



THE RAINBOW BEACON

June 25, 2008

Volume 40 Issue 26

FRIENDS & FAMILY DAY

This Sunday, June 29th

Sermon Topic:
**“Nothing Is More
Important Than Salvation”**
James 4:13-17

Bible Class : 9:30 a.m.
Worship Hour: 10:25 a.m.

**Fellowship Meal For All
Following Worship Service
(Be Sure To Bring Enough For
Your Family - Plus One)**

**We Are Looking Forward to Seeing You and
Your Friends and Family Here!**

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RAINBOW SHARES IN FIRST FRUITS AT MOBILE

Baptisms are always special, but they are more *special*, if that be possible, when they are the "first fruits" of a new work. That was the case last Saturday when **Raymond Stokes** was "born again" at the Mobile Work Release Center. The studies at Mobile are a part of our statewide prison ministry to initiate Bible classes in every prison and jail in Alabama. We want to tell you the anatomy of how all this came about in Mobile.

The southwestern area of Alabama had no prison ministries



Marshall Underwood takes Raymond Stokes' confession of belief in Jesus Christ as God's Son.

when **The NewLife Behavior Network of Alabama** was formed under our eldership less than two years ago. That area, with four prisons in Atmore and the Work Release Center in Mobile, quickly became the top priority of the new prison group. **Ray Cox** and **Bobby Golden** made two multi-day trips to the Mobile area to survey and stimulate interest in prison ministry. **Bill Draper**, evangelist of the Inner City Church of Christ showed the most interest. From these two forays came plans for a prison ministry delegation to go into the Mobile and Atmore areas in April of 2007 with two planned meetings and a determined effort to initiate classes. We want to tell you about this so you can see the patience and effort it takes to get classes going.

The five-person delegation from the state prison ministry included Cox: Limestone Chaplain **Charles Baggett** and wife **Martha**, **Bill Edwards**, Madison Church of Christ; **Chuck Spitzley**, Roebuck Parkway Church of Christ. The first meeting was scheduled for Friday night at the Regency Church of Christ in Mobile. All the area congregations in Mobile had been told of the meeting and urged to send representatives. The meeting was scheduled for 7:00. At 6:59 p. m., other than the 5-person delegation from the NLBM, only Norman Newberry, the man appointed as Area Director for the Mobile region, was present. It appeared to be a huge disappointment. *But God had other plans.* 30 seconds before the meeting was to begin, in walks a tall, distinguished man. He is **Marshall Underwood**, evangelist for the University Church of Christ. Marshall, an audience of one, listens to the message brought by the delegation and becomes a catalyst in Mobile prison ministry. The next morning, Bill Draper is at the meeting in Atmore, and is now a key figure in Mobile and in Atmore.

Rainbow is also a major part of the story. A man, converted

here in Gadsden and who attended our classes at the ECDC and who continued to study with us through the Rainbow correspondence ministry, was incarcerated at the Mobile WRC. He developed such a close rapport with the chaplain that the chaplain made him a volunteer chaplain. This Christian told the chaplain about the NewLife Behavior courses, so the chaplain was receptive to classes.

First classes at the Mobile WRC were held in September, 2007 with teachers Bill Draper; Marshall Underwood; **Tony Wallace** and **Flint Johnson** from University; **David Sargent** from Creekwood. All told, congregations also participating include the Port City Church of Christ and the congregation in Hurley, MS. The Mobile group has **fourteen** trained teachers. We are hopeful the Mobile group will be teaching classes at the prisons in Atmore before very long.



Marshall prepares to baptize Raymond into Christ.

Raymond Stokes, now our Christian brother, has been in the NLB class at the Mobile WRC since day one. He has also taken the Rainbow correspondence courses and is an excellent student. He had eagerly anticipated baptism into Christ for some time. This was delayed because there were no baptismal facilities at the WRC. Marshall and Bill obtained funds from University and another Mobile congregation and purchased a portable baptistery. The warden would not allow baptisms until recently. We pray use of the new portable baptistery will become constant. The conversion of Raymond Stokes is very encouraging! Great obstacles were overcome through God's help.

Jerry Weldon, our evangelist here back in the 1990's, is now preaching for a Burlington, NC congregation. Burlington has a new jail, and Jerry has obtained permission for two classes each week. He will use the Rainbow system, coupling NewLife Behavior onsite classes with our correspondence curriculum. We will do the correspondence teaching initially for them, until they recruit and train teachers.

We are now getting 100 to 150 new students each week, and we can use some new teachers for our correspondence work. This truly fulfills the Lord's charge to "sow the seed". If you want to be a fruitful Christian, why not explore the idea of teaching through correspondence? Just see **Ray Cox** or **Bobby Golden**.



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

NEW ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

Three new adult Bible classes
our scheduled to begin Sunday
morning, July 6th. They are the
following:

Solving Life's Problems
(as taught in I and II Samuel)
Teacher: **Mike Bowdoin**
Place: Old fellowship room

God's Relationship with Man
(as taught in Genesis)
Teacher: **Norman Flynn**
Place: Auditorium

Marriage Enrichment
(as taught in Song of Solomon)
Teacher: **Blake Jones**
Place: Classroom in new
fellowship hall

We encourage all of our adults to
participate in one of these great
classes. The best way to know

Audrey Rose Koller, daughter of **Ryan and Karen Koller**, was born June 24, 2008 in Phoenix AZ. She weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces, and is 19 inches long. Audrey's grandparents are **Butch Jones** and **Cathy Langston** and her great-grandparents are **Jim Smith** of Glencoe and the late **Judy Smith**. Karen "grew up" at Rainbow in the Youth Group. Audrey is the niece of **Devin Jones**.

Clean-Up Day has been cancelled for this Saturday, June 28th.



The Rose of the Week goes to Selton Long! Selton works so hard maintaining the church van. Just last week, I was in Baker Tire Shop and there was Selton, getting the van serviced.. Thanks Selton!!
We appreciate you!

The marriage of **Krysta Lovelace** and **David West** will take place **Friday, July 18th** at 7:30 pm at the Rainbow Manor Wedding Chapel. The formal invitation, along with directions, is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Remember In Prayer...

Beth Blisard will have surgery at UAB on June 27th to correct brainstem compression.
Joyce Flynn will be having surgery at the Kirkland Clinic in Birmingham on July 8th.
Charles Bell is now at home.
Wilson Jones is in McGuffey's Rehab room # 428 following last week's foot surgery.
Bernie Cranford is in Gadsden Regional Room # 855 doing some better following heart surgery.
Perry Hathcock is in need of our prayers at this time.
Don Parker, Tim's dad, is now at home recovering.
Max Pruett is not doing well at this time.
Bobby Golden is in need of our prayers as he is going through a tough time.
Rita Bowdoin is suffering from terrible migraines. She is currently working with a headache specialist.
Sarah Simmons, mother of Gene & Doug Brown, is not doing well at this time.
Eleanor Armstrong, friend of Brenda Windham, has an inoperable tumor under her collarbone, please remember her in prayer.
Catherine Bowen, Paige Buckner, Kim Clay, Carol Golden, Mitch Dover, Betty Campbell, Jennifer Davis, Kathleen Honeycutt, Gene Mayhall Sr., Ruth Mayhall, , Arlie Neal, Redda Norton, Ron Patterson, Jerry Reeves, and Berry Shirley.
Shut In Members: Leona Chance, Sarah Foote, Gurnie Foote, James Gardner, Dot Greenhaw, Vennie Guyton, Betty Jones, Butch Jones, Cathy Langston, Hassie Moon, and Inez Quarles.

**Rainbow Church of Christ
2201 Rainbow Drive
Gadsden, AL 35901
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 Mickle 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.
Wednesday morning Ladies Bible Class will resume meeting in the Fall.

OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESSES

rbowcoc@bellsouth.net
tracyedmonson@bellsouth.net
raycox1927@bellsouth.net

CONTACT ELDER FOR JUNE

Mike Bowdoin - 442-0389

INTERNET LINKS

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

BUILDING LOCK UP FOR JUNE

Doyle McCarver / John Wallace

RAINBOW RECORD

SUNDAY MORNING	256
BIBLE STUDY	155
SUNDAY EVENING	146
MIDWEEK STUDY	129
LOCAL BAPTISMS	9
OTHER RESPONSES	8
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	69
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	109
INDIA BAPTISMS	905
CONTRIBUTION	7,371

MEMORIES

10 YEARS AGO: Polk King was named to the Alabama Auctioneers Association Hall of Fame.

15 YEARS AGO: Rainbow welcomed the Darwin Campbell family.

30 YEARS AGO: A congregational picnic was scheduled for July 4th, 1977 at the Hawthorne Park in Southside.

SERVANTS

SUNDAY, June 28, 2008

Welcome Norman Flynn
Scripture Reader Donnie Keener
Opening Prayer Paul Baker
Closing Prayer Polk King

MCGUFFEY CLASS: Group No. 2
 Leader: Gary Udaka

WEDNESDAY, July 2, 2008

Announcements
Prayer

SERVE THE FAMILY

Jim McKleroy, Presiding
Jason McArthur Jeff Birchmore
Elmus Scott Roy Helms
Colin Windham Mike Simmons
Dax McDonald Larry Naler

USHERS:
Bruce Phillips Wayne Gobble
Robert Edmonson Roy Harris

GREETERS: Bruce & Patsy Phillips

SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP:
 Stanley Stroup Family

NURSERIES:
BABY: A.M. Ann Gentry
 P.M. Treva Jones
TODDLER: A.M. Rochelle Keener
 P.M. Julie Lorren

COMMUNION PREPARATION: Dewey & Janet East

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

We had another super week as our Rainbow WBS teachers taught 544 people the gospel of Christ! This means that, on average, our teachers taught 78 people a day! 15 Rainbow teachers taught last week and these are the names and number of people each taught:

Bobby/Carol Golden	3
Kelli East	3
Betty Long	48
Tony/Jane Cleveland	47
Ray Cox	88
Susan Stroup	34
Joyce Flynn	34
Eugene/Barbara Brown	177
Jan Hamrick	59
Craig King	1
Betty Hale	11
Kathy Overbey	39