



RAINBOW BEACON

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HEAD MAN LAUDS CHURCH

by Velaphi Mlangeni, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

We buried **Mr. Hleza** at Stanhope, our third there in just three days. This was different, however, because after his burial something unusual happened. The head man (a government official appointed to look after the social needs of people in that area) was given time to thank those who had come to the funeral. He lifted up his voice and said, *"I have not been sent by anyone to say these words, but this comes from my heart. I would like to urge those who are not members of the Church of Christ to think seriously about it. I say so because we have seen this church in action in our community, converting sinners, feeding the old and the needy during drought; including those with AIDS.*

This church is a light to our area. They do not merely talk by word of mouth but also talk by their deeds. This is why I am urging all of you here present to repent and be baptized and enter this church. Some may complain why I am mentioning the Church of Christ and excluding them, but their works speak louder than words, having assisted in the burial of our dead. Thank you for attending this funeral and for digging the graves, but remember what I said when you go back to your homes. Thank you."

May the glory be to God on High!! Jacob, Lucky, Nehemiah and I were taken aback by what Head Man **Ndlovu Siqoqodo** had said. We felt great because he had praised the church, not individuals. We praise God for using us to glorify Him!

RENEE CHAMBERS JOINS OUR FAMILY

Renee Chambers has been worshipping with us here for several months, and we rejoice that she wants to be a part of the Rainbow family. Her husband, **Kyle**, and daughter, **Olivia**, attend with her. We do not yet have a photo of the family, but we promise to have one soon in the *Beacon*.

Renee is probably the top real estate agent in Etowah County, and Kyle is in commercial insurance with Cobbs, Allen and Hall. Kyle has a unique side career which brings out a little envy in us all. He is a basketball official for the SEC and the OVC. Kyle probably will be on the court at the NCAA Tournament. Olivia is on the All-A's Academic Honor Roll at Westminster Christian where she is in the 2nd Grade. Olivia is also into basketball and other sports.

We officially welcome the Chambers family!

FLYNNS REPORT ON AFRICA MISSION

by Norman Flynn

We had a pleasant trip to South Africa. We arrived at 6 a. m. on Thursday morning. It was hot and sunny. We stayed at the home of Joyce's sister and niece in Plumstead.

We went to Atlantis on Friday night where Dorian preached in the gospel meeting that night through Sunday. I taught the Bible class on Sunday morning.

Monday morning, we headed for Port Elizabeth where we met Ken and Judy Kendall-Ball. Port Elizabeth is about 300 miles from Capetown.

We all went to a school in north Western Cape, "The Sapphire Primary School." They want a Bible-based education. Ken and Judy are promoting this program.

The Sapphire School has already adopted this curriculum. The headmaster told us there has been a marked improvement in the children, learning about the Lord and His word. This curriculum was drawn up by members of the church in Texas. The school has 1,030 students. 200 more schools are considering this curriculum which means 200,000 students if they give it favorable consideration.

Dorian, Ken and Judy met with the Ministry of Education in Port Elizabeth. Ken and Judy also attended the opening of Parliament in Capetown. They were invited to this occasion, so it was a great honor for them.

Judy and Ken rented an 8-bedroom house because 7 students from Sunset School in Lubbock, TX will help them with this program. These students will stay for 14-months with the Kendall-Balls. The students will alternate with other students from Lubbock every 14 months. They will have access to the schools and, at night, there will be special classes at the school house for the parents.

Dorian also preached at the Athlone Church of Christ—over 300 members. He preached both morning and afternoon. Afterwards, they had a singing which we attended. There were six responses with four baptisms.

I preached at the Central Church of Christ at Goodwood for the evening worship.

INSIDE

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NEWS AND NOTES: We will not have a photo of the new baby until next week, but **Tangi Vinson** gave birth to **Addison Layne Vinson** a little after 11 a. m. on Monday, February 26! Baby, parents, grandparents are all doing well, and we rejoice with them! . . . **Gary Udaka** has repented of short comings in his life and made himself right with the Lord. We rejoice with Gary. It is wonderful to be at peace with our God. . . . **Martha Austin** has once again fallen and broken a hip. She was hospitalized but has been released. Please remember Martha with special prayer. Please pray, too, for **Chad Roberts**, a brilliant young member at the Fort Payne congregation. Chad is the one responsible for getting our CASA 12-step program approved by the court. Chad has a weight problem and hurt his back while moving some boxes at the prison/jail Workshop a couple of weeks ago in Madison. He probably will require surgery. He is invaluable in the Lord's work, so pray that he will come through all this okay. . . . **Selton Long, Betty Long, Bobby Golden** and the entire *Beacon* staff went down to hear **Jack Evans** speak on Islam Monday night at the **Riverchase Church of Christ** in Birmingham. **Marilyn Gentry** also attended with her sister, **Sherry Cardwell**. Brother Evans, President of Southwestern Bible College in Terrell, TX and great gospel preacher, made it more than worthwhile. He compared Jews, Christians and Muslims regarding their claim to be the children of Abraham. He cited scriptures from the Bible and from the Koran to make his points. Brother Evans is a powerful speaker and proved from the Bible that Christians are the children of faith and thus Christians are the children of Abraham. He showed that the Koran itself stated that Jesus was born of a virgin, a fact that contradicts the belief of Muslims. We ordered a CD of brother Evans' presentations on all three nights. His Sunday morning presentation did not take place because his flight from Dallas to Birmingham was delayed due to bad weather. He was to speak to the women on Tuesday morning about the woman under Islam and Riverchase was trying to make arrangements to record this as well. For some of our older members who remember them, our group sat with **Glenn and Brenda Walker**, former members here. **Jack Mitchell, Jr.** is another former member here, now at Riverchase. And, of course, we saw **Dewayne and Cathy Spivey**. Dewayne is the evangelist at Riverchase. . . . **Hassie Moon** is out of the hospital and back at her apartment at Regency Pointe. Hassie would **welcome** your visits! . . . **Don Dover** is going through tough times right now. His mother, **Addie Lou Dover**, had emergency surgery last week to repair her aorta because of an aneurysm. Don's father, **Mitchell**, has a lot of age-related medical problems and needs someone to be home with him. With his mother in the hospital and his father needing someone to be with him, Don and his family have been scrambling to fill the needs. The Dovers live in Jasper. Keep Don and his family in your prayers. . . . There is a singing at Arab *this* Friday evening, March 2, and one at Plainview next Friday, March 9. **East Gadsden** is holding its annual **Teen Rally** on Saturday, March 10. Speakers are **Glenn and Cindy Colley** from Huntsville. Registration is from 9—9:30 a. m., and the sessions will run from 9:30—1:00 p. m. Lunch will be served. . . . **Steve and Dee Worley** are back in Jos, Nigeria and will be there until June. The Worleys have been missionaries to Nigeria since 1984. In fact, the Worleys began their Nigerian work while members here at Rainbow. They now work out of Savannah, TN. Keep Steve and Dee in prayer for the next few months.

VISITATION, MCGUFFEY BIBLE CLASS BEING REVAMPED

Craig King, our deacon for involvement, addressed the congregation briefly this past Sunday morning with a couple of announcements regarding our Outreach program and the McGuffey Bible Class. Craig praised Outreach Group leaders **Jeff Birchmore, Michael Simmons** and **Stanley Stroup** and the **20-somethings ministry** headed during the year by **David Lasseter** and **Justin McGlaughn** for their great effort this past year. The Outreach program is being reorganized, and this will take several months to activate.

Craig announced changes in the McGuffey Bible Class. He asks for enough volunteers to form four groups to conduct the weekly McGuffey Bible Class on a rotation basis. Craig has been pleased to date with the number of volunteers but would like to see even more. If you would be willing to be a part of this, there is a sign up sheet on the hallway bulletin board. New Leaders will be announced soon with the new program to start April 1.



Max Pruett

The McGuffey Bible Class has a rich, rewarding history. It was initiated circa 1984 which means it will be a quarter century old soon. **Max Pruett** was the primary mover and shaker and was the regular teacher for years and years. Early teachers included **David Bradford, Elmus & Dyer Honeycutt, Gurnie Foote, Gordon Smith. Ben Greenhaw** was a mainstay at McGuffey's over the years, right up to his recent death. Teachers in recent times include **Gary Udaka, Selton Long, Berry Shirley**, and many others, too numerous to list. Helpers over the years have been **Sarah Foote, Charles Powell, Leona Chance, Elmus Scott, Leona Chance, Kim McPherson, Jackie Shonesy, Clyde & Mary Keller, Colin & Brenda Windham, Anna Mae Harris, James & Hilda O'Clair**. In recent times, almost everyone in our Outreach Groups have participated. We will list some of these in future issues of the *Beacon*. Others have faithfully served the Lord's supper to those member residents at McGuffey's.

In the 23 plus years of the McGuffey Bible Class, the staff there and residents often have praised Rainbow's efforts in writing and vocally. We can be proud of the McGuffey Bible Class in so many ways. We appreciate, too, our relationship with McGuffey's. As Craig pointed out Sunday, McGuffey's donated some of the land on which sits our new Fellowship Hall. We urge you to volunteer to be a part of this great ministry. You will get even more from it than the people you are serving!



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

20's Ministry News

The **20 Something Ministry** continues to do great things! They are in the process of planning great things to help strengthen this ministry so that it will continue to grow.

They have made plans now for **monthly events beginning in March** with a *devotional every first Friday night of the month* and a *group activity every third Friday night of the month*. I would encourage all from the ages of 19-29 to reserve the first and third Fridays of the month and make their plans on being a part of these great times. I know there is also a **20 Something Retreat** in the works as well.

I am so impressed with all of the planning that is going into this ministry. **Justin McLaughn** and everyone involved with this ministry have such a great desire to see this ministry continue to grow. They are all very committed to this ministry and serve as such an example to the rest of us. Keep up all the great work guys!

YOUTH RETREAT

One of my favorite times each year is when we take our teens on their annual youth retreat. This year the retreat will take place **March 23rd – 25th** and as in years past we will be going to Gatlinburg, TN.

This retreat always serves as a great time for our teens to grow stronger in their relationships with each other. Through the years this retreat has provided me with some of my best memories and I know this year will be no different. Our sign up sheet just went up in the Teen Room last week and already several have signed up to be a part of this weekend get away.

I would encourage all of our teens to sign up and be apart of this memorable weekend. The cost is \$30 to help pay for some of the expenses, but if that is a problem just let me know. We want all of our teens to go on this fun filled trip.

If you would like to see where we are staying, you can look at it on the internet at: http://www.volunteercabinrentals.com/pigeon-forge-cabins/misty_shadows/misty_shadows.html

RAINBOW CLASSES COURT APPROVED

Alcoholic Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous are known as 12-step programs. Rainbow has a 12-step program in the NewLife Behavior curriculum called **Christians Against Substance Abuse, CASA** for short. The CASA course is different than those of AA and NA because God is recognized as the Higher Power. The fact is God is on each and every page. When someone is convicted for alcoholism or drug addiction, the courts require this addict to attend a number of mandatory 12-steps programs each week. Some are required to attend as many as five each week. The offender can look at the schedule and see which classes fit into his schedule and which he wants to attend. Rainbow CASA classes are now on the approved list along with AA, NA and such. This means we will have people in classes who would not have come before because our classes had not been recognized. This has now changed.

Our women offer a CASA class each Monday evening here at our building. Our class has now been on the list for a couple of days, so we will see how many, if any, come to our sessions. **Tony Cleveland** is planning a CASA class for men, planned for Thursday nights. Our classes will be non-smoking, non-profanity with God recognized as the Higher Power, and this is stated on the court's schedule of classes.

This court approval is a **major** step forward for our prison/jail ministry state-wide. This edict is state-wide because the Court Referral Office in Montgomery, a part of Family Court, has directed the courts to list us as approved. **Chad Roberts**, a member at the Fort Payne Church of Christ, spearheaded the effort to gain approval.

5 MORE BAPTIZED!

There have been five more baptisms from our combined prison/jail and correspondence ministries during the past week. Three of these were men at the ECDC, taught in our Bible classes there and through correspondence by **Tony** and **Jane Cleveland**. **The Brown WBS Team**, made up of **Eugene Brown**, **Barbara Brown** and **Sarah Simmons**, has a student at Fountain Correctional Facility in Atmore, Alabama who obeyed the gospel. **Kathy Overbey** has a student at Bullock Correctional Facility at Union Springs, Alabama who was baptized by **Michael Haynes**, a counselor at the facility and member of the University Church of Christ in Montgomery. This makes **32 baptisms so far in 2007** from our combined prison/jail and correspondence ministries.

RAINBOW HOSTS ECDC VOLUNTEERS

Rainbow is hosting the annual Orientation Meeting for the Etowah County Detention Center this Monday night in our Fellowship Hall. Our responsibility is to provide the venue and a meal for those attending. The meeting will be conducted by Chief of Corrections Officer **Scott Hassell** and Chaplain **David Bankson**. Attendees will include all groups conducting classes and other services at the ECDC. These include AA, NA and religious groups.

Chief of Corrections Hassell and Chaplain Bankson will bring ECDC veteran volunteers up to date on any changes in rules and regulations and will make sure newer volunteers are apprised of rules and regulations.

Tony Cleveland, Rainbow's deacon for the jail ministry, says that authorities at the ECDC have helped our volunteers and treated us so kindly and courteously that we wanted to do something for them, so our people volunteered to host the meeting. The meal will be prepared by **Cindy King**, **Betty Hale**, **Rita Phillips**, **Cheryl Bowling**, **Jane Watkins**, **Sheila Jordan**, **Sherold Bordenave**, **Martha Gardner**.

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DEACONS
 Tony Cleveland 538-5295
 Craig King 442-1630
 Chris Mickle 413-1038
 Tim Parker 442-4877
 Bruce Phillips 549-1236
 John Wallace 442-5887

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 at 10:30 A. M.

WORLD WIDE WEB PAGE
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RAINBOW RECORD

SUNDAY MORNING	230
BIBLE STUDY	168
SUNDAY EVENING	153
MIDWEEK STUDY	129
LOCAL BAPTISMS	7
OTHER RESPONSES	10
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	32
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	19
INDIA BAPTISMS	1,016
CONTRIBUTION	\$6,238

MEMORIES

10 YEARS AGO: Ron & Mary Dicken (daughters Gail, Nicole & Stacey). The Auditorium Bible Class supports native Thailand missionary, Nick Ragan. Class members gave from 10 to 50 cents weekly which totaled about \$100 monthly.

20 YEARS AGO: Dawn Patterson, daughter of Ron and Melissa, was baptized.

25 YEARS AGO: Dewayne Spivey was the new preacher at Central.

30 YEARS AGO: Johnny & Terry Sewell placed membership. The a.m. worship attendance was 212.

SERVANTS

SUNDAY, March 4, 2007
 Welcome Blake Jones
 Scripture Reader Daniel Lorren
 Opening Prayer Jack Lasseter
 Closing Prayer Doyle McCarver
MCGUFFEY CLASS: The 20-somethings ministry, Justin McLaughn, Leader.

SUNDAY EVENING
 Opening Prayer Stanley Stroup
 Closing Prayer Wilson Jones

WEDNESDAY, March 7, 2007
 Announcements John Wallace
 Prayer Wayne Gobble

SERVE THE FAMILY
 Jim McKleroy, Presiding
 Glenn Amberson Shawn Williams
 Colin Windham Mike Wallen
 Doug Brown Wayne Gobble
 John Lengyel Jerry Stanley

USHERS: Donnie Keener, P. J. Duncan, Leon Bordenave, Joel Cleveland.
GREETERS: Bruce and Patsy Phillips.
SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP: Elmus Scott, David Scott, John Lengyel, Ginna Lengyel, Tori Teague, Christopher Lengyel.

NURSERIES:
BABY: A. M. Rita Phillips
 P. M. Kim Masters
TODDLER: A. M. Beth Blisard
 P. M. Pam Jarbo
COMMUNION PREPARATION: March—Blake and Bekah Jones

EULA FULTON FOOD DELIVERY:
Mon, Mar 5: Janie Cleveland
Tues, Mar 6: Beth Udaka
Wed, Mar 7: Polk King
Thurs, Mar 8: Cindy King
Fri, Mar 9: Michael Simmons

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

Rainbow teachers taught **397 people** the gospel of Christ this week! Tremendous!!! These are the **20 teachers** and the number of people each taught:

KATHY OVERBEY	177
BOBBY/CAROL GOLDEN	7
BETTY LONG	28
BETTY HALE	7
TONY/JANE CLEVELAND	3
MIKE/RITA BOWDOIN	28
RAY COX	25
JESSICA SIMS/DAVID LASSETER	14
HEATHER COPELAND	2
TINA QUARLES	15
CHERYL BOWLING	4
KELLI EAST	38
CLAIRE WALKER	1
DAVID SCOTT	1
SHEROLD BORDENAVE	12

We did this despite **Joyce Flynn** being in South Africa; **Eugene & Barbara Brown** in Gatlinburg celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary; **Tony & Jane Cleveland** visiting their kids in North Carolina; **Betty Hale** away in Gatlinburg. There are others who were away that we cannot remember at this moment!