



# THE RAINBOW BEACON

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## Walking with Christ

Have you ever taken a leisurely walk with someone you care about deeply? It seems like the birds sing a sweet song, the foliage is brighter green, the sky is bluer, and everything looks brighter. Now, imagine you are walking with Jesus Christ. What would you notice? How would you view Him, yourself, and the world? No doubt all of creation would seem even more majestic in the presence of its creator. Your senses would be amplified, striving to take in every detail of such a great one who has called you His "friend" (John 15:14).

One thing you would notice about Jesus would be His care for those who walked with Him. When the multitude was hungry, He fed them. When the sick came to Him, He healed them. And all who walked with Him were taught the words of God.

**Walk in the Light.** If you would walk with Christ you must walk in the light. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12). To walk in the light is to, walk in the words of Christ. David said that the Lord's word was a lamp to his feet and a light to his path (Psalm. 119:105). Jesus' words will give you light of life (John 6:63).

**Walk in Agape Love.** Your neighborhood continues to change, with old neighbors moving out and new neighbors moving in. But the second great commandment remains unchanged; to love your neighbor as yourself (Matthew 22:39). Jesus demonstrated agape love for His neighbors through His life of selflessness and His sacrificial death on the cruel cross. There is no greater love than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend (John 15:13). It is this same agape love with which Jesus has reached out to you that causes you to reach out to others.

**Walk in Service.** You were created in Christ for good works (Ephesians 2:10). When you neglect that service, then you are not walking in the purpose for which Christ created you. But when you walk in the good works you will hear Jesus say to you "Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matthew 25:34). Walking in faithful service to your Father provides that sense of purpose and fulfillment that you are searching for. It just makes you feel good. Whenever you are feeling low, a guaranteed "pick-me-up" is to go out and do some good works for someone else.

Conclusion: Walking in the light, in love and in service are necessary requirements for you who would walk with Jesus Christ. If you say that you are abiding in Christ, then you ought to walk just as Jesus walked (1 John 2:6). This means that as you walk you will feed the hungry, help heal the sick, give comfort to the hurting, and share with others the life giving word of God. As you walk with Christ, there is no condemnation upon you (Romans 8:1); the blessings of the Father are upon you (James 1:25); and the blood of Jesus continually cleanses you from all sin (1 John 1:7). Walking with Jesus brings peace, fulfillment, and contentment to your soul. It gives hope, not only of the resurrection of eternal life, but also for the life that you are now living (John 10:10).

Remember - it is your heavenly Father who is inviting you to walk with His royal Son; "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him" (Colossians 2:6). What a great and high honor!

*Author Unknown*

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## .RAINBOW STUDENT BAPTIZED IN NJ!

**The American harvest for the Lord continues!** We told about the three baptisms in Michigan last week from the correspondence ministry. Another of our students was baptized this past Sunday, this one in **New Jersey!** His name is **James Beliveau**, and he lives in Barnegat, only a few miles inland from the Atlantic Ocean.

James was another of those true seekers. Listen to a couple of comments written on the answer sheet requesting baptism:

***My wife and I are looking for a church faithful to God's word.***

***I wish to be baptized, but not into an organization or denomination but rather—into the body of and kingdom of Christ.***

As soon as we received James' request, we started looking at the map to find a congregation nearby. A great site for this is to go to [www.churchzip.com](http://www.churchzip.com). Enter the zip code in the place indicated, and this site will give you all the congregations of the church within 20 miles. You can extend the radius on the site if there is nothing satisfactory within the 20 miles radius. Our search on ChurchZip revealed the nearest congregation was a 25-member congregation in Tom's River, about 15-20 miles from Barnegat. We contacted the preacher, **Pablo Molina**, via email. Unfortunately, Pablo emailed us back that he was spending the next week at Harding University in Searcy, AR, but two members of the Tom's River lived in Barnegat and he would see that someone would contact James. Again, unfortunately, when we checked with James later, no one had contacted him.

Providentially, we talked with our prison ministry buddy at Madison here in Alabama, **Bill Edwards**, about the situation. Bill had lived in this area of New Jersey at one time and knew the congregations well. He told us to contact **Kenneth Brown**, a great worker for the Lord who toiled in prison ministry and to establish new congregations for the Lord. We did contact Kenneth at the Echo Lake church (about 60 miles away), and this proved the key in getting James baptized. Kenneth called the two members of the church in Barnegat, and one of them lived only two neighborhoods over from James. She was at James' home within the hour, and the other member phoned James while she was there.

James attended the Tom's River Church of Christ this past Sunday and was immersed into Christ at the worship hour. We spoke to him on the phone and rejoiced with him. He is highly intelligent and should prove a valuable addition to this small congregation.

This makes four baptisms within a week from students enrolled from the Know the Bible TV enrollments, in *Michigan* and *New Jersey!* This should prove to us that ***the fields are truly white unto harvest!***

## RAINBOW'S OVERSIGHT OF STATE PRISON MINISTRY ENDS

Rainbow's eldership has had the oversight of the state prison ministry, the **NewLife Behavior Network of Alabama (NLBNOA)** for the first two years of its existence. This ended last Saturday at NLBNOA's Annual Meeting when **John Gallagher**, an elder and veteran prison minister at the **Roebuck Parkway Church of Christ** in Birmingham, was selected by the group as its new State Director. **Ray Cox** of Rainbow had served as State Director for the first two years but declined another term. Common sense is that the State Director and lead eldership should be from the same congregation.

Rainbow can take some pride in accomplishments of NLBNOA during Rainbow's tenure. The primary mission of this group is to initiate Bible classes in every Federal and Alabama prison, county jails and metro jails in the state. Great progress was made during this time. Of **20** major prison facilities listed by the State of Alabama, we now have Bible classes or worship services in **17** of these. There is only one major Federal prison in the state, and this is the one down at Talladega. Our first classes are scheduled to begin at the F.C.I. there on October 3 with **Blake Jones** and **Ray Cox** from Rainbow and **Ronnie Hurst** (Talladega) as teachers. We are also in the great majority of all these prisons through our Bible correspondence system. We have established classes at a great many of the county and metro jails. Major accomplishments include:

- Establishment of an NLBNOA website with **Butch Jones** as Webmaster.
- Establishment and publication of **The Network**, issued bi-monthly, edited and produced here. Issues are archived on the website.
- Two Annual Workshops, highly praised by everyone who attended. The 2007 Workshop drew more than 150 people from seven states, hosted by the **Madison, AL** congregation. The 2008 Workshop, hosted by the **Beltline Church of Christ, Decatur**, had more than 250 in attendance. **Roebuck Parkway** is to host the 2009 Workshop in February.
- Greatly expanded knowledge in *aftercare*. Several prison ministers from Rainbow have established a non-profit corporation to implement a recovery haven for women, **Rainbow of Hope**. This proposed home will house thirty or more women who will attend at Rainbow. Rainbow of Hope will be a prototype which can be used by any congregation wanting to start a recovery facility.
- Rainbow's own prison ministry and correspondence system is a great model for others.

Rainbow's leadership leaves NLBNOA poised for even greater things in future years. **John Gallagher** and the **Roebuck Parkway eldership** are ideal leaders to assure NLBNOA attains new pinnacles. Rainbow elders and our prison ministers will be there to help.



## 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*

### The Revival Continues...

This past Sunday, **Suzi Morgan** responded to the Lord's invitation requesting our prayers. Suzi confessed that she hadn't been the soldier in the Lord's army that she should be; that she hadn't shown the strength to take a stand for the Lord when she should.

We all appreciate and love Suzi for her humility to make this very brave statement and may we as her fellow soldiers in the Lord's army do everything we can to support her. Suzi and her husband **Pat** are both great assets to the church here at Rainbow and we are so thankful to have families such as this making up our spiritual family.

### New Adult Classes

On September 7<sup>th</sup> a new quarter of adult Bible classes will begin on Sunday morning. The three new classes are the following:

#### ***Becoming the Women God Wants Us to Become*** **– (Ladies only)**

Teacher: **Rebekah Jones**

Place: *Classroom in the new fellowship hall*

#### ***Becoming the Men God Wants Us to Become*** – **(Men only)**

Teacher: **Blake Jones**

Place: *Old fellowship hall*

#### ***I, II Timothy***

Teacher: **Norman Flynn**

Place: *Auditorium*

### Rainbow Church of Christ

#### 3rd Annual Singing

Friday, September 19th

7pm - 9pm

Refreshments will be served following singing. If you can help out with the refreshments, sign-ups are on the hallway bulletin board!

A "Work Day" has been scheduled for Sat, **Sept 13th**, beginning at 8:30am.. We will start the day with a delicious breakfast before we roll up our sleeves and work to prepare the building for the upcoming Gospel Singing on Sept 19th! Please make plans to be here!

### *Remember In Prayer...*

**Carrie Dowdy** has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. She was to undergo surgery early Wed morning at UAB. Please remember Carrie and her family in your prayers.

Tina Quarles' dad, **Bill Kinsey**, was to have an arteriogram done Wednesday afternoon after suffering from chest pains and shortness of breath.

Eric Lyons and his family as they grieve the loss of Eric's father-in-law, **Duane Johnson**. Eric was the speaker at last week's Creation vs. Evolution Seminar. He and his family have requested our prayers during this time.

**Rita Bowdoin** came through Monday's eye surgery well and is now at home recovering.

**Bobby Bellew**, brother-in-law of Gayle Bellew, has brain cancer and is now in a Birmingham hospital not doing well. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Elizabeth Khan**, mother of Rita Phillips and Susan Wallace, will soon begin chemotherapy treatments.

**Joyce Flynn** is to have an MRI of her knee. Please keep her in your prayers.

**Calvin Henderson** Jean Bowling's daughter's father-in-law, is at McGuffey's Rehab.

**Robert Guyton** is in need of our prayers at this time.

**Ora Biggs**, neighbor of Pam Thompson, underwent open heart surgery and has now been in the hospital for 3 weeks.

**Marie Colvett**, mother of Nancy Wallace, is not doing well at this time.

**Teresa Harris**, daughter of Arlie & Joyce Neal, came though colon surgery well and the prognosis is good.

**Doug Argo**, grandfather of new member, Cody Worthy, is suffering from cancer and has requested our prayers during this difficult time.

**Jerrie Whorton** is not doing well and is need of our prayers at this time.

**Sarah Simmons**, mother of Gene & Doug Brown, is not doing well at this time.

**Rita Bowdoin, Catherine Bowen, Paige Buckner, Kim Clay, Addie Lou Dover, Dewey East, James Gardner, Bobby Golden, Carol Golden, Betty Campbell, Jennifer Davis, Perry Hathcock, Elmus Honeycutt, Kathleen Honeycutt, J.R. Jackson, Gene Mayhall Sr., Ruth Mayhall, Arlie & Joyce Neal, Redda Norton, Don Parker, Ron Patterson, Max Pruett, Jerry Reeves, Berry Shirley and Isleen Wallace.**

Shut In Members: **Martha Austin, Charles Bell, 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  
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Gadsden, AL 35901  
Phone (256) 547-3731**

**ELDERS**

Mike Bowdoin 442-0389  
John Bowling 442-6608  
Eugene Brown 438-5548  
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.  
Wednesday morning Ladies  
Bible Class will resume  
meeting in the Fall.

**OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESSES**

[rbowcoc@bellsouth.net](mailto:rbowcoc@bellsouth.net)  
[tracyedmonson@bellsouth.net](mailto:tracyedmonson@bellsouth.net)  
[raycox1927@bellsouth.net](mailto:raycox1927@bellsouth.net)

**BUILDING LOCKUP FOR AUG**

Jeff McGlaughn/Alan Gentry

**CONTACT ELDER FOR AUG**

Eugene Brown - 438-5548

**INTERNET LINKS**

Church Website: [www.rainbow-coc.org](http://www.rainbow-coc.org)  
Beacon Online: [www.rainbowbeacon.org](http://www.rainbowbeacon.org)  
Joint Worship: [www.jointworship.info](http://www.jointworship.info)  
Zimbabwe Info: [www.zimbabwe-report.info](http://www.zimbabwe-report.info)

**RAINBOW RECORD**

SUNDAY MORNING	257
BIBLE STUDY	161
SUNDAY EVENING	124
MIDWEEK STUDY	148
LOCAL BAPTISMS	12
OTHER RESPONSES	21
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	96
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	109
CONTRIBUTION	6,148

**MEMORIES**

**10 YEARS AGO:** Rainbow's Secretary of 9 years, Kim Geer, accepted a new position at Delphi Packard. An appreciation note for all her hard work was published in the Beacon.

**30 YEARS AGO:** Dyer and Dianne Honeycutt were rejoicing over the birth of their new son, Doug Honeycutt!!

**SERVANTS**

**SUNDAY, Aug 31, 2008**

Welcome . . . . . Blake Jones  
Scripture Reader . . . . . Adam Brown  
Opening Prayer . . . . . Gary Udaka  
Closing Prayer . . . . . Wilson Jones

**MCGUFFEY CLASS:** Group No. 3  
Leader: Wayne Gobble

**WEDNESDAY, Sept 3, 2008**

Announcements . . . . . John Wallace  
Prayer . . . . . Selton Long

**SERVE THE FAMILY**

George Elliot, Presiding

Jim Masters . . . . . Mike Simmons  
Donnie Keener . . . . . Glenn Amberson  
Doyle McCarver . . . . . Shawn Williams  
Gerald Yenkey . . . . . P.J. Duncan

**USHERS:**

Don Dover . . . . . Steve Lorren  
Elmus Scott . . . . . Roy Harris

**GREETERS:** Allen & Karen Krienke

**SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP:**

Jeff McGlaughn Family

**NURSERIES:**

**BABY:** A.M. Sue Gobble  
P.M. No PM Service  
**TODDLER:** A.M. Della McCarver  
P.M. No PM Service

**COMMUNION PREPARATION:** Gene & Barbara Brown

**WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL**

We had another superb week as our Rainbow WBS teachers taught 432 people the gospel of Christ! This means that, on average, our teachers taught 62 people a day! 12 Rainbow teachers taught last week and these are the names and number of people each taught:

Bobby/Carol Golden	10
Tony/Jane Cleveland	60
Ray Cox	29
Eugene/Barbara Brown	140
Becky Bagley	11
Kathy Overbey	83
Alan Gentry	3
Jan Hamrick	48
Joyce Flynn	29
Tina Quarles	14