



THE RAINBOW BEACON

April 30 2008

Volume 40 Issue 18

Class of 2008

The end of another school year is almost upon us and with it comes another graduating class. As graduation day approaches for the Class of 2008 their lives are filled with such great anticipation. We are blessed this year to be able to celebrate this great achievement with four beautiful Christian young ladies: **Megan Brooks, Brittni Hollis, Jessica Sims, and Claire Walker**. On Sunday, May 3rd, following our evening service we will be having a finger food fellowship and a "roast" to honor these four young ladies. As that fellowship draws near, we want to take this time to tell you a little about each one, what they have accomplished, and what their future plans are.

Megan Brooks will be graduating from **Glencoe High School**. She was voted "Who's Who" among her senior class and received the title of "*Most Humble*". She was a member of the GHS Yearbook staff during the 06-07 year and this past year she served as co-editor of the yearbook. She was a member of the Junior Civitan/FCCLA for three years. Megan plans to attend **Gadsden State**

Community College this fall to attain her basics. Then she plans to transfer to **Jacksonville State University** to pursue a degree in nursing. Megan said that her childhood dream has been to be the "lady behind the curtain who always got to hold the newborn babies." So after she obtains her degree in nursing, she hopes to get a job as a neonatal nurse at St. Vincent's Hospital. Megan is the daughter of **Ethel Brooks** who attends the Central Church of Christ.

Brittni Hollis will be graduating from **Gaston High School**. She is ranked seventh in her class. She is a member of the Senior Beta Club and serves as treasurer. She has been in Key Club for four years and serves as President. She has also participated in band, played volleyball, basketball and softball. She has received "Who's Who" among American High School Students;

Wendy's Heisman Athletic Scholar, "Who's Who" among American High School students in English and "Who's Who" among American Scholars.

Brittni has been awarded a full tuition scholarship to the Technical Division of Gadsden State Community College and awarded a performing arts scholarship to Gadsden State. After graduation, she is planning on attending **Gadsden State Community College** where she will pursue Cosmetology. She will also be performing with the *Southern Belles*. Brittni's parents are **LaMont and Teresa Hollis** of the East Gadsden Church of Christ.

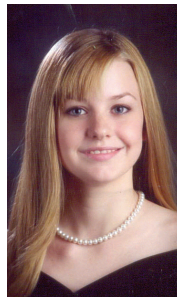
Jessica Sims will be graduating from **Southside High School**. She will be graduating with a 4.0 Grade Point Average. During her years at Southside she has been an ASTRA Historian and the chess club scribe. She was also on the writer's bowl team. Jessica received a merit scholarship from Jacksonville State University. Jessica plans on attending **Jacksonville State University** and possibly majoring in business. She also let this writer know that among her many accomplishments,

she is a champion thumb wrestler. Jessica's mother is **Toni Sims**.

Claire Walker will be graduating from **Westbrook Christian** as her senior class's *Valedictorian* with a 4.3 GPA! Claire has been the president of the National Honor Society, vice president of the Beta Club and Chaplin of Mu Alpha Theta. She has also served on the SGA for two years. This fall Claire is planning on attending **UAB** and majoring in nursing. She has received the University Scholars Scholarship

with covers full tuition and books. Claire's parents are **Ken and Susie Walker** and her grandparents are **Paul and Vangi Baker**.

Rainbow, we have a lot to proud of when it comes to these young ladies. They have excelled academically and now they have great plans for their futures! But even more than that, they have excelled spiritually and I believe that God has great things planned for them. Let's all plan on being a part of the finger food fellowship this Sunday following our evening service and celebrate this great time in the lives of these four outstanding young ladies.



RAINBOW MINISTRIES GETTING RESULTS!

It is rather overwhelming at times to see the great things being wrought by God through His children working together to save souls. This reporter witnessed this interaction of Christian workers this past Sunday at Roebuck Parkway. We will go back to the beginning of how all this came about to give you a fairly complete picture.

The story begins at the Etowah County Detention Center about three years ago where an incarcerated Christian was taught and brought to be a more mature child of God by Rainbow prison ministers. This man received his sentence and was sent to Kilby and then to the Montgomery Work Release Center. He enrolled another inmate there in our correspondence curriculum. This man joyfully accepted the truth and was baptized several months later at Fountain C. F. at Atmore.

This new Christian completed his sentence at Elmore near Montgomery this past Saturday. He was very nervous about going back into the free world, but his teacher pointed out to Him that God would take care of him. The released Christian will live with his family in North Birmingham near I-59 and the airport. The teacher arranged to pick him up on Sunday morning and take him to Bible study and worship at the Roebuck Parkway congregation. Roebuck has a tremendous prison ministry, teaching classes at several state facilities in the Birmingham area. **Chuck Spitzley**, a recovering addict who has been clean for 18 years now and who has taught prison classes all that time, went with the Rainbow teacher to pick up the student **John Gallagher**, an elder and prison minister, taught the Bible class. Everyone showed tremendous hospitality and friendliness to the visitor, and he was made to feel at home and truly a member of the family. **Bubba Holland**, a former football player at Auburn University, is providing some clothes for him. One man gave him some money because the state provides only a bus ticket home. John and Chuck made arrangements for him to be picked up for worship and classes at Roebuck. Our man, a Barack Obama look-alike, is placing membership at Roebuck Parkway.

This reporter sat in worship at Roebuck between this brother and **Gloria McMaster**, both brought to the Lord through the Rainbow correspondence system. Most of you never see all this good being done. Lives are being changed! Through our contacts with state government, such as the one we have with **Sandra Lasseter**, we will be able to place this brother in a job. Roebuck will nurture him in his Christianity and be a support group for him. He will continue to study with Rainbow through the correspondence curriculum and through Nations University. This is real Christianity in *action*, God's people working together to save souls!

We had another baptism from our correspondence work this past week, a young woman in prison at Marianna, Florida. This makes 46 baptisms from these combined prison/WBS ministries to date in 2008.

905 BROUGHT TO THE LORD IN INDIA!

Amaravarapu Abraham sends his first report from India with news of **905 baptisms!** Abraham leads a team of **20 evangelists** which conducts almost continuous gospel meetings. These meetings are small with an average attendance of about a dozen people. The wonderful thing is that usually two or three people obey the gospel! It's a formula that has brought tremendous numbers to Christ over the past quarter century from the work in southern India.



Amaravarapu Abraham

In the period January 20-April 25, Abraham's team conducted **455** of these 2-day gospel meetings with the 905 precious souls baptized into Christ.

Abraham sends his warmest regards to you here at Rainbow, and he asks you to pray for the welfare of these new brothers and sisters and for success as they work to construct a church building for his congregation. Rainbow provides support for two of the evangelists and the work fund of another.

08-09 McGuffey's Ministry

Teaching at McGuffey's Nursing Home next door has been a work of this congregation for over 20 years. It is a work in which Max Pruett, Gurney & Sarah Foote, and Ben Greenhall were instrumental for many years. We enjoy a great relationship with the management and owners of McGuffey's. They are very grateful to us for this ministry. They donated the property that now holds our new Fellowship Building.

We have completed our recent one year term and the elders would like to thank the members who were involved in this work during the last 12 months. Special thanks goes to the group leaders who worked hard at organizing their groups to serve each week. They are David Lasseter, Jack Lasseter, Jim McKleroy, and Wayne Gobble. Special thanks also goes to Berry Shirley, who helped out almost every week teaching and helping the residents.

It is now time that we reorganized and we would like to ask as many people as possible to sign up for the coming term. It is a one-hour-per-week commitment. Your help is needed in getting the residents to class and back to their rooms and assisting with the worship.

Two of our new group leaders, Gary Udaka and David Lasseter, will be in the foyer following services this coming Sunday taking new volunteers. **Please sign up and help!** Sunday, May 4th, is the deadline for sign-ups for the new term.

25 Reasons Why We Should Attend Every Service

1. To be with Jesus (Matt. 18:20)
2. For the personal peace and satisfaction that can be found with Jesus (Phil.4:7)
3. In order to have Scriptures opened to us (Luke 24:45)
4. In order not to quench the Holy Spirit (1 Thess. 5:19)
5. In order to receive comfort and fellowship (Heb. 10:24)
6. In order to feed and exercise our faith (Rom. 10:17)
7. So as not to miss a potentially life-changing experience (John 20:19, 24, 26-28)
8. To maintain our spiritual fervor (Matt. 24:12)
9. In order to feed our spiritual appetites (Matt. 5:6)
10. Because this is where I would want to be when the Lord returns (Mark 13:32-33)
11. To follow the example of the early Christians (Acts 2:42)
12. To set a good example for others to follow (Matt. 5:13-16)
13. To teach children and grandchildren the importance of regular attendance (Eph. 6:4)
14. Because we expect others to attend (Rom. 2:21)
15. In order not to wound our own conscience (1 Tim. 4:1-2)
16. To seek first the Kingdom and God's righteousness (Matt. 6:33)
17. To be inspired and admonished in spiritual songs (Col. 3:16)
18. That we might be strengthened and comforted in prayer (1 Thess. 5:17)
19. To better prepare yourself to teach those who are lost (Matt. 28:19-20)
20. To prevent backsliding (1 Cor. 11:29-30; 2 Peter 2:20-22)
21. To obey God's command not to forsake the assembly of the saints (Heb. 10:25)
22. Because some non-Christians who attend might be driven away by my indifference (Matt. 5:47)
23. That others may know we have been "with Jesus" (Acts 4:13)
24. In order to cast a vote for righteousness and against ungodliness (Matt. 12:30)

Please pray for our sick and remember them with cards, calls and visits

Don Dover is scheduled for surgery May 12th at Stringfellow Memorial Hospital in Anniston.

Patricia Campbell, sister of Gene and Douglas Brown, is having medical tests run.

John David Naler, son of Larry and Jane, is recovering from surgery at St. Vincent's Hospital in Birmingham. Please remember him in prayer.

Wanda Logan is now at home recovering from last week's hospital stay. Please keep Wanda in your thoughts and prayers.

Sarah Simmons, mother of Gene and Douglas Brown, is not doing well. Please remember Sarah in your prayers.

Jason Higginbotham is now at home recovering from last week's surgery. Please remember him in prayer.

Michael Turner, neighbor of Sandy Dean, is in UAB following a serious auto accident.

Joyce Flynn continues to struggle with sciatic nerve pain.

Rita Bowdoin is suffering from terrible migraines. She will be seeing a neurologist - who specializes in headaches - in the next week or two. Please remember Joyce and Rita in your thoughts and prayers.

Judith Bone, Charles Bell, Gayle Bellew, Catherine Bowen, Joey Brinkley, Douglas Brown, 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, James Gardner, Dot Greenshaw, Vennie Guyton, Kathleen Honeycutt, Betty Jones, Butch Jones, Wilson Jones, Cathy Langston, Gene Mayhall Sr., Ruth Mayhall, Hassie Moon, Arlie Neal, Redda Norton, Don Parker, Ron Patterson, Myra Pointer, Inez Quarles, Jerry Reeves, Berry Shirley, Bryson Smith, and Diane Waits.

The Finance Committee
will meet Wednesday, May 14th at 6:00pm.

The Elders want to thank the Church for the generous support from the recent special contribution. We raised over \$5,100 in addition to the \$11,000 previously donated. This \$5,100 has \$1,500 designated for missions and the remaining money will allow for \$700 for fellowship needs and \$2,900 for landscaping.

Due to the increasing gasoline prices, everyone using the Church Van is requested to **replace the gas used** upon return.

Rainbow Church of Christ
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Phone (256) 547-3731

ELDERS

Mike Bowdoin 442-0389
 John Bowling 442-6608
 Eugene Brown 547-1673
 Norman Flynn 413-1688
 Craig King 442-1630
 David Wallace 546-0642
 John Wallace 442-5887

MINISTERS

Norman Flynn 413-1688
 Blake Jones 442-0988

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.

OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESSES

rbowcoc@bellsouth.net
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raycox1927@bellsouth.net

INTERNET LINKS

Church Website: www.rainbow-coc.org
 Beacon Online: www.rainbowbeacon.org
 Joint Worship: www.jointworship.info
 Zimbabwe Info: www.zimbabwe-report.info

RAINBOW RECORD

SUNDAY MORNING	263
BIBLE STUDY	163
SUNDAY EVENING	109
MIDWEEK STUDY	131
LOCAL BAPTISMS	4
OTHER RESPONSES	6
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	46
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	78
INDIA BAPTISMS	905
CONTRIBUTION	6,689

MEMORIES

10 YEARS AGO: Eula Fulton became a great-grandmother again, when twin girls, Rachel and Rebecca, were born to Kerry and Karla Sword.

15 YEARS AGO: Rainbow sponsored a bowling party for all Gadsden-area singles. Only three singles participate, but they had a great time anyway!

30 YEARS AGO: A Clean-Up-Day was held to prepare for the new building dedication service.

SERVANTS

SUNDAY, May 4, 2008

Welcome Blake Jones
 Scripture Reader Joseph Wallace
 Prayer Selton Long
 Closing Prayer Polk King

MCGUFFEY CLASS: Group No.
 Leader:

WEDNESDAY, May 7, 2008

Announcements David Wallace
 Prayer Wayne Gobble

SERVE THE FAMILY

Tony Cleveland, Presiding
 Donnie Keener Tim Parker
 Robert Edmonson Allen Krienke
 John Lengyel Shawn Williams
 David Scott Daniel Cameron

USHERS:
 Bernie Cranford Dax McDonald
 Don Dover Zack Buckner

GREETERS: Larry & Jane Naler

SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP:
 Wayne Gobble Family

NURSERIES:
BABY: A.M. Della McCarver
 P.M. Karen Krienke
TODDLER: A.M. Nola Hampton
 P.M. Alyssa Krienke

COMMUNION PREPARATION: Mike & Rita Bowdoin

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

We had another super week as our Rainbow WBS teachers taught 295 people the gospel of Christ! This means that, on average, our teachers taught 42 people a day! 14 Rainbow teachers taught last week and these are the names and number of people each taught:

Kathy Overbey	73
Bobby/Carol Golden	8
Betty Long	29
Alan Gentry	4
Tony/Jane Cleveland	25
Ray Cox	21
Joyce Flynn	14
Eugene/Barbara Brown	105
Tina Quarles	5
Susan Stroup	5
Claire Walker	6