

FRANKLIN CHURCH OF CHRIST
A family studying the Wonderful Words of Life!

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| January 4, 2009 | |
| Morning Worship | |
| Announcements | Doug Watts |
| Substitute | Harold Hyde |
| Scripture Reading | David Hall |
| Direct Singing | Jerry Stover |
| Prayer | Jerry Coble |
| Communion: | Billy Taylor, Tim Felder, Bob Gordon, |
| | Bobby Corn, Coleman Rhodes, Billy Wallingford |
| Intercessory Prayer | Al Jolly |
| Prayer | Joe Squiers |
| Sound Booth | Terry Smitherman |
| Evening Worship | |
| Prayer | Billy Briscoe |
| Communion | John Shelton, Randy Sullivan |
| Direct Singing | Louis Drennan |
| Prayer | Don Feauto |
| Sound Booth | Ross Mitchell |

| | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Elders | | Deacons | |
| Louis Drennan | 828-5725 | Hal Dumas |Physical Plant |
| Nick Johnson | 828-3757 | Ross Mitchell |Fellowship |
| Al Jolly | 936-855-2715 | Jerry Paceley |Equipping & |
| Carl Wylie | 828-1649 |Serving | |
| Pulpit Minister | | Wyman Poe |Missions |
| Rocky Whitely | 828-5391 | John Shelton |Maturing & |
| | |Education | |
| Seniors Minister | | Joe Squiers |Youth & Children |
| Al Jolly | 936-855-2715 | Terry Smitherman | Administration |
| | | Jerry Stover |Worship |
| Youth Minister | | Randy Sullivan |Community |
| Joe Squiers | 828-2343 |Outreach & Family | |
| | |Care and Share | |
| Missionaries | | Doug Watts |Financial |
| Ben & Karen Jenkins | Mexico | | |
| Brian Shelly | SIBI | | |
| Russell Bell | India | | |
| Jorge DelBosque | Alaska | | |
| Secretary (office) | | | |
| Sharon Carrigan | 828-4205 | | |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|----------------------------|------------|
| Sunday: 12-28-08 | | | |
| Bible Class | 89 | Contribution | \$3,625.00 |
| Worship A.M | 145 | 2008 Budget | \$4,110.00 |
| Worship P.M | n/a | | |
| Membership | 220 | | |
| Baptisms 2008 | 3 | | |
| Placing Membership | 6 | | |
| | | Wednesday: 12-31-08 | |
| | | Bible Study | n/a |

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #1
Franklin, TX 77856



Franklin Church of Christ
P.O. Box 1175
Franklin, TX 77856-1175
Forward Service Requested

Worship Opportunities

Sunday Morning: Bible Classes for All Ages 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am **Sunday Evening:** Worship 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening: Devotional and Classes 7:00 pm **Ladies Bible Class:** Wednesday 10:00 a. m.
Franklin Church of Christ, 517 Bremond (Hwy 46 N), P.O. Box 1175, Franklin, TX 77856-1175
E-mail: franklinchurch@valornet.com Web Site: www.thefranklinchurch.com Phone: 979-828-4205

THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL (II)

A favorite Greek word which the New Testament writers used to describe Jesus giving Himself up is “*paradidomi*.” The same word is used of His arrest by the Jews and of His betrayal by Judas (for example, Matthew 17:22; 20:18-19; 26:2, 15-25, 46-48; 27:2-4, 18, 26). This “giving” reminded the early Christians of His arrest and betrayal.

How are we to live? His love for us (Ephesians 5:2) and for His church (verse 25) is expressed in His death. Consequently, Paul said, “*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me*” (Galatians 2:20). We conduct our lives by faith as Jesus directs us, according to His will, not ours. Our love responds to His.

God’s role in Jesus’ gift is declared by Paul, “*If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will He not also give us all things with Him?*” (Romans 8:31-32; see 4:25).

Third, **God gave His Son.** The golden text of the Bible is “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life*” (John 3:16). Remember, “gave” means “gave over to die.” He died to give us eternal life.

John repeats this beloved passage by saying that God loved us and sent His Son to be the Savior of the world (1 John 4:14; see verses 9-10). Jesus died to save you and me.

Fourth, **Jesus’ death is the gift of God.** In contrast to the golden text is the forgotten text: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that by His poverty you might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9).

Paul was not writing about Jesus’ birth following Him leaving heaven, as some suggest. Instead, Paul referred to Jesus’ death, His true humility (see Philippians 2:7-8). The wealth we receive is fellowship with God, both here and in heaven.

How should I respond to the greatest gift of all? I am uncertain. On the one hand, I am glad that Jesus died for my sins. As a result, I do not have to suffer punishment for my wrongs. I met Jesus in the waters of baptism. I will be with Him in the expanse of heaven.

On the other hand, I killed Jesus. I cannot blame the Jewish people, the Jewish leaders or the Roman authorities, those who actually carried out His execution. My sins were the nails that held Him to the cross. Thus, I must give up, not my life but my sins, not allegiance to God but my own will, not trust in Jesus but trust in myself, not what is taught by God’s word but my misunderstanding of it.

Do I rejoice or cry at Jesus’ precious gift? Sometimes I do both.

ROCKY

Special Prayer Requests:

Myrna Gustafson of DeSoto (Nora Lee Swingler's sister), passed away Sunday, December 21. Her funeral was held on Wednesday in Grand Prairie. Burial was in the family burial ground at West Boone Prairie Cemetery. Our sincere sympathy is extended to this family.

James Hall was in the hospital earlier this week for tests.

Scott Sanders had surgery on his knee Tuesday, December 30. Give thanks to **God** for all the blessings of 2008; pray that we be better servants of God in 2009. Give thanks for the rain, and please send more all over Texas. Also, pray for everyone traveling.

Pray for the **military men and women** who were not able to be at home for the holidays.

Pray that the church does what God wants and help us to be humble.

Our Continued Prayers for:

Shut-ins:

Nan Dowdy, Renee Sullivan.



Nursing Home Residents:

Polly Johnson, Lucindy Rhodes, Charlene Bush, Nettie Hill, Loyd Williams, Nora Lee Swingler, Charlene Oates.

Cancer Patients:

Ruth Carrigan, Gene Campbell, Roger Comtois, Vivian Johnson, Bobby Schuler, Pablo Esteban Barron, Nancy Brotherton, Kathy Pierce, Diane Peters, Charlotte White, Carol Naumann, Michael Kite, Howard Kowis, Thelma Jordan.

Our Church Family:

Jordan Currie, Ray and Sue Maxwell, Marie Williams, Joe Mitchell.

Family and Friends of our Church:

Anessa Odom, Alicia Rogers, Britt Farmer, Alvis Longley, Bud Johnson, C. J. Crisp, Becky Skidmore, Harold Brown, Kim Squiers, Paul Smith, Pat Walters, Johnnie Guajardo, Terrie Nichols, Karri Neal, Maxine Cox, Sheldon Hurst, Gwen Cochran, Danny Meadors, Cathy Sparks, Michael Stalcup, Allison Davis, Joann Reed, Virginia Winburn, Jenny Smith, Kelly and Richard Miller, Millie Taggart, Kristy Woerndel Williams, Kara Munsel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

David and Margaret Hall are the proud grandparents of **Harrison Reese Hall**, born Friday, December 19, to **Norman and Tara Hall**. Harrison weighed in at 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 19" long. Be sure to congratulate David and Margaret.

Sally and Rocky Whitely thank the congregation for the cards, goodies and other expressions of love during Christmas. May God continue to bless all of you in 2009.

Lord's Supper Devotional will be given on January 4 by Wyman Poe during morning services.

Deacons' Meeting will be on January 4 after evening services.

Empty Nesters will meet at Golden Corral in College Station at 6:00 p.m. on January 5.

Robertson County Bank cordially invite you to their Building Dedication and Ribbon Cutting on Wednesday, January 7, at 10:30 a.m.

Louis Drennan will present the proposed budget for 2009 to the congregation on January 11 during morning services.

Men's Meeting will be on January 11, after evening services.

Elders Meeting will be on January 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Winter Retreat for Middle School and High School Students — will be January 17–19 at Camp Hensel. See Joe Squiers if interested in going.

Compassionate Friends meeting will be moved to the 2nd Monday of the month as of January 12, 2009. They will be moving their meetings to the Hearne Fire Station, 301 West 2nd Street, Hearne, Texas.

If you have not already done so, please turn in to the office your **green "Gleaning for Children" can** for the Foster's Home for Children.

Medina Children's Home needs trash bags and juice (all flavors). Please remember to check the expiration dates on food items. Medina will pick up during the week of **January 5-9, 2009**.

The next meeting of the **Ladies Bible Class** will be on January 14, 2009, not January 7th as listed in the last bulletin.

Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat will be February 11-14, 2009, in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. For more information, a flyer is on the bulletin board.

Sunday: 12-21-08

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------------|------------|
| Bible Class..... | 84 | Contribution..... | \$9,894.00 |
| Worship A.M..... | 135 | 2008 Budget..... | \$4,110.00 |
| Worship P.M..... | n/a | | |
| Membership..... | 220 | | |
| Baptisms 2008..... | 3 | | |
| Placing Membership..... | 6 | | |

Wednesday: 12-24-08

Bible Study..... n/a

SQUIERS' SCRIBBLES



Nursery is available during morning services.