

Clay's Corner

I read this true story some time ago and used it in a sermon illustration last year. As we are just a few days away from Christmas I felt it appropriate to share with you again. I hope as you gather with friends and family this year that you will remember there are those around us who will be alone, who are hurting, who really need to see Jesus in us, every day. He is the reason for the season, but He is so much more than that. He is the reason for life!

Blessings to you and yours, from my house to yours.
-Clay

A number of years ago I read a story of a little boy, homeless, sitting on the street begging. A man passed by, looking at the boy, decided to stop and help. As he approached the young lad he determined that the boy could not walk. He asked where he would be staying the night and the response was, "At the shelter." Instantly the man decided that something had to be done. Picking him up to carry him to shelter the boy put his arms around the man and said, "Mister, Are You Jesus?" Taken back by the statement the man replied, "Why do you ask?" The boy said, "Before my mother died, she told me not to worry about the future because Jesus would take care of me." And then he asked again, "Mister, Are You Jesus?" Thinking about what the mother had said, the man responded, "No, I am not. But I am one of his disciples."

Reflecting on this story I thought about when John the baptist was asked, "Are you the Christ?" and He said, "I am not." Isn't it interesting that going about doing good reflects on Jesus? Now you know, and I do too, that everyone that goes about helping others are doing so in the name of Jesus. But many people see doing good, especially to those in unfortunate circumstances in life, as a reflection of what Jesus would do in those same circumstance.

I think of Jesus saying that ministering to others (Matthew 25) demonstrates our ministry to the Savior. Touching the lives of others, ministering to some who is down and out rather than kicking them and telling them to stay down, reflects the compassion Jesus would have us demonstrate in our lives. Using your concordance or Bible program, do a study of the phrase, "And Jesus, seeing the multitude, had compassion on them, and . . ."

When was the last time someone could have asked you, "Mister, Are You Jesus?"

— Edward P. Myers

PRAYER LIST

- **Monty Allen** (Susan Barnick's friend's brother—cancer, upcoming surgery Dec. 23)
- **Pauline Alvarez** (recovering from knee surgery, 845 S Magnolia, Luling, TX 78648)
- **Lauren Babb** (health)
- **Brooke Bertling** (Haley Ratliff's friend—breast cancer)
- **Terry Boaz** (Haley Ratliff's step-mother—Hendrick League House, Room 104, Abilene)
- **Paul and Sarah Brooks** (Winegearts' daughter Rhonda's in-laws—grieving Sarah's father passing away)
- **Dawn Clarke** (Shirley Kuchynka's daughter)
- **Betty Cox** (Brent Barnick's sister—homebound, rheumatoid arthritis)
- **Eric Davis and Rose**
- **Joyce Faires** (recovering from knee surgery)
- **Lance Fougerat**
- **Chestly Gobar, Jordyn and Lucy**
- **Herb Hahn** (health)
- **Sandra Jetton** (health)
- **Katy and Family** (Kelly Mason's friends—Katy's sister injured in motorcycle accident)
- **Evlynn Lawrence** (Sweeneys' granddaughter)
- **Justen Lawrence**
- **Guy Lowe** (Clay Mason's friend—health)
- **Leanne Mason** (recovering from surgery)
- **Claudia Morris** (Perry Winegeart's sister—health)
- **Sid Roberts** (Faireses' friend—health)
- **Paris, Lexus & Maelyn Robertson** (Johnsons' friends—Maelyn born 10 weeks premature)
- **Alex and Tiffany Rodriguez** (Chestly Gobar's friends—Alex suffered stroke)
- **Ruth** (Joyce Faires's sister-in-law)
- **Sharon Saint** (Zach Babb's mother—recovering from surgeries)
- **Maria Vasquez** (Joyce Faires's neighbor—health)
- **Lorin Watson** (Victoria Johnson's father—health)

If you have any announcements or prayer requests you wish to have included in the bulletin or to sign up for weekly e-mail updates, please contact Victoria Johnson: 325-518-9205, victoria@gonzaleschurchofchrist.org.

PRAYER UPDATES

We extend sympathy to **Paul and Sarah Brooks**, Perry and Kathy's daughter Rhonda's in-laws, for the death of Sarah's father who died during surgery on Monday morning.

Alex Rodriguez, Chestly Gobar's friend, suffered a very bad stroke and lost all function on his left side and will most likely not be able to walk again. He had surgery to relieve the pressure on his brain. Please also remember Alex's wife **Tiffany** in your prayers.

Lorin Watson, Victoria Johnson's father, had an angiogram Thursday morning. During the procedure, the doctor found several blockages and put in one long stent on the back side of the heart. He will have to go back in a few weeks to have stents put in the front side.

We extend sympathy to the family of **Fred West**, Clay and Mary Mason's friend, who passed away last week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Evening Meals

Beginning **Wednesday, Jan. 6**, we will have a meal together each Wednesday evening in the annex at 5:15 p.m. The church will provide the entrée, but families are asked to sign up to prepare the entrée each week. Everyone else who is able is asked to bring side dishes or desserts to share.

For more information, pick up a flyer in the foyer. The sign up sheet is on the table in the foyer.

January 5th Sunday Fellowship Host Needed

With our new Sunday evening format, the plan is to have our 5th Sunday fellowships in someone's home. As such, we are looking for a host family for **January 31**. If you are willing to host the fellowship gathering in your home, please contact Victoria Johnson.

Singing at The Heights

Next Sunday is our monthly singing at The Heights nursing home. Please join us for this time of worship and fellowship with the residents at 3:30 p.m.

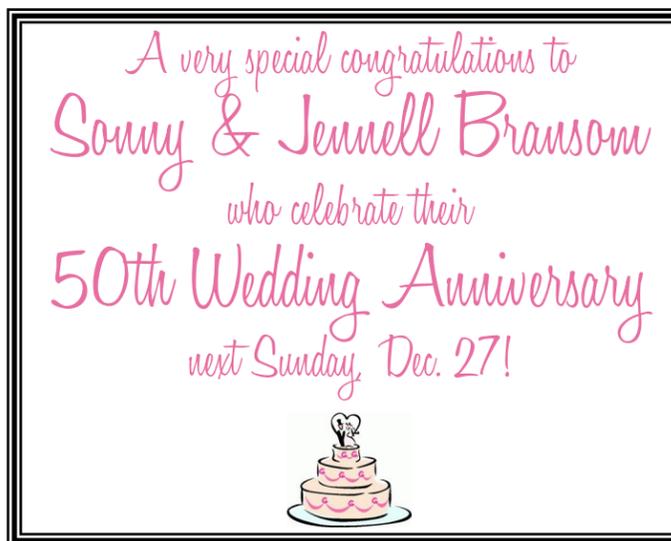
No Wednesday Evening Activities

Due to the upcoming holidays, there will be no activities at the building **this Wednesday, Dec. 23 and next Wednesday, Dec. 30**.

No Tuesday Morning Men's Meeting

Due to the upcoming holidays, there will be no Tuesday morning men's meetings **this Tuesday, Dec. 22 or next Tuesday, Dec. 29**.

Due to the Christmas Holiday, please submit any announcements for the bulletin to Victoria Johnson no later than Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 5 p.m. Thank you and have a Merry Christmas!



© 2014 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved. www.kingfeatures.com
"Joseph should've just gone online and booked a room before they left."

WE WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!



SAFE TRAVELS TO ALL WHO WILL BE ON THE ROAD THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

YOUTH ZONE

**MONDAY, DEC. 21
BOYS BASKETBALL**

GONZALES VARSITY @ FEAST ACADEMY, 1 P.M.

Tyler Hendershot—Gonzales Varsity Boys Basketball