

**TWO ARE BAPTIZED !**

**Jennifer McClendon Baptized Into Christ**

This past Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, we rejoiced as **Jennifer McClendon** made the awesome decision to be baptized for the forgiveness of her sins. Jennifer has been attending our services regularly for the past several weeks with her cousin **Megan Brooks**. Megan has been a great source of encouragement for Jennifer and when Jennifer began to ask some questions, Megan arranged a study between Jennifer and Blake Jones. Blake sat down with Jennifer following our Wednesday evening Bible study hour and discussed salvation with Jennifer and how one could attain it. She showed great interest and enthusiasm during the study. When the study began to conclude, without hesitation, she said, "I want to be baptized as soon as possible!" Of course, she was immediately baptized into the body of Christ.

Jennifer is twenty-five years old. She is a stay at home mother of one. Her son's name is **Jaden** and it is obvious to hear her talk that he means everything to her. Jaden is five years old and in Kindergarten at Gaston Elementary School.

Along with Megan, Jennifer has other family here at Rainbow as well; her aunt **Tammy Alford** and cousin **Katy**. But now we welcome her into God's family here at Rainbow. Let's all strive to do everything we can to encourage this new Christian as she begins living life as a child of God's. We will try to have a picture of Jennifer and Jaden in next week's issue of the *Beacon*.

If you would like to send a card of encouragement, their address is:  
316 North 6<sup>th</sup> Place Apt. C  
Gadsden, AL 35901

We love you Jennifer!

**Sam Wallen Baptized Into Christ**

This past Sunday morning, February 1<sup>st</sup>, when the Lord's invitation had been extended, **Sam Wallen** confidently walked down the isle and sat down on the front pew. He expressed his need to be forgiven and his desire to be baptized. Upon his wonderful confession, Blake Jones baptized Sam for the forgiveness of his sins.



**Sam Wallen**

Sam is a fantastic young man. He is eleven years old and is in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Southside Elementary. He is a joy to be around. His smile and laughter are infectious. He is very tenderhearted and loving with a magnetic outgoing personality. He loves to be outdoors and is quite the athlete as he is an all-star baseball player, where he pitches and plays first base. As wonderful as all of these descriptions are, now he proudly wears the name Christian as well.

Sam's family is so proud of him and his decision to be baptized. He is the son of **Mike** and **Carrie Wallen** and his older brother is **Alex**. His grandparents are **Jack** and **Virginia Lasseter**. His aunts and uncles include **Stanley** and **Susan Stroup** and **Paul** and **Ginger Lasseter**. He has cousins here at Rainbow as well with **Dave Lasseter** and **Will Stroup**. As large as Sam's earthly family is and as loved as he is by all of them, now he has an even larger spiritual family that loves him as well.

Sam, we are all so proud of you and your decision. It is the greatest decision you will ever make. Always keep your eyes on Jesus and allow His word to guide you through life. Stay true and faithful to Him and He will always be a blessing to you.

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# A Word From Will

This past Saturday was one of the busiest days of my life, and it was a great one. The youth group left the building at 6:30 a.m. for the youth rally at the Northport congregation in Tuscaloosa. We had a wonderful trip. There were eleven of us, including Brooke and myself, who made the trip: **Jonalyn Amberson, Madison McGlaughn, Heather Johnson, Colton Clifton, Kevin Gobble, Kennedy Gibbs, Katie Alford, Hannah Blisard, and Alyssa Parker.** We had a great time singing and hearing lessons from God's word. I would like to thank everyone who woke up extra early to travel to Northport. We returned to the building around 5:00 Saturday evening. But the day was not over! We spent the rest of the day at Rainbow eating, playing games and fellowshiping with each other. It was truly a great day. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to making this day a great success.

I want to remind everyone of our first teen devo here at Rainbow after the evening services on **Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.** Since this is our first devo of the year, I hope that all of the teens, as well as parents, will make plans to attend. Have a good week.

Will

## *Moving Members Into Ministry in 2009*

**All jail workers take note of this:** The annual **Volunteer Training Session** conducted by the ECDC is on **Monday night, February 16, at 5:00 p. m.** This training is a **mandatory requirement** for all **who teach or serve** at the jail. The training this year is being held at the New Liberty Tabernacle of Praise Assembly of God. We plan to take the church van, if needed, so let Tony or Ray Cox know if you would like to go in the Van.

Remember, too, the **3rd Annual Southeastern Regional Prison/Jail Ministry Workshop** is at the Roebuck Parkway Church of Christ in Birmingham on Friday and Saturday, February 20-21. You are urged to send in your Registration Forms. Your only cost is the \$20 Registration Fee and this covers the four meals you will have there. Do it now!

## Contact Elder for February - Gene Brown



### MISSION UPDATE



We've had our first baptism of the year from our BCC mission. Kathy Overbey taught a student in North Carolina that had been enrolled by the Know Your Bible TV program out of Summerdale, Alabama. Kathy contacted Jeff Lovett, evangelist at the Morganton, NC Church of Christ. Brother Lovett contacted the man, studied with him further and then baptized him. Brother Lovett also placed the man with a congregation nearer to his home, the Banner Elk Church of Christ.



Currently, these are teachers who have students who want to be baptized: Eugene and Barbara Brown with students in Broaddus, TX and Buffalo, NY; Jan Hamrick with students in Yarmouth, Maine; Joyce Flynn with a student in Denton, NC.

Blake Jones and Ray Cox report the Bible class they are teaching at the Federal Correctional Institution in Talladega graduated its first group this past Tuesday. John Gallagher, who directs the statewide prison ministry, was the speaker. 18 graduates were presented with a Certificate of Recognition. A new class begins this coming Tuesday.



### M.I.A News

On Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, the **M.I.A (Members In Action)** had their first devotional of the New Year. Judging from all the reports I got, it went great! **Larry and Jane Naylor** graciously hosted this event at their home, where Larry conducted the devotional. About twenty people were at this event. Their next devotional will be at the home of **Stanley and Susan Stroup** on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Make your plans on being a part of this great night!

The annual **MIA Adult Retreat** in Gatlinburg, TN has been set for April 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. All members of the MIA, whether you are single or married are encouraged to attend. If you are planning on being a part of this your first of three payments will be due on Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> of \$100.

Also, the **Valentine's Day Dinner** for our Senior members at Rainbow will be held on February 14<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the foyer. Please sign-up today if you plan on attending. Also, feel free to bring a guest with you if you would like.



## BLAKE'S BOX

*With all humility and gentleness,  
with patience, showing tolerance  
for one another in love being  
diligent to preserve the unity of  
the Spirit in the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:2-3*

### Moving Members Into Ministry

As this New Year began, we introduced the slogan "**Moving Members Into Ministry**" as we are striving to do just that here at Rainbow. We want more involvement and participation by our members this year in our various ministries than ever before. We just completed the first month of 2009 and I believe that we are on track to do just that. Here is a quick look at what some of our ministries have already done and are planning on doing.

Our **C.I.A (Chicks In Action)** kicked off the New Year with a sleepover at our house and then this past Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> they held their monthly devotional. Kendall Pledger did the devotional and I hear she did a tremendous job. The girls then preceded to make gifts for our new Christians. The "chicks" who were a part of this on Sunday included: **Katie Wallace, Kaylen Carlton, Hannah Blisard, Alyssa Parker, Megan Brooks, Katy Alford, Jonalyn Amberson, Kelli East, Kendall Pledger, Brooke Littlejohn** and **Rebekah Jones**. Keep up the great work ladies!

Our **Youth Ministry** started off the New Year with a bang as they attended an area wide youth devotional at the **Saks Church of Christ** and then a youth rally hosted by the **Northport Church of Christ**. Will continues to do a terrific job as our youth ministry. We are so blessed to have him as he leads our young people into actively serving our Lord.

The **Twentysomething Ministry** had their first devotional of the year and there plans were laid out for several upcoming things. Not the least of which is the Parents Date Night on February 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This where our twenty's are offering a free baby sitting service for our parents here at Rainbow giving them the opportunity to spend some quality time together. Their next devotional will be on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Jack and Virginia Lasseter**. If you have any questions about this dynamic ministry see **Dave Lasseter**.

The **MIA (Members In Action)** started off with a great devotional at Larry and Jane Nayler's home. You can read more about all the great things happening in our

MIA in the MIA News section of this issue of the *Beacon*. If you would like to be a part of this growing ministry, I would encourage you to talk to **Stanley Stroup**. I know that this ministry would be all the better with your involvement.

The **Golden Generation Ministry** began this new year with their monthly fellowship. They will meet on the last Thursday night of each month in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions see **Norman Flynn**.

Make 2009 the year you decide to become more active in serving God and fellowshiping with your brothers and sisters in Christ. These are just a few of the many ministries that this congregation offers. Don't hesitate; get involved today!

### Responses

**Kathy Overbey** responded to the Lord's invitation last Sunday morning stating that she is facing some pressures in her life and requests the prayers of the congregation.

**Lacy Maddox** and **Jonalyn Amberson** responded to the Lord's invitation last Sunday morning as well. These courageous young women stated that they want to be better Christians and a better example to those around them.

**Kendall Pledger** responded Sunday evening stating that she has not been the Christian she knows she needs to be.

Let us all remember these ladies in our prayers as they strive to be faithful Christians.

### Upcoming Events

**Sunday, Feb 8** - Elders/Deacons Meeting

**Friday, Feb 13** - Twenty-Somethings Devo  
at Jack & Virginia Lasseter's home

**Saturday, Feb 14** - Parents Night Out - 6-9pm  
Seniors Valentine Dinner - 6pm

**Sunday, Feb 15** - Youth Devotional following  
PM worship here at Rainbow

**Friday, Feb 27** - MIA Devotional  
at Stanley & Susan Stroup's home

*Be kind, for everyone you meet  
is fighting a hard battle.*

**Rainbow Church of Christ**

2201 Rainbow Drive

Gadsden, AL 35901

**ELDERS**

<b>Mike Bowdoin</b>	442-0389
<b>John Bowling</b>	442-6608
<b>Eugene Brown</b>	438-5548
<b>Norman Flynn</b>	413-1688
<b>Craig King</b>	442-1630
<b>David Wallace</b>	546-0642
<b>John Wallace</b>	442-5887

**DEACONS**

<b>Jeff Birchmore</b>	547-3718
<b>Tony Cleveland</b>	538-5295
<b>Chris Daniel</b>	442-9833
<b>Wayne Gobble</b>	613-3500
<b>Steve Lorren</b>	442-8192
<b>Chris Mikle</b>	413-1038

**TIMES OF SERVICES**

**SUNDAY**

Bible Class . . . . . 9:30 A.M.  
 Worship Hour . . . . . 10:30 A.M.  
 Worship Hour . . . . . 5:00 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study . . . . . 7:00 P.M.  
 Ladies Bible Class meets each  
 Wednesday morning at 10:30.

**RAINBOW RECORD**

SUNDAY MORNING	<b>274</b>
BIBLE STUDY	<b>164</b>
SUNDAY EVENING	<b>147</b>
MIDWEEK STUDY	<b>151</b>
LOCAL BAPTISMS	<b>3</b>
OTHER RESPONSES	<b>8</b>
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	<b>3</b>
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	<b>5</b>
CONTRIBUTION	<b>7,410</b>

**MEMORIES**

**10 Years Ago:** Forty of our members committed to reading the Bible daily in 1999.  
**20 Years Ago:** Marion & Donna Dodd, Becky & Laurie Allen and Jason Pittard were all baptized into Christ! Cheryl Bowling hosted the Ladies Bible Class. Janie Cleveland chaperoned thirteen of our young people at an ice skating party.

**SERVANTS**

Serve the Family - February

Larry Naler . . . . .	Tommy Hamrick
Jim Masters . . . . .	Donnie Keener
Tim Parker . . . . .	Roy Helms
Kyle Johnson . . . . .	Glenn Amberson

Ushers - February

Mike Simmons . . . . .	Shawn Williams
Roy Harris . . . . .	David Scott

Communion Preparation - February

Michael & Nita Simmons

Building Lock-Up - February

Norman Flynn / Chris Daniel

**Sunday, Feb 8, 2008**

Scripture Reader . . . . .	David Lasseter
Opening Prayer . . . . .	A.M. Chris Mikle
	P.M. Paul Baker
Preside Lord's Supper . . . . .	Selton Long
Closing Prayer . . . . .	A.M. Craig King
	P.M. Tim Parker
Greeters . . . . .	Doyle & Della McCarver
Cup Pickup . . . . .	Jim Masters Family
McGuffey's . . . . .	Group 2 - Leader: Gary Udaka
Infant Nursery . . . . .	A.M. Mary White
	P.M. Kellie East
Toddler Nursery . . . . .	A.M. Julie Lorren
	P.M. Rachel Johnson

**Sunday, Feb 15, 2008**

Scripture Reader . . . . .	Will Stroup
Opening Prayer . . . . .	A.M. Allen Kreinke
	P.M. David Wallace
Preside Lord's Supper . . . . .	Jimmy Large
Closing Prayer . . . . .	A.M. Steve Lorren
	P.M. Doyle McCarver
Greeters . . . . .	Tony & Jane Cleveland
Cup Pickup . . . . .	Jim Masters Family
McGuffey's . . . . .	Group 3 - Leader: Wayne Gobble
Infant Nursery . . . . .	A.M. Debby Rode
	P.M. Shari Daniel
Toddler Nursery . . . . .	A.M. Debbie McLaughn
	P.M. Kristin Hollis

**OFFICE INFORMATION**

Phone: **547-3731**  
 Fax: 547-3771  
 Hours: 8:00 - 2:00  
[www.rainbow-coc.org](http://www.rainbow-coc.org)

**Minister: Blake Jones**  
 442-0988  
 504-5080

[blakesemailaddress@yahoo.com](mailto:blakesemailaddress@yahoo.com)

**Assoc. Minister: Norman Flynn**  
 413-1688

**Youth Minister: Will Smith**  
 504-9088  
[w.smith@comcast.net](mailto:w.smith@comcast.net)

**Ray Cox**  
[raycox1927@comcast.net](mailto:raycox1927@comcast.net)

**Secretary: Tracy Edmonson**  
[tmedmonson@comcast.net](mailto:tmedmonson@comcast.net)

**WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL**

2009 is off to a great start as our World Bible School Teachers are continuing to lead others to Christ. Listed below are the names of some of the participating teachers and the number of lessons sent last week. **12** teachers mailed out a total of **285** lessons for an average of **41** lessons per day!

Gene/Barbara Brown	51
Tony/Jane Cleveland	23
Ray Cox	15
Kellie East	1
Joyce Flynn	14
Bobby Golden	1
Betty Hale	6
Jan Hamrick	9
Betty Long	13
Kathy Overbey	152