

Lake Palestine U.M.C.

by Barbara Cade

The last week has been quite busy in the life of the church and surrounding community. First, we were very sorry to hear that our dear church member, Jane Kuykendall had passed away. Her funeral was last Saturday and was attended by a large number of people.

Also, on that Saturday morning, the Angel Food boxes were distributed at the church. Orders for next month can now be given to the church or Dale and Mary Ann Whisenhunt.

Then, on Saturday night, there was a Back to School Bash at the amphitheater for area school children and other members of the community. Quite a few showed up in the afternoon. Because of the heat, they couldn't wait to jump in the lake and cool off. Some of the other kids checked out the badminton game and others (mostly adults) sat and relaxed. Rev. Richard and Scott Martin had just set up the grill for the hamburgers and hot dogs when a huge dark cloud with lots of wind and rain came over the horizon. The area was cleared of people in record time as everyone ran for cover. The grill, still cooking the hamburgers, was loaded onto the back of a pickup and rushed up the hill to the church portico. It was quite an adventure, but once safely inside the church everyone settled down to eat, play games and watch a movie. Lots of thanks go to Scott and Angela Martin for pulling this together, and to all the adults who helped feed and entertain the kids, especially Sam LaRoux who cooked and cooked and cooked those hamburgers. The only casualty of the evening was Rev. Richard's Saturn Vue. He had forgotten to roll up the windows.

We hear that Donna and Rich Franko are on their way back from Colorado.

But, Gail and Roland Massey will be there until after the first of September. Bob and June Hitt are leaving Colorado to go on to her home state of South Dakota. They will visit relatives there.

Bernard and Linda Massey have been extremely busy entertaining their sons these past two weeks. Den and his friend are visiting from Spain while Damon and his wife are here from South Carolina. There was a baby shower in Fort Worth for Damon's wife who is expecting twins this fall. Now, the Masseys are planning on visiting Las Vegas.

Dorothy Botts is feeling better after having suffered a reaction to her antibiotics this past week.

Bobbie Mathus and Dale Whisenhunt will be undergoing surgery soon. Our prayers are with them.

Thetis Jackson came through her first surgery all right, but now she has to have some more after a fall she took.

It's good to see LeeAnn Boggs doing so much better.

Kaethe Griffin is recuperating from shoulder surgery to fix the problem with her arm. She hopes to be out and about soon.

The Browns have returned from their trip to California.

Sunny and Jim Farley have wrapped up their move to Fort Worth so Sunny can attend TCU.

Matthew Price had a big moment on Monday. He started to kindergarten. My how quickly he has grown.

Bob and Carla Fisher attended a funeral for a family member this past week. Also, this week, Carla is celebrating her birthday with out-of-town company. Her brother is visiting her.

Also, Martha and Roy Different had a funeral to attend in Orange this past Tuesday.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 13th. That afternoon at about 4 PM, there will be a special dedication service for the new baptismal font. It is given in honor of Dr. Gary Fitzgerald, Mavis Griffith and Margie Jordan. We hope a good crowd will turn out to see Dr. Fitzgerald.

difficulties, it is said that Pope John XXIII retreated to his room too exhausted to pray! The business of building the Church of Christ is a difficult one. Over 2000 years ago, Christ the master builder and Peter the foundation rock carved a legacy for us. Now we, as the pieces of stone have the responsibility to continue the work of building the Church. How is God using you? Are you available? Are you helping? Are you using the gifts and talents that the Lord has given you to do His work? Allow God to use you as you continue His message of love. Keep open your hearts and your minds to the work we are all called to do.

RCIA classes meet each Sunday in the education building at 11:00 am. Faith formation registration is underway for the children and youth. CCD classes begin again on September 21st. Registration forms need to be turned in to the church by August 31st.

Deacon Steve Curry will conduct First Friday prayers on September 5th from 5:30-6:30.

Mark your calendars for the first weekend in September for the parish Yard Sale. Check in an upcoming bulletin for the details.

The Pow-Wow is just around the corner! St. Boniface will again have a food booth and volunteers will be needed.

Congratulations and best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Please pray for the sick and suffering; may they find help and healing in Christ. We pray, too, for the souls of the faithful departed; may they rest in the comfort of Jesus. And we continue to keep lifted in prayer the brave men and women of the armed services who are keeping us safe in their diligence. Have a wonderful week.

Brownsboro F.U.M.C.

by Gary White

At long last, the summer is over and it's time for the kiddos to head back to school.

You know, the first day of school is always an exciting time. It's a time of new beginnings, a moment to catch up with old friends and meet new ones along the way. What a joy it is to begin another year afresh!

This week, as I reflect upon these new beginnings that are happening all around us, I can't help but think of the new, fresh, and exciting things that God is doing in our midst!

Pause for a moment and take a look at the new growth happening all around us ... the recent rain showers are making the flowers bloom and the grass grow ... the trickle of activity around town has become a steadily flowing stream, and smiles light up the faces of those who know that the 'dog days' of summer are finally in the rearview mirror.

In Isaiah 43, God says "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" Indeed, God is doing a new thing ... the evidence of it is all around us!

This summer has been quite an exciting time for us here at First United Methodist Church-Brownsboro; we've seen God move in tremendous ways and there are signs of new life all around.

Sunday services are stronger and more vibrant than ever, our "Youth on the Rock" Bible study is shifting into high gear, and there's an electricity in the church you can feel as soon as you walk through the door!

Yes, God is doing a new thing and it's exciting to be a part.

If you're seeking a place to be and belong, we pray that you'll join us to see how God can open the door of your life to a fresh new experience of His love. Come celebrate with us Sundays at 11.

Leagueville Baptist

by Church staff

This Sunday, Bro. Tom preached to us about the promises of God. He taught us that God has position and presence in our lives. He also spoke of His promise of prosperity and performance. This Sunday, he spoke of God's protection, preservation and provision for our lives. We sometimes do not realize all that God protects us from each day. We need to give thanks every day for these important promises from God.

We hope that our teachers and students have had a successful first week of school. The beginning of each school year holds many challenges and accomplishments for both teachers and students.

This next Sunday, we will be having our Fifth Sunday lunch immediately following our services. We invite everyone to worship with us for Sunday school at 9:45 and at 11 am for our morning service. Following our service, we will be eating lunch in the gym. Our Leagueville ladies always are the best cooks around and we invite you to come and join in the food and fellowship. After lunch, we will be having an afternoon singing. Please let Bro. Selman know if you have a song you would like to share.

Our next Women Encouraging Women meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 9th at 6:30 p.m.

We encourage all women to attend this wonderful time of fellowship. This is the start of the new school year and what better way to honor God in the new beginning?

Birthdays are: Jerrol Parker, Laci Savis, Mary Williams, Connie Van Cleaf, Gary Rainwater, Wade Smith and Kerry Nobles. Anniversaries are: James and Angie Tippet.

Aaron Wilburn to appear at the Texas Gospel Music Hall September 20

Returning to the Texas Gospel Music Hall, is the acclaimed comedian Aaron Wilburn, who has appeared on many Gaither Homecoming videos and tours. He is the prestigious songwriter of over 400 songs, one being "Four Days Late." Come and have a great time with "Mr. Bless Your Heart," Aaron Wilburn.

The concert featuring Aaron Wilburn will be September 20, at the Texas Gospel Music Hall located at 6513 Hwy. 19 South, Athens, Texas, three-tenths mile past Loop 7 on the left. Also appearing in concert will be the southern gospel group Lifeway Trio, and Mike Powell.

Concert begins at 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Tickets are now on sale at the First State Bank on the square in Athens, and the Scroll in Tyler.

Reserved seats and general admission tickets available by calling 903-677-2492 or 903-675-5217. Credit cards are accepted.

★ **Exemplary**

(Continued from page 1)

ber of different places," Hauser said, "and I can see why this school got Exemplary."

Susan Bailey, a 35-year veteran of the elementary school, is similarly excited about the school's rating.

"I was hoping our third grade would be awarded Exemplary before I retired," Bailey said.

Though the third grade is the only elementary school grade to take the TAKS tests, McCoy said the teachers at the earlier levels from kindergarten have just as much to do with preparing a student for the testing as the third grade teachers.

In addition, it's not just the teachers to thank for this historic achievement.

Briana Drake, another CES teacher, said the Exemplary rating comes from everyone in the community chipping in for a common goal; the children's education.

Bridgett Walker, a first-year-teacher at the school, said she was very honored to enter the scene just as this award was received.

"I wouldn't ask for anything else," she added.

With school already in session and the highest rating achieved, the only thing left for Chandler Elementary School and its teachers, students and parents is to keep up the good work.

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St. Boniface Catholic

by Sue Beams

On the Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time, members of St. Boniface welcomed Fr. O'Key as the celebrant of the Eucharist. This was Fr. O'Key's final weekend with us as he is relocating to the hospital in Texarkana as Chaplain. Our sincere thanks to Fr. O'Key for taking such good care of us during Fr. Luke's absence. God bless you, Fr. O'Key. Come back to see us anytime!

Fr. O'Key began the Mass by asking each of us to enter into the Eucharist with the spirit of Thanksgiving.

In his homily, Fr. O'Key mentioned the new school year that is about to begin. As parents and teachers, it is our responsibility to 'bring up' our children in the way of the Lord. Jesus Christ was a good teacher. The disciples were his students. Jesus wants us each to profess our faith in God as Peter did in today's gospel reading, "Who do you say I am?" Have you ever contemplated the answer for yourself? Who is Jesus? What is Jesus doing in my life? Savior? Provider? Brother? Companion? Peter professed his faith in the Lord and, in response, Christ told Peter that "upon this rock I will build my Church."

In the early 1960s, Pope John XXIII faced many challenges. In the Catholic Church there was many a crisis ... marriages were in crisis, religious life was in crisis. The Pope was overwhelmed with the challenges and responsibilities of being the 'rock' of the Catholic Church. Out of the turmoil and crisis, the second Vatican Council arose. In the long struggle, in the overwhelming

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