

# Teen News

Merry Christmas!! The magic of Christmas is not in the presents, but in His presence. May you all have the gift of faith this Christmas and many blessings throughout the New Year. Thank you for being here today.

## THANKS

**Thanks to those who came to the card signing at the home of Pam Galaway and thanks to Pam for opening her home for the fellowship.**

**Thanks also to the Rader's for opening their home to the church for fellowship after the caroling at Legacy (Cartmell Home).**

**We all had a great time at these events and we are grateful for such occasions.**

We will have our annual New Year's Devotional next Weds. Night Dec. 26th at 7 P.M. in the auditorium. Please plan to be with us.

## WHY DO YOU CELEBRATE?

Many Americans go to church during the week of Christmas. They crowd shoulder-to-shoulder in pews to sing "Silent Night" and light candles and listen to soloists belt out "O Holy Night." When the service is over, they exchange hearty "Merry Christmas!" wishes before getting in their cars and heading home. And they stay home the next day. Or they drive to Grandma's, or go to the movies. But however they spend Christmas Day, one way most Americans don't celebrate it is by going to church. For most Christians, Christmas is a day for family, not faith. Many people believe it is wrong to celebrate Christmas because we don't know the date of the birth of the Saviour, but we should honor His birth in this world because it happened. We will never know the date, but the event is preserved in the scriptures in Matt. 2, and Luke 2. If that was not significant, why did God inspire these men to write about it? I will admit that Christmas has become so commercialized and during this time of year, people think of "what they want" for Christmas more than anything else. If you choose to celebrate the event itself, I hope your focus will be on the Saviour and not on the material things of the world. Maybe we should think about the needs of others instead of our own wants.

DAN

## DOOR GREETERS

Sunday Dec. 30, 2018

Willette Rasure & Lorelee Reeder

## COMMUNION PREPARATION

Sunday Dec. 30, 2018

Danna Collins

# Gospel Worker

## Crockett Road Church of Christ

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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  
Kyle Lock  
R.D. Prince

### SECRETARY

Lorelee Reeder

### MISSIONS

Brown Trail School of  
Preaching, Bedford, TX  
Jose Cuadras—Mexico  
Hershel Bearden—India  
Steve Handley—Prison Min.  
Central TX Children's  
Home—Buda, TX  
Tipton Children's Home  
Tipton, OK  
GBN T.V. NETWORK  
GIVE ME THE BIBLE-T.V.  
FOX 44 KWKT—Waco, TX  
KTAL NBC Channel 6  
Texarkana-Shreveport, LA.  
KLTV ABC channel 7 Tyler  
KTRE ABC channel 9  
Lufkin, TX.  
NBC 28 KYLE, Bryan-  
College Station, TX.  
FOX 29 KSVP  
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



*May God bless you during this season of joy and happiness. We hope that each of you have a wonderful holiday season with your family and friends.*

*In Christian Love,  
The Elders and Deacons*

*Merry Christmas Church  
We're glad you're here!*



**From Dan's desk:**



This week is a special week, because it is the week of Christmas. We don't know just when our Saviour was born, but we do know that He came into this world and died for our sins. We celebrate that fact every day. We thank all of you for coming to worship this morning. We are blessed in that we can come and honor God with our songs, prayers, preaching His Word and through the observance of the Lord's Supper. To those of you who may be visiting with us this morning, we hope you will come again soon. This is a great fellowship of believers in Christ, who love God and seek to do His Will. We have had a lot of members who have been ill and unable to worship with us over the last several weeks. Let's reach out to them and do whatever we can to help those. The particular virus that is being experienced by so many in the congregation, just holds on for weeks. We hope that all of you are better soon and please know that we are keeping you in our prayers. Some remain in the hospital and others are anticipating surgery soon. We continue to lift them up in our prayers and express our love for and to them. This is a difficult time of year to be ill, as many families get together at Christmas. We have been so blessed throughout the year with continued numerical growth and spiritual growth as well. We have had some twenty-two baptized into Christ this last year 2018. We anticipate an even better year in 2019. Let begin now as we close out the year to make the year 2019 a memorable year in the history of the Crockett Road Church of Christ. We hope that each of you will be back tonight as we discuss the Will of God. You will be blessed as a result of your attendance. See you tonight.

DAN

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**



**TO KEEP  
IN OUR PRAYERS**

**MARY STECH** had a nerve block in her back this last week in Tyler.

**SONJA ROSE** had tests on Thursday and will have surgery on January 31st.

**NANCY MILLER** had a stent implanted in her right leg as an out patient.

**BECKY BARNES** had a surgical procedure to remove a skin cancer on Wednesday. She is doing better at home.

**ROSE MARIE FOREMAN** has been transferred back to Legacy at Towne Creek.

**CAROLYN JENKINS** is having sciatic nerve problems.

**TREVA GOFORTH**, friend of Jennifer Sparks, has learned she has brain cancer and will have treatments.

**HERSHEL BEARDEN** started cancer treatments last week.

*All others who have been ill are improved. Please pick up a prayer list in the foyer.*

#### **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.**

#### **SYMPATHY**

**Our sympathy is extended to Billy Lane in the death of his uncle ROYCE BAGGETT who passed away this last week.**

#### **WE NEED TO GROW UP**

"And He Himself gave some... for the equipping of the saints... to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine,... but,... may grow up in all things...." (Ephesians 4:11-15, NKJV) The apostle makes patently obvious the fact that a Christian *must grow*, in order to please his Lord. Paul states quite bluntly that we must be "perfected" (i.e., *matured*) unto the stature of Christ. This simply means that each one of us must grow up to His standards, and not be contented with less than He knows we are capable of doing. To really grow spiritually, we must apply ourselves *daily* (Lk. 9:23) to *practicing* what we learn from the scriptures. Growth ought to be a steady process, Phil. 3:13-15: We must press on a bit further each day, to achieve the goal. Very often, however, it is easy for us to slack off from the constant pursuit of (spiritual, Phil. 1:10) excellence, and thus fall from consistent growth into stagnation. The Hebrews penman wrote to correct just such a problem; in chapter 5:12-14, those saints were not growing as they should have. We learn there that they had been Christians long enough to have become teachers of the lost, yet they had not. Paul also faced this problem at Corinth, in 1 Cor. 3:1-5. There, the lack of maturity in the Corinthian Christians threatened the very existence of the church. They could do no more in the kingdom until they themselves left spiritual infancy and began to grow toward spiritual maturity. The possibility of "spiritual stagnation" was for them, and is for us today, a great and ever-present danger. We often confuse real spiritual growth with good habits, such as reading a chapter or two from God's word each day: But this is **not** the definition of *growth*. The key to spiritual growth does *not* lie in simply building "good habits," nor even in acquiring a great store of biblical knowledge! Rather, it lies in the *application* of what we learn from the scriptures. Bible knowledge is of very little value to a Christian *until* it is put to use in the Kingdom! This simple fact makes real spiritual growth a hard, and often, a *slow* process. Yet *this* is the sort of *single-minded exertion* necessary to "grow in the grace and knowledge of ... Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 3:18). In many ways, the Christian life is an exhausting, challenging life to live!