

# Teen News

Thanks to all the teens that helped with the service projects last weekend. The widows and widowers luncheon was a great success.

Next Sunday morning we will be putting the fruit baskets together for the widows and widowers in the teen class room before class. Please plan on being here early to help out.

Next Sunday night we will be heading to Athens for the Land of Lights after the evening worship service. Please plan on going with us that night.

## THANKS

*A big thank you to the ladies in the congregation who helped prepare food for the "STOCK POT" last week. They have done this several times and I know that this is tremendously appreciated. Several of the ladies in the church participated in proving food for the less fortunate.*

Thanks to Josh, Morgan Perry and Travis Higginbotham for helping to stripe the north parking lot last Saturday. It really looks nice, and had been needed for some time.



## Those to Serve December 2010

### A.M. Opening

5 Robert Duzan  
12 Jim Davis  
19 Henry Baker  
26 Sam Ellis

### A.M. Closing

5 Jim Hahn  
12 Dale Sparks  
19 Clint Ellis  
26 Ed Furman

### P.M. Opening

5 Dwight Franklin  
12 Blake Baker  
19 Jeff Sumrall  
26 Johnny Jenkins

### P.M. Closing

5 Doug Lowe  
12 Bob Stech  
19 Travis Cook  
26 Phillip Foreman

## Serve Communion

Gary Todd  
Billy Lane  
Dwight Franklin  
Tom Watson

Jim Cook  
Dee Bell  
Jerry Sturgess  
J.B. Matlock

## Communion Preparation



5 Bob Stech  
12 David Sparks  
19 Shelia Link  
26 Jimmy Alford

### DOOR GREETERS

**Dec, 5 2010**  
**Jerry & Marlene Thompson**

### COMMUNION PREPARATION

**Dec. 5, 2010**  
**Bob Stech**

# 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*  
Joshua Shellenbarger  
*Youth Minister*  
Bernie Baur  
*Associate Minister*

### 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

## KEEPING OUR COMMITMENTS

People think nothing of saying they will do something, then failing to follow through. Sometimes these failures are trivial, but what about the times when they are serious? Someone takes a job, agreeing to do a certain amount and quality of work for a specified amount of pay, then can't be counted upon to show up and do the work. Another person borrows money from another, agreeing to repay the loan within a certain time, then reneges on the payments. A man or woman vows to assume the responsibilities of marriage — *"for better or worse, forsaking all others, until death do us part"* — then vacates the moment things turn from better to worse, or can't be trusted to faithfully forsake all others, or is long gone long before death is on the horizon.

Worst of all is when we — you didn't really think I was only talking about other people, did you? — deal with God in this manner. We make a commitment to serve Him when we become disciples of Christ, but conveniently forget the obligations of that commitment whenever it suits us. We can't make time to assemble with the saints as we should (Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 2:42). We can't be bothered to share the gospel with others (Matthew 28:19; Acts 8:4). It's too much of a burden for us to be dead to sin and live for righteousness, or make ourselves a living sacrifice (Romans 6:1-14; 12:1-2). Moreover, we get angry when someone calls to our attention the fact that we're not living up to our duty to the Lord in any of these areas.

We expect God to keep His promises to us. Suppose God decided to neglect this commitment: *"For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more"* (Hebrews 8:12). Suppose He said, *"Yes, I know I agreed to forgive your sins and forget them, but I changed my mind. I'm going to hold those sins against you anyway."* Where would we be then? If we count on God to do what He has said He'll do, should He not be able to depend on us? I fear sometimes we allow ourselves to believe God owes us something — we rely on His providence and mercy because we think we deserve what we receive from Him. But Jesus tells us that the master owes the servant nothing, even if the servant is obedient in every way: *"Does he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I think not. So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do'"* (Luke 17:10).

God does not owe us His thanks or reward for a job well done. Rather, we owe Him our most diligent, faithful service. In the same way, whatever commitments we make in life, we should honor them: *it's what is our duty to do.*

# ANNUAL HOLIDAY CHURCH CHRISTMAS DINNER DEC. 7th.



*From Dan's desk:*

We surely hope and trust that you had a wonderful holiday. Thanksgiving provides us the blessing of being together with family and friends. Sharing a meal whether with members of the church (like last Thursday) or with family members in their home, we make many memories. Thanks to those who came last Thursday. Those in attendance enjoyed a great meal together and a wonderful time of fellowship. We really appreciate Josh and the parents of the youth and other members of the congregation for the luncheon honoring the widows and widowers in the church. It was great. Many events are forthcoming over the next few weeks. You will find listed in the bulletin numerous things planned for the church here. Please be reminded of the Annual Church Christmas Party (meal and fellowship) on December 7th. This will take place in the activity building at 6:30 P.M. and you need to sign the list if you are planning to come. The event will be catered again this year and we are looking for a great attendance. All who attend, always have a wonderful time. Mark it on your calendar and **PLAN TO SIGN THE LIST TODAY.** The cold weather is also on its way. The colder weather we experienced over the last few days has certainly been seasonal. The year is really passing by very quickly. See you tonight.

**PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES**



**TO KEEP  
IN OUR PRAYERS**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THESE IN  
YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:**

**ANN SPARKS** fell last week and is still having a great deal of pain.

**Remember:** Ida lee Parkman, Toby Williams, Danny Sumrall, Hunter Sheridan, Mary Brown, Maggie Larsen.

**Our sympathy** is extended to the family of Tom Seay who passed away last week. Services were conducted in Leander, Tex last Tuesday. Tom was a friend to many in the congregation here.

## THANK YOU

**Thanks to those who joined us for lunch last Thursday here at the building. It was a great day and a memorable one. The food was great and fellowship equal to it. Thanks again to all who attended.**

**Our Christmas Holiday fellowship** will take place on December 7th in the activity building. A list has been posted on the glass outside of the office of our menu for that night. If you will be attending please sign the sheet on the bulletin board.

## JESUS OFTEN DID THE UNUSUAL

(Luke 8:2)

The above text is among the curious gospel statements about Jesus. Jesus and the 12 toured Jewish cities and villages teaching about the kingdom of heaven. A group of women accompanied who helped support these men by contributing from private funds. On this tour the women were among those who had been healed of demonic possession and sicknesses. Mary Magdalene also was mentioned as being among the group of women from Galilee who followed Jesus at the time of his crucifixion (see Matthew 27:55, 56; Luke 23:49). Why did Jesus allow these women to associate with him in public? In Jewish society then, a woman was not to be in public with a man. This socially unacceptable practice was forbidden and contained enormous danger for misunderstanding. Why would Jesus permit that? Most of what we know about Biblical references to evil spirits is speculation. Evidently, unclean spirits, demonic spirits, and evil spirits refer to the same phenomena. Were you a person possessed of an evil spirit in Jesus' ministry, and Jesus cast that spirit out of you, how grateful would you be? Were you a Jewish woman who was so blessed, and were you restricted in ways to express your gratitude, what would you do? A way to express gratitude in keeping with the good received was to minister to Jesus and his work. Would you be grateful? Oh, yes! Would you wish to show your gratitude? Oh, yes! Would you wish to express gratitude in keeping with the good you received? Oh, yes! Lessons: (1) Jesus permitted gratitude. (2) Gratitude was expressed in service. (3) No one had been too bad to help!