



RAINBOW BEACON

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OUR ALABAMA STATE WIDE PRISON MINISTRY IS FLOURISHING!

The **NewLife Behavior Network of Alabama**, statewide prison ministry overseen by the **Rainbow eldership**, continues its exciting growth! The basic mission of NLBNOA is to establish Bible classes in **every** prison/jail in the state of Alabama. It is more than fulfilling when new classes are established and then bear the first fruits. This happened just this past week in the Clay County Detention Center in Ashland.

Most of the initial contacts for new classes are generated by Rainbow WBS teachers. They teach, and when a student asks



David Rozelle

to be baptized, we have to find someone in that location to make contact and baptize the student. This was the case in Ashland where the Clay County Detention Center is located. **Betty Long** had 3 women request to be baptized there. **Blake Jones** contacted **Cliff Goodwin** at the Ironaton congregation who is familiar with that area, and Cliff told us to contact **J. D. Sparks**

at the Liberty Church of Christ in Wedowee and see if he would follow up. Brother Sparks was willing to do this, but he pointed out that there was a church in Ashland where **David Rozelle** was the preacher and gave us David's phone number. We phoned David, and he not only accepted the request, but he was enthusiastic in doing so despite the severe health issues he was undergoing at the time.

It turned out that David had gone to school with Clay County **Sheriff Jean Dot Alexander**, one of the few women sheriffs around. He made an appointment with her and proposed NewLife Behavior classes be taught at the Detention Center. Sheriff Alexander liked the curriculum and gave her approval for a men's class at 9:00 a. m. on Thursdays to be followed by a class for the women at 10:00 a. m. Classes began on Thursday, September 6. As it turned out, David was in the hospital on that day, so this writer and Blake Jones taught the

first classes. David's health improved and he took over the next week and has done outstanding work since. In addition to teaching the classes, David has recruited **Clarence Johnson** from the Ironaton church to help him and has since added **Steve Powell**, a veteran preacher who has retired to Ashland so that he and his wife can be close to her aging parents whose health is not good.

The students at the Clay County Detention Center have also been studying our correspondence curriculum in addition to the classroom studies. David has recruited several women from the Ashland congregation to help him with the correspondence. And the result has been the same in Clay County as it is always when the classroom teaching is combined with correspondence teaching, souls are saved! The first two baptisms took place last Thursday, two men, and David reports that it was an inspiring moment, witnessed by the men's classmates.

It is unusual that the baptismery at the Clay County facility is right in the classroom. David had to get permission to baptize and it was granted. This should make it easier to baptize in the facility in the future. Actually, he had hoped to baptize four, but one man was out for the day on work release while another man wanted to wait until he can be baptized with his girl friend. David will study with him to help him understand the urgency of baptism.

Other exciting news from **NLBNOA**:

- The 2nd Annual **NLBNOA** Southeastern Regional Workshop will be hosted by the **Beltline Church of Christ in Decatur** on Friday and Saturday, February 22-23. The speakers include **Buck Griffith & Hillery Motsinger**, founders and leaders of NewLife Behavior; **Mac Lynn**, Chancellor of Nations University; **Jerry Jenkins**, Evangelist at Roebuck Parkway in Birmingham; **Joe Thomas**, Special Projects Manager, Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs; **Billy Mitchem**, Warden at Limestone C. F., Alabama's largest prison. Rainbow speakers include **David Scott** and several of our women, including **Betty Hale**, **Rita Bowdoin**, **Jane Watkins** and **Cheryl Bowling**. Last years Workshop had 150 prison/jail ministry workers from seven states and drew rave reviews.
- **Martel Pace** has obtained permission for the **University congregation** in Montgomery to begin classes at the new **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

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NEWS AND NOTES: KEN OVERBEY IS WORLD CHAMPION
HONEYCUTTS CELEBRATE 65 YEARS OF MARRIAGE
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Montgomery Women's Facility in January. He has recruited more than ten teachers from the University congregation to teach the classes. Martel was the first to see the warden at the new facility, and so the church is the first to have classes there.

- **Grant Azbell** has been named **Area Director** for the five counties in northwest Alabama. Grant, a member of the **Highland Park Church of Christ in Muscle Shoals**, is the deacon for jail ministry and has been involved in this ministry for many years. Grant will be responsible for initiating Bible classes in **Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin and Lawrence** counties.
- **Joe Walden** has been named Area Director for the southeastern section of Alabama which includes the counties of **Houston, Barbour, Henry, Dale and Geneva**. Joe is in charge of prison/jail ministry at the **Westgate Church of Christ in Dothan**. It is interesting for us here at Rainbow to note that Joe's mother, **Bonnie Walden**, was a member here.

The Newlife Network of Alabama is one of your missions, and we thought it important for you to know that it is continually producing good results. We anticipate an even greater year in 2008.

THE SNEEZE

(We tell you in our *Memories* section on the back page that it was ten years ago this month that **Federal Judge Al Dement** placed monitors in DeKalb County schools just north of us to make sure that students there didn't pray in school. Those opposed to Christ are still working just as hard today to force Christianity out of every segment of our lives. The story below happened at the University of Maryland).

They walked in tandem, each of the 92 students filing into the already crowded auditorium. With their rich maroon gowns flowing . . . and the traditional caps, they looked almost . . . as grown up as they felt. Dads swallowed hard behind broad smiles, and Moms freely brushed away tears.

The class would **NOT** pray during commencement . . . not by choice, but because of a recent court ruling prohibiting it.

The principal and several students were careful to stay within the guidelines allowed by the ruling. They gave inspirational and challenging speeches, but no one mentioned Divine guidance and no one asked for blessings on the graduates or their families.

The speeches were nice, but they were routine . . . until the final speech received a standing ovation. A solitary student walked proudly to the microphone. He stood still and silent for just a moment, **and then it happened. All 92 students, every single one of them, suddenly SNEEZED!!!!!!**

The student on stage . . . simply looked at the audience and said, "**God bless you, each and every one of you!**" And he walked off the stage.

RAINBOW HOLIDAY PARTY SET

Rainbow's Annual Holiday Party is only here, **tomorrow evening, Friday night, 6:00 p. m.** in our **Fellowship Hall**. The dinner is catered by Tony's, and the cost is **\$8 per person**. If you have not signed up but want to attend, phone the office or Tim Parker, deacon in charge, and we'll try to get you counted. You can pay at the door. And, don't forget, We'll play that favorite game again this year! It's called "**dirty Santa**"! Bring a gift which costs \$5—\$10 to use in this game. More than 65 people have signed up already. It's going to be a fun, fellowship evening, so come and join in!

ANYBODY'S NIGHT OUT

And for those who signed up for **Anybody's Night Out** *this* Saturday to attend **Holiday Musical Revue** at the **Whole Backstage** in **Guntersville**, we will leave the church building at 5:00 p. m. in the church van.

We are leaving early because we will stop for dinner on the way. Leaving at 5:00 should give us plenty of time to eat.

We have excellent seats on the first and second rows. See you Saturday!

BABY GIRL SHOWER

There will be a **Baby Girl Shower** to honor **Dorinda Lumpkin** *this* Sunday afternoon at the home of **Cindy King** from 2:00—4:00 p. m.

All of our ladies are invited.

NEWS AND NOTES:

Jean Bowling asks your prayers for her daughter, **Kathy Henderson**, who is having tests because of some health problems. It could be serious. Kathy lives in Dothan. Also, **Jan Helms** asks you to pray for her sister, **Catherine Bowen**, who is seriously ill in DeKalb Medical Center in Fort Payne. Sister Bowen is the mother of our **Catrina Shelton** and **Joyce Kirby**, wife of **Larry Kirby**, evangelist at the Fort Payne Church of Christ. And keep **Jason McArthur** in prayer. Jason is a member at Central. He was in a serious industrial accident a couple of weeks ago when a transformer blew up in his face. He suffered 2nd degree burns on his face and arms and is now in the burn unit at the University Hospital in Birmingham. Jason is in lots of pain and cannot have visits. He will required skin grafts and plastic surgery. Please pray for Jason.



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

C.I.A Christmas

Our **C.I.A** (Chicks In Action) held their monthly devotional this past Sunday afternoon and it had a Christmas theme. My reports tell me that the ladies went to the mall and ate lunch and from there they went to the home of **Jonalyn Amberson** for their devotional. **Jessica Sims** lead the singing, **Megan Brooks** lead them in prayer and **Rebekah Jones** shared some thoughts with them for their devotional. Those who were in attendance were **Madison McGlaughn, Jessica Sims, Claire Walker, Kellie Overbey, Jonalyn, Rachel Johnson, Heather Johnson, Alyssa Parker, Hannah Blisard, Katie Wallace, Kaylen Carlton, Megan Brooks** and **Rebekah Jones**.

A big **THANK YOU** goes to **Glen** and **Cheryl Amberson** for opening up their home and hosting this event. I hear that Cheryl even baked the girls some fantastic cookies. I guess that makes her an honorary member of the C.I.A.

Exposure 2007 is almost here!

We have a great group of campers and chaperones signed up to go to Exposure this year! Those who have signed up are the following: **Kellie Overbey, Nik and Jonalyn Amberson, Ashley Keener, Jessica Sims, Justin Moon, Dana, Rachel, and Heather Johnson, Debbie and Madison McGlaughn, Will Stroup, Jake Entrekin, Kevin Gobble, Alyssa Parker, Hannah Blissard, Dave Lasseter, Claire Walker, Megan Brooks, Collin Masters, Trey Adams** and **Brandon Darnell**. The cost for this trip is \$50 per person. Please go ahead and be turning your money in.

We will have a meeting with all those going and the parents of our campers on Wednesday, **December 19th** following our mid-week Bible study to discuss all the details.

Christmas Party!

It is almost time for Rainbow's annual Christmas party! As I am writing this we already have **66** signed up for this great event! If you haven't signed up yet, it's not too late. Come and be a part of all the fun and fellowship.

The party will take place on **Friday, December 14th** from **6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** **Tony's** will be catering our meal so the cost is \$8 per person. Each person is also asked to bring a \$5 - \$10 gift. If you have any questions see **Tim Parker**.

ALL TO JESUS, I SURRENDER

A young Nigerian policeman with six years service and assigned to Abuja was having second thoughts about his faith in Islam in which he had been raised. He had been secretly attending Bible studies with a denominational group and had come to believe Jesus was the Christ. His teacher and others in the denomination told him he should sign the application to join their church, then sign up for a one-year baptismal class. The young man could not find these requirements in the Bible.

His spiritual turmoil was compounded when he lost his job because of political changes and budget cuts. He returned home but his life worsened when his father discovered he was not attending the mosque for daily prayers. His father had him confined to a local army base to get his attention.

The young man's sister was a member of the church, and the preacher where she attended was a graduate of the School of Biblical Studies in Jos. The school is under the oversight of the Central Church of Christ elders here in Gadsden, and Rainbow has been a supporter since it was established in 1989. The sister asked her preacher to visit her brother and to teach him the Bible.

The preacher found, befriended, studied with and then baptized the young man into Christ within a few weeks. Upon learning this, the young man's father had all the new Christian's possessions burned and ordered him killed. The preacher hid him in his room for a week. Knowing the young man would be killed, the preacher took him secretly to Christians in another state where he could live, study in safety and mature in his faith. It is difficult, perhaps even impossible, for American Christians to grasp what this young man has gone through.

His life is now much different. Raised in Arabic schools, he is now taking Adult Education courses and studying the Bible with the local evangelist. His goal is to become a preacher of the gospel and change other people's lives the way his has been changed.

Despite living in an area where more than 90% of the population is Islamic, our congregations in northern Nigeria continue to meet the unique challenge of nurturing and supporting these new Christians who have given their all to Christ.

It is so dangerous for the new Christian that we cannot even tell you the name of the one whose story we have told in this article! Muslims would go to almost any length to find and kill this young man. They will not tolerate any kind of disaffection to Mohammed.

This should cause us to thank our Lord for the great freedom we have in this nation and in Christ. Think about this. People are being killed because of their belief in Christ. How about that? Would you confess Christ if your life depended upon it?

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 Chris Mikle 413-1038
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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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CONTACTS FOR DECEMBER

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RAINBOW RECORD

SUNDAY MORNING	255
BIBLE STUDY	175
SUNDAY EVENING	140
MIDWEEK STUDY	131
LOCAL BAPTISMS	21
OTHER RESPONSES	36
WBS/JAIL BAPTISMS	153
ZIMBABWE BAPTISMS	176
INDIA BAPTISMS	5,247
CONTRIBUTION	\$7,710

MEMORIES

10 YEARS AGO: Al Dement, a Federal judge, ordered monitors placed in DeKalb County schools to make sure students did not pray. The *Beacon* described the order as De-mented. A large metal awning was placed over the front doors facing Rainbow Drive. Treva Jones was named chairwoman of the carpet selection committee. Rainbow was providing meals and gifts to 50 people for Christmas.

25 YEARS AGO: Kathleen Honeycutt & Willene Musick were commended for sprucing up our kitchen. Rainbow Seniors were honored with a party.

SERVANTS

SUNDAY, December 16, 2007

Welcome Blake Jones
 Scripture Reader Jeremy Krienke
 Prayer Jim McKleroy
 Closing Prayer Elmus Honeycutt

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

SUNDAY EVENING

Opening Prayer Tony Cleveland
 Closing Prayer Wayne Gobble

WEDNESDAY, December 19, 2007

Announcements John Wallace
 Prayer Dewey East

SERVE THE FAMILY

Ray Cox, Presiding

Leon Bordenave Shawn Williams
 Robert Edmonson Jon Lubin
 Jerry Stanley Kevin Rode
 David Scott Mark Gentry

USHERS: Kyle Johnson, Jason Copeland, Alex Wallen, Wayne Gobble.

GREETERS: Jerry and Michelle Stanley

SUNDAY AM COMMUNION CUP PICKUP: Jeff, Debbie and Madison McGlaughn.

NURSERIES:

BABY: A. M. Shari Daniel
 P. M. Megan Brooks

TODDLER: A. M. Kim Masters
 P. M. Ashley Keener

COMMUNION PREPARATION: December—Polk King.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL

19 Rainbow teachers taught 242 people the gospel of our Lord this past week! These are the ones who taught this week, and the number of people each taught:

KATHY OVERBEY	63
GENE/BARBARA BROWN	23
RAY COX	25
BETTY LONG	24
JOYCE FLYNN	3
TONY/JANE CLEVELAND	37
TINA QUARLES	5
CLAIRE WALKER	4
JAN HAMRICK	3
SHEROLD BORDENAVE	12
BETTY HALE	20
CRAIG/CINDY KING	5
ALAN GENTRY	3
ANN GENTRY	1

Teachers, the current issue of **The Voice of Truth International** has a couple of stories of great interest. One is a history of WBS, and the other is an inspirational account, written by **Ruth Orr** of Lewisburg, TN, of her WBS work in Zambia. We will place a copy of these in your mail box, and we urge you to read them.