



THE RAINBOW BEACON

Wednesday, March 5, 2008

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REJOICING IN HEAVEN!

The angels in heaven were certainly rejoicing this past week when **Steven Qualls** repented and was baptized into Christ! Jesus said, in Luke 15:10, after telling the parable of the lost sheep, *"In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent."*

We believe, too, that **Guy** and **Jean Qualls** joined in that rejoicing because Steven is their grandson. Guy and Jean went on to their rewards several years ago after being part of the Rainbow family for a long time. Jean is especially remembered as being a great Bible class teacher for our youngsters.

Steven was taught and baptized by **Tony Cleveland**, but had Bible knowledge as a result of family and church legacy. We rejoice, too, with all those so encouraged by Steven's "new birth" into Christ and welcome him into God's family!

TWO MORE MEN BAPTIZED AT THE ETOWAH COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

God's harvest continues at the Etowah County Detention Center as two more men were immersed into Christ this past week. These men studied in classes taught by **Tony Cleveland** and **Berry Shirley**. Tony and his wife, **Jane**, also taught them using Rainbow's computerized Bible correspondence system.

You may have noticed that more and more we are having people visiting here at worship and Bible study as a result of our outreach at the ECDC and other places. This is tremendously encouraging. Doors are being opened for us in many places.

Rainbow hosted the **ECDC Annual Orientation Class for Volunteers** last Monday night in appreciation of the Sheriff's Office, Chief of Corrections **Scott Hassell**, **Chaplain Allen Weston** and the **correctional officers**.

RAINBOW'S SINGING SMORGSABORD

The Friday night excursions to singings at congregations all over northern Alabama are getting better and better. Eleven Christians from Rainbow and three other congregations traveled to the **Madison, AL Church of Christ** this past Friday night. **Blake Jones** drove for us. **Elbert Lewis**, one of the church's great singers, went with us from **Colvin Street** in Anniston, **Ricky Patrick** from **Central** here and **Vertis Headrick** from **Glencoe**. The Rainbow group consisted of its regulars.

The group stopped at **Catfish Cabin** in Albertville for a leisurely and sumptuous repast. We hesitate to state the number of hush puppies enjoyed, but it was sizeable! Our singers select a good restaurant on each trip, and this represents a part of the great fellowship enjoyed by all. They copied an idea from our Ladies Bible Class. This is a "complaint" bracelet. Each time someone complains about something, they must switch the bracelet from one arm to the other. The singers made one change in the bracelet. Their bracelet is *imaginary!* But it works quite well, and you quickly learn not to complain!

The Madison singing was superb! Some of the really talented song leaders are present for almost every singing, and they select really beautiful songs and there are so many soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices blending together the singing could arguably be described as *heavenly!* **David Hester** is the minister at Springville Road near Birmingham, and he and his two sons are favorites at these singings. Our Blake Jones led the final song, and a voice could be heard from the Rainbow group, *"They've saved the best for last!"*

The Rainbow group will be going to Arab this Friday night and to Plainview at Hazel Green the week after that. Come and join us for a trip!

RAINBOW WBS STUDENT BAPTIZED

WBS teachers often do not know the results of their teaching until years later or perhaps never. A case in point is recounted in a letter received by a Rainbow teacher this week from a Nigerian student. He had not heard from the student in more than two years. The student told the Rainbow teacher that he was baptized in early 2006 and was active in a congregation of the church. This Christian is a Peace Corps worker. He did not say whether this was the American Peace Corps or Nigerian, but he is assigned to an agricultural college there. Hearing about baptisms years later is not that unusual.

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Some Unusual Things For Which To Be Thankful

- Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
- Be thankful when you don't know ... it gives you the opportunity to learn.
- Be thankful for the difficult times ... during those times you grow.
- Be thankful for limitations ... they give you opportunities for improvement.
- Be thankful for a new challenge ... it will build strength and character.
- Be thankful for your mistakes ... they will teach you valuable lessons.
- Be thankful when you're weary ... it means you've made a difference.
- Be thankful for the mess after a party ... it means you have friends.
- Be thankful for the taxes you pay ... it means you are employed.
- Be thankful for clothes that fit a little snug ... it means you have plenty to eat.
- Be thankful for a shadow that watches you work ... it means you are out in the sunshine.
- Be thankful for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing ... it means you have a house.
- Be thankful for the spot you find at the far end of the parking lot ... it means you are capable of walking.
- Be thankful for all the complaining you hear about our government ... it means we have freedom of speech.
- Be thankful for a huge heating bill ... it means you are warm.
- Be thankful for the lady behind you in church service who sings off key ... it means that you can hear.
- Be thankful for the piles of laundry and ironing ... it means your loved ones are nearby.
- Be thankful for the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours... it means that you're alive.
- Be thankful for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day ... it means you have been productive.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

**“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”
—Ephesians 5:20**



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night!!



Our **Friends and Family Day** will be held on **March 30**. The Elders have set an attendance goal of 400, so let's invite our friends, neighbors, and family to come and enjoy this day with us!

The **MIA's** Marriage Retreat has been changed to "**MIA's Mountain Retreat**". This retreat, set for **April 12-15**, is open to MIA members who are single and to the members who are married. The cost of the retreat is \$300 per room. Please see Susan Stroup with questions.



The **Elders/Deacons Meeting** will be this Sunday, Feb 10th. The elders will meet separately at 2:00. The deacons will meet separately at 2:30, followed by a joint meeting at 3:00.

Our **next joint worship** will be **April 13** at 6pm at the East Gadsden Church of Christ building. Alan E. Highers, of Henderson, TN will be the guest speaker. This will mark the 20th year of joint worship services, with the first being held in May of 1987 at Convention Hall with James Watkins speaking. More info at www.rainbowbeacon.org.

Piedmont Church of Christ will be having a Gospel Meeting March 16-19. The speaker will be W.T. Allison of Hamilton, AL, and the song leader will be Ronny Johnson.

Oxford Church of Christ is having their **Ladies' Day** on Saturday, March 8 from 8:30 until noon. The theme for this gathering will be "Bloom Where You're Planted" with Dietlinde Spears as the speaker.

SINGINGS, SINGINGS, SINGINGS!

This is a great time of year to raise your voice to God in song! **Eugene Brown** leads a group **just** about every week to a singing some place. There are about **a** dozen that usually go in the church van and stop along the way for a delicious meal together. See Eugene if you want to be a part of this group. These are some of the singings contemplated to be on the schedule:



- Mar 7th:** Arab Church of Christ
- Mar 14th:** Plainview Church of Christ (Hazel Green)
- Mar 21st:** Pelham Church of Christ



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

Singings Keep Going and Growing!

This past Friday, February 29th, I had the privilege of once again being a part of the Friday night singing group that one of our elders, **Eugene Brown**, leads as we traveled to Madison, Alabama for the singing at the **Madison Church of Christ**. We had a great group that went with us this week; the van was just about full! Along with **Eugene** and **Barbara Brown**, our group also consisted of **Selton** and **Betty Long**, **Don Dover**, **Cynthia Wendorf** and **Ray Cox**. We were also happy to have **Rick Patrick** of the **Central Church of Christ**, **Elbert Lewis** from Anniston, and **Vertis Headrick** of the **Glencoe Church of Christ** with us. It was an honor to have these three traveling with us for this event.

This Friday, **March 7th**, the group will be going to the **Arab Church of Christ** for their annual singing. The van will be leaving the building at 4:00 p.m. If you want to experience a night of great fellowship and fun, then I encourage you to come with us. If you would like to go, see **Eugene Brown**.

LADIES!

Ladies, make sure you pick up the March addition of the **Rainbow Ladies Newsletter** which is on the table in the hallway! The ladies that put this newsletter together each month always do a tremendous job and this month is no different. Ladies, we don't say it enough, but thank you for everything that you do to help make this congregation so wonderful!

Also, ladies please mark your calendar for **April 19th**. This will be a **SIS (Sisters In Service) Day**. See Rebekah Jones if you have any questions.

Teens

Just a reminder to our young people from 5th – 12th grade, that our next monthly devotional will be here at the building on Sunday, March 16th following our evening service.

NEWS AND NOTES:

Sandy Owens, who attends Blessing Church of Christ in Boaz, responded to the Lord's invitation Sunday morning requesting the prayers of the congregation.

Gayle Bellew is now at home recovering and was able to be with us for Sunday worship.

Wilson and **Treva Jones** are at home recovering from an automobile accident. Wilson was able to attend worship on Sunday morning.

Arlie Neal is now at home recovering.

Kathleen Honeycutt is recovering at home.

Betty Jones, mother of Blake Jones, is in Coosa Valley Health Care. She is in the beginning stages of Alzheimer's.

Joey Brinkley is awaiting test results.

Diane Waits, niece of Jan Helms and sister of Katrina Shelton, had a stint put in but is now at home and will be able to return to work in a couple of weeks.

Douglas Brown, should know something from his test results this week.

Vennie Guyton is now at home..

Please continue to remember the following in prayer:

Judith Bone, Charles Bell, Catherine Bowen, Paige Buckner, Kim Clay, Carol Golden, Mitch Dover, Brenda Amberson, Charles Amberson, Eugene Brown, Joseph Brown, Betty Campbell, Leona Chance, Jennifer Davis, Don Dover, Steve Durrett, Sarah Foote, Eula Fulton, James Gardner, Dot Greenshaw, Betty Jones, Butch Jones, Cathy Jones, Wilson Jones, Wanda Logan, Jason McArthur, Gene Mayhall, Sr., Ruth Mayhall, Don Parker, Ron Patterson, Myra Pointer, Jerry Reeves, Sarah Simmons, Bryson Smith, and Judy Smith.

GRANDMA'S GLASSES

Two small boys were discussing eye glasses. "Wouldn't you hate to wear glasses?" one asked. "No", answered the other, "not if I could have the kind my grandma wears! My mother says she can always see when folks are tired or discouraged or sad. She sees whenever somebody is in need and she can always recognize when you have something on your mind that you need to talk over. But best of all she can always see something good in everybody!"

The little fellow continued, "I asked my grandma one day how it was that she could see that way. She said it was because of the way she's learned to look at things since she's gotten older. So I'm sure it must be those glasses of hers!"

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all of us could see others through Grandma's glasses?

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DEACONS

Jeff Birchmore 547-3718
 Tony Cleveland 538-5295
 Wayne Gobble 613-3500
 Steve Lorren 442-8192
 Chris Mikle 413-1038
 Tim Parker 442-4877
 Bruce Phillips 549-1236

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

www.rainbow-coc.org

OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESSES

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CONTACT FOR MARCH

CRAIG KING - 442-1630

RAINBOW RECORD

SUNDAY MORNING	272
BIBLE STUDY	n/a
SUNDAY EVENING	121
MIDWEEK STUDY	119
LOCAL BAPTISMS	3
OTHER RESPONSES	4
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	28
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	21
INDIA BAPTISMS	5,247
CONTRIBUTION	7,302

MEMORIES

10 YEARS AGO: Stephanie Shelton was recognized for being named to Southside Elementary's #1 Club. Stephanie is the granddaughter of Bobby and Carol Golden.

30 YEARS AGO: Commendations were given to Gurnie Foote, who was the executor of Emma Kate Aldridge's estate, for the generous contribution that was given to our building fund from sister Aldridge's estate.

SERVANTS

SUNDAY, Mar 9, 2008

Welcome Blake Jones
 Scripture Reader..... Daniel Lorren
 Prayer Jim McKleroy
 Closing Prayer Leon Bordenave

MCGUFFEY CLASS: Group No. 2; Leader: Jack Lasseter

SUNDAY EVENING

Opening Prayer Ray Cox
 Closing Prayer Bernie Cranford

WEDNESDAY, Mar 12, 2008

Announcements David Wallace
 Prayer Polk King

SERVE THE FAMILY

Berry Shirley, Presiding

Jason Mikle Jeremy Lorren
 Will Stroup..... Kevin Gobble
 Devin Jones..... David Lasseter
 Tyler Daniel..... Alex Wallen

USHERS: Chris Daniel, Dax MacDonald, Joel Cleveland,
 Zack Buckner

GREETERS: Kyle and Dana Johnson

SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP: Jerry Stanley
 Family

NURSERIES:

BABY: A. M. Karen Krienke
 P.M. Cindy King
TODDLER: A. M. Alyssa Krienke
 P.M. Tara McDonald

COMMUNION PREPARATION: Blake & Rebekah Jones

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

We had another great week as our Rainbow WBS teachers taught 250 people the gospel of Christ. This means that, on average, our teachers taught 36 people a day! 16 Rainbow teachers taught last week and these are the names and number of people each taught:

Jerolyn Long	12
Kathy Overbey	67
Bobby/Carol Golden	6
Betty Long	46
Eugene/Barbara Brown	20
Jan Hamrick	25
Tony/Jane Cleveland	34
Ray Cox	20
Joyce Flynn	9
Claire Walker	2
David Lasseter	3
Alan Gentry	5
Jessica Sims	1