

## “Will You Bring Joy Or Grief?”

The author of the book of Hebrews said in Heb 13:17 *“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.”* NASU

The church of Christ is a family; but not just any family; it is the family of God (I Tim 3:14, Eph 2:19). Therefore, as with any other family there's a need for recognized God ordained leadership and authority. No family can function properly if there's no leadership, or if those in leadership have no authority to correct wrong when wrong exists.

Hebrews 13:17 teaches us that in order for the church of Christ to function properly, and the welfare of the whole church be preserved, there must exist among its members a disposition of humble submission to God ordained leaders. No member of the Lord's church is free to do whatever he or she pleases. If that were permitted chaos would exist in the house of God, and God's house would be a mockery instead of the light of the world and the salt of the earth (Mt 5:13-14).

It may be difficult for some to hear, but God's Word teaches us that the church is to submit to those who watch for your souls – and according to Acts 20:28 the elders are the ones who watch for your souls. Furthermore, Paul said to the church at Thessalonica that you are to recognize those who are “over you in the Lord” (I Thess 5:12). That doesn't mean that they are free to do whatever they please, or to demand of you anything they please, because God's Word teaches His leaders not to “lord over God's heritage” (I Pet 5:3). The church of Christ belongs to the Lord and not to the leadership of the church. We are just stewards over

what belongs to the Lord!

These verses teach that the membership has a responsibility to obey the leadership. This is not a suggestion! In Heb 13:17 the verb “Obey” is a present imperative. Present tense means that it's continuous action, and imperative means that it is a command. It must be done, and it must be done immediately.

As long as God's leaders (elders & evangelist included, Heb 13:7) don't ask you to violate the Word of God, you have no legitimate grounds for ignoring their God given authority to correct you when you are in error. If you refuse to accept the correction of God's leaders, you will not escape the correction of God!

When you humbly submit to leadership you make their task easy. You cause them to have joy. You cause them to have a cheerful spirit about leadership, and you take a burden off of their shoulders and bring a certain quietness and calmness into their lives. However, if you rebel against their God ordained authority you cause them grief. You cause them to groan and to sigh because your rebellion creates problems within the family of God, and it puts your soul (for which they must give an account) at jeopardy.

My challenge to you is to check your attitude. Are you about doing what is in the best interest of the whole family of God, or just yourself? Are you willing to submit to the leadership so as to make their service a service of joy, or will you rebel and make their service a service of grief? Time will tell, and judgment is coming!

George Williams

*“We are people of the Book”*



### **Minister**

George Williams

### **Elders**

Ed Davis

Mike Deen

Cranston Hardeman

Marlon McGhee

### **Deacons**

Floyd Boozer

Jermaine Broom

Russell Clemons

Darryl Manor

Ricky Sells, Sr.

Quinton Smith, Sr.

Ethan Williams, Sr.

# Family matters

## JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Le Marion & Ketema Mitchell, 1/1 ♥ 2 sweet years  
 Ernest & De Shondra Booker, 1/2 ♥ 19 wonderful years  
 Orlando & Nicole Smith, 1/6 ♥ 11 happy years  
 Charles & Cherilyn Wadley, 1/9 ♥ 12 precious years

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/2	Heather Johnson
1/5	Gloria Smith Orlando Smith Sterling Smith 8 years old
1/6	Stephanie Williams
1/8	Jeremy Johnson
1/9	Rendy Gordon
1/10	Walter Shaw
1/11	Amber C. Kelley Michera Moffett 9 years old Shakara Ben 10 Years old
1/12	Gi Gi Alexander
1/19	James Sims
1/21	Lillian Lowe
1/23	Ocie Williams
1/26	Alicia Hardison Portia Robinson Samuel Williby Zion Olivia Moffett 6 years old
1/28	Shirley King
1/30	Willie Sue Anderson

*If you would like your anniversary date or birth date listed, please send an email to Sister Maxine or call 477-1647. Please provide your child's birth date and age.*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Shirley King, Gregory Hamilton, Patsy Griffin, Frank Haynes, Debra Bowser, Genord Jones, Collin Hardeman, Arkainee Ervin, Kara Henson, Tommy & Allegra Alexander, Luther Baker, Lacy Jones, William Ray, Alice Fillmore, Virgil Mitchell, Catherine Ben, Jackie Francis, Kendra Williams and Elizabeth Montgomery.  
*"The Lord is watching His children, listening to their prayers". 1 Peter 3:12*

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-IN

Veronica Scott, Eva Davis, Robert Dixon, Ella Ray, Marvin Watson and Jesse Barnes, Sr.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Patricia A Thomas**

18720 Jana Patrice Drive | Pflugerville Texas 78660  
 512.721.5551 | pthomas46@earthlink.net | CG 3  
 Placed Membership, Sunday, January 15th

**Christopher Thompson**

1700 Rutland Drive #275 | Austin 78758  
 512.947.9716 | Care Group 5  
 Baptized Sunday, January 15th

The 2012 Austin Area

## CHURCH OF CHRIST BASKETBALL LEAGUE

will be playing either Thursday or Saturday evenings between mid-February and the last week of April.

*Please see Brother Roger Davis by January 22nd.*

## ATTENTION MEMBERS

If your address, phone number or email address has changed, please notify the office and/or update your information when you get your 2012 Church Calendar in the foyer.

## BIBLE CLASSES EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

7-8:30 pm @ the Building.

## "RECLAIMING and REDEDICATING"

**January 28th is a "We Care" Event**

Care group members are to meet, pray and go visit delinquent care group members.

**January 29th | 10 am, Crown Plaza Hotel**

Combined Worship. Guest Speaker.

*"Return unto the Lord and He Will Have Mercy" (Isaiah 55:7)*

*"Rekindling the Fire" (Revelations 2:4)*  
 Evening worship | 6 pm @ the Building

## HOME BOUND VISITATIONS

**Sunday, January 22, 2012**

**Ella Ray**

*William Lyons, Janet Horace*

**Robert Dixon**

*Walter & Barbara Shaw, Kara Henson*

**Jesse Barnes, Sr.**

*Thomas & Sherry Hickman, LaShum Freeman*

## Summer Internship

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is taking applications for paid summer internships for college students. A flyer with the details is in the foyer.  
*Please see Sister Evelyn Baker (512.796.7522) for details.*

## Managing Credit and Building Wealth

Saturday, January 21st | 8:30 am – 2 pm

Carver Museum, 1165 Angelina Street

**You could win an iPad and other things.**

*Please see Brother Roger Davis (366-0483) for details.*

# Churchministries

*Welcome Visitors! You are our honored guests!*

## HEALTH AWARENESS MINISTRY

8-Week Weight Management Program

January 11th - February 29th

6:15-6:45 pm @ the Building

Week 2 | January 18th | 6:15-6:45 pm

### What To Do

Pick up Fresh Start Kit, Discuss Portion Control, Bring clothing you'd like to be able to wear, and Share what you want to accomplish.

## NEW MEMBER MINISTRY

New Member Orientation

Wednesday, January 18th | 6:30-8 pm

If you placed membership or were baptized and have not participated in a New Member Orientation class,

please join us in the UPSTAIRS CLASSROOM.

*We look forward to meeting you again!*

## MEN'S MINISTRY

Monthly Meeting

The January 21st meeting has been cancelled.

## KFC MINISTRY

KFC Volunteer Roundup

Sunday, January 29th | After Evening Worship

The KFC Ministry needs YOU to volunteer and work with our 2-12 year old kids this year.

## NEW MEMBER MINISTRY

Attention New Member Ministry Leaders

There will be a brunch and planning session,

Saturday, January 28th in the home of Ricky and Mertis Sells, 11:30- 1:30 pm.

*Please make plans to participate.*

Attention New Member Ministry Volunteers,

and those interested in working with the ministry.

Please come to an information session, Sunday, January 29th, 5-5:45 pm @ the building. Please join us!

We need you to help make this ministry work!

## CYP (College and Young Professionals) Ministry

"Meet and Greet"

Saturday, January 28th | 6:30-9:00 pm @ at the Bldg.



### Communion Preparers

Sharon McGhee & Brittany Blair  
Gail Williams & Cory Jackson

8:00 am  
11:00 am  
6:00 pm



### Greeters

Gail Williams & Tonia Gooden  
Leveta Crawford & Mary Stewart  
Crystal Davis & Cliff Jacob



### Calling Committee

Valerie Joiner & Shirley Riley  
Cory Jackson & Dorothy Casey  
*"Am I my brother's Keeper?" (Genesis 4:9)*

There will be a short devotional and planning session, ice breakers, games and plenty of food!

Please see Brother Russ Laing,

Brother Tim Arnold or Sister Mertis Sells.

A sign up sheet is in the foyer.

## LADIES MINISTRY

Sisters Breakfast and Bible Study

Saturday, February 4th | 9 am - 12 Noon

Home of Sister Debra Watson

12308 Gatling Gun Lane | Austin 78739 | 512.282.2119

Speaker: Sister Gail Williams

Sign up in the foyer and bring your favorite breakfast dish, fruit or juice.

See Sister Debra Watson for more information.

## MARRIED COUPLES MINISTRY

Valentine's Day Gala

*"We Make Beautiful Music Together!"*

Friday, February 10th | 7-11 pm

\$65 per couple | Embassy Suites | 5901 N. IH35

*Semi-Formal, Formal Attire.*

*Please stop by the table in the foyer.*

## Thought for the week

### SET PRIORITIES

Be determined to enjoy the abundant life that Jesus Christ desires for you to have. The devil will try to set you up to get you upset. The busy activities of today's society can make life seem like a blur. Most people have a lot of stress, continuous pressure, and really too much to do.

**Set Priorities.** Start your day with God. Be determined to follow His lead all day and you will enjoy every day of your life – not just on weekends, vacations, or sunny days when the weather's perfect.

*Walking with God will give you pleasure and relaxation even when things aren't going your way. Read Psalm 139:16*

*From Starting Your Day Right*

**Sunday, January 22, 2012**

**January 2012 Theme  
RECLAIMING & REDEDICATING**



**2012 Church Theme**  
 "DON'T TROUBLE THE CAMP"  
 Joshua 6:18, 19

**February 2012 Theme**  
 "IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR"

- February 2 | Sunday Night Guest Speaker  
 John Tillman Jr. (Garden Oaks)  
 "Making Family Work"
- February 12 | Sunday Night Guest Speaker  
 Gary Smith (5<sup>th</sup> Ward)  
 "It's All About Love"
- February 19 | Sunday Night Guest Speaker  
 George Williams II (Fidelity)  
 "Closing The Generation Gap"
- February 26 | Sunday Night Guest Speaker  
 B.B. Gatson (San Antonio)  
 "Forgiveness & Reconciliation,  
 It's Possible With God"

**Family Weekend**

February 17-19

No church or ministry events or meetings will be scheduled during **Family Weekends**. This time is set aside so members can relax and spend time and fellowship with family and friends.

**Other Family Weekends Dates**

March 23-25

April 6-7

May 11-13

June 29-July 1

July 20-22

September 21-23

October 12-14

November 23-25

December 7-9

**2012 WORSHIP SERVICES,  
 BIBLE CLASSES & RADIO BROADCAST**

Sunday Morning Worship    8 am & 11 am  
 Sunday Bible Classes        9:45 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship    6:00 pm  
 Wednesday Bible Classes   7:00 pm

**HOW TO BE SAVED  
 ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES**

Hear the Gospel, Acts 15:7  
 Believe in Jesus, John 8:21, 24  
 Repent of Sins, Acts 17:30, 31  
 Confess Christ, Acts 8:36-38  
 Be Baptized, Acts 2:38

**SUNDAY, January 22, 2012**

**Men Privileged  
 to Serve**

	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	B. Maxwell	R. McClarron	K. Caggan
<b>Invocation</b>	A. Johnson	T. Hickman	J. Johnson
<b>Song Service</b>	B. Maxwell	R. McClarron	K. Caggan
<b>Prayer</b>	S. Matthews	R. Wright	C. Caswell
<b>Lord's Table</b>	C. Davis	R. Mosby	O. Steen
<b>Passion Reader</b>	E. Williams, Sr	T. Ross	E. Williams, Sr.
<b>Sermon</b>	G. Williams	G. Williams	G. Williams
<b>Announcements</b>	L. Baker	E. Booker	L. Baker
<b>Benediction</b>	M. Wiltz	C. Bedgood	R. Blair

**USHERS:** Baker, Ervin, Hardy, Harry, Haynes, King, Matthews, Mouton, Randle & Wright.