undergoing tests this last week.

All others who have been in the hospital and having surgery are all improved.

#### HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE SPARKS

On Saturday night, December 23rd, at 6:30 P.M. David & Jennifer Sparks will again be hosting a "Ugly Sweater Party" at their home. Please bring a snack food that night and join us.



#### **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.

#### "THE DEVIL IS STILL ALIVE"

The devil continues to trouble God's church. The simple truth is that Christians, who honor God by faithfully keeping His commands and preaching His gospel, are a source of trouble to the devil, and should expect the devil to trouble them: "Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12). While true no modem Americans are being pressured to worship Caesar as Lord, we are being pressured to worship money as Lord. It could be alcolhol/drug as Lord. Or pleasure as Lord. Or personal choice as Lord. Or Allah as Lord. Or uncritical tolerance of all morals and doctrines as Lord. But the message of the New Testament in general and the book of Revelation in particular is that Jesus and Jesus alone is Lord, and that His way is the only way to God (John 14:6; Acts 4:12)! That was the message which aroused hatred toward the early church and brought double trouble from the devil and his beasts, and it still brings trouble when proclaimed in its simplicity and fulness. In 1529 Martin Luther wrote, "And tho" this world, with demons filled., should threaten to undo us. We will not fear for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us" (3rd verse of \*\*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"). The devil continues to trouble God's church, but he will never triumph over God's truth. God has promised us victory over the Satanic forces of this world.

**Dan Gulley**