

## Finding My Fortune

By Cory Collins

Tanya and I recently enjoyed lunch with an elder and his wife (precious new friends) at a Chinese restaurant in Watauga, Texas. I had some Mandarin Kung Pao Chicken; Tanya ate the Ginger Broccoli Chicken. Near the end of the meal I played my customary game with her, sliding the fortune cookies in circles across the table, as if to make the outcome more mysterious. Just as she reached for one, I pulled it back and moved the other toward her a couple of times. Then each of us took one.

Ironically, I opened the fortune that should have belonged to my youthful, energetic, and creative wife. It said, "It's fun being a kid. It's high time for one of your most promising ideas." Believe it or not, her fortune read, "Many will travel to hear you speak!" If I could only have had that one instead! Ha!

You know I'm just having fun with a silly custom. The truth is, my fortune and yours are not dependent upon a cookie, a horoscope, or fate. There is not some Luck Goddess who bestows her favor on some but not others. Drawing straws, playing the lottery, or waiting for my ship to come in is not the secret to success.

**Instead, my reward will come as the result of obedient faith in Jesus Christ.**

I want one day to say with Paul, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing" (2 Tim 4:7-8).

**It's not the cookie that I pick, but the seed that I plant, that leads to the future that I want.**

**If I will focus on sowing what pleases the Lord, the harvest will take care of itself.**

The Scripture says in Gal 6:7-9, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary."

Hmmm. Maybe I should stop swapping cookies ...

## "Funeral Food" Fund Update

Donations to date 2/6/2012: \$824.75

Recent Activity: \$45.37

(Opal Farris Family)

New Balance: \$779.38

Activity regarding this fund will be posted on the board in the foyer. As funds are used, a request will be made.

Ladies an outline is being printed listing all groups. Please check to see if your name is included. If not choose a group and notify the leader to add you to her group. **Also, we still need monthly leaders for September, October, November, and December.** Please sign-up if you can serve in this position.

**To those already with an outline,**

**Please make 2 updates**

Monthly leaders for May:

Janet Moon, Janet Hester

Small Group Leader for Group #2 has been changed:

New Group #2 Leader is:

Judy Jackson (205)412-3836

**Thank you for the generosity shown to serve in this area. It is a total congregational effort of love.**

**Terry & Susan Williams**

## Winter Youth Series

**Feb. 19 @ 6PM**

**Tuscumbia Church of Christ**



### Elders

Tim Fulmer  
Glen Grubbs (256)810-0877  
Russell Smelser

### Ministers

Mike Brooks  
Ben Hayes  
Michael Jackson

### Secretaries

Rhonda Cole  
Heather Morgan

### Contact:

Office: 256-381-8311  
Fax: 256-381-8362

### Email:

hpchurchoffice@gmail.com

### SERVICE SCHEDULE:

#### SUNDAY:

9:00am Bible Class  
10:00am Worship  
4:30pm Prayer Session  
5:00pm Worship

#### WEDNESDAY:

7:00pm Bible Class  
Wed—Lloyd Jackson

### The Record You Help Make

Bible Class .....183  
AM Worship .....349  
PM Worship .....180  
Contribution.....\$10,020  
Child Care.....\$140

# The Highlighter

Vol. 71 No. 59

February 12, 2012

We had a fantastic Sunday last week! We had 350 in attendance and we came very close to meeting our budget! There is no limit to what can be accomplished when the people of God have a heart for one another and the work in the kingdom. It is my hope that each of us will continue to give and work with purpose and continue to soak in the great fellowship that being a Christian gives us! Last week's youth led service and Super Bowl party was an excellent example of the great time that Christians can have together. Our young men did an amazing job as always and we had some tremendous food and fellowship afterward. We did a lot of laughing and screaming (thankfully not at each other, except when talking over the game). Thanks to all of you who stayed and made it a great night.

I appreciate the continued encouragement and love that you all have given us in our transition. I challenge you to look around this morning and take note of your friends who are not here with us and show them the same love of Christ you have shown my family. Call them. Facebook them. Text them. Email them. Send them a card. Go by for a visit. Just do something to let them know they are needed and wanted! A little something will beat a whole lot of nothing every time! Let's all turn our attention to each other in encouragement and to our neighbors to show them Christ and His love.

I look forward to starting my class with the young adults on Wednesday night. I want to thank Jonathan for his hard work in this class over the last several months and his hard work in so many other things. He and Becki are true servants that love the Lord and the people of this congregation. I should also point out another servant that is doing some great things. Adam McCollum will be helping preach at Srygley over the next several months. We will miss him here when he's not with us, but we are very proud of his work!

I hope you will please feel free to contact me if there is anything you need. I will be in the office throughout the week but I will also be doing a lot of visiting and working outside of the office. If I am out the secretaries will know where I am. Of course, you can contact me through phone (call or text 256-349-9017) or email (BENLHAYES@YAHOO.COM). I should be able to respond immediately to any of those three options unless I am in a study, visit or counseling session. If I cannot, I will get back with you as soon as possible. I am also on Facebook and Twitter (@Benahazin) and would love for you to keep up with church activities (and have a little fun, too) through those great venues of communication.

God is blessing us. Let's show our love and appreciation to Him through our service today and throughout this week!

Worshipping Christ Together,

Ben



**Pat & Heather Quinn** Heather and Pat are doing well. **Sue Martin** (Dot Crowden's sister) will go back to Vanderbilt Feb 21 for another 3 day series of treatments. **Jean Jackson** goes back to the doctor tomorrow and will be going to Birmingham March 14 for a second opinion on her back. **Adrian West** (Robin McCollum's mother) had a lung biopsy done this past week and it came back negative. **Keith Jones** (Heather Morgan's dad) will be having surgery on his foot in Huntsville Friday, February 17. **Kenneth Jackson** is recovering and doing well. **Carolyn Thrasher** is home recovering. **Ben South** will go back to Birmingham February 23 for a MRI. **Angela Kimbrell Yuille** is home and not feeling well. **Geneva Risner** is home recovering from a stroke. **Ginger Gresham** (sister in law of Jean Jackson & June Thompson) is in JW Somner till Feb 20 recovering from a broken hip. **Foy, Shirley, & Braxton Wagnon** (Friends of Thomas & Barbara Pennington) they are from Sheffield & Birmingham and are seriously ill. **Sonny Watkins** is home with the shingles. **Carole Dabbs** had a procedure done on her back Friday in Huntsville.

### Bible Bowl News

Bible bowl test will be given on the 19th at 3:00. We will have a study session at 3:00 this Sunday. For more information see Bobby Hooper Jr.

### Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Opal Farris. Her funeral was Tuesday.

### Meals on Wheels

February 20-24

See Donna Kimbrough if you can help.

### Note

The remainder of the CYC money is due TODAY!!

\*\*\*Great job by Roy Thompson and the Jericho Quartet Thursday at Nifty Fifty's. They had a wonderful performance!!

## Upcoming Showers

### Baby Shower— Megan Henry

TODAY from 2:00-4:00

She is registered at The Baby's Room, Dillard's, and Target... IT'S A GIRL! (Maeley Kate)

### Baby Shower— Ashley Logan Kennamore

Sunday, March 4 from 1:30-3:00

She is registered at Target, Walmart, and The Baby's Room...IT'S A GIRL! (Logan Caroline)

### Memorial Service

A small memorial service will be held on Thursday, Feb 16 from 6:00-8:00 to celebrate the life of Mike Farris. It will be held in the multipurpose building.

### Donations

A donation to the Bangladesh Mission Fund was given by Mike & Jane Moore in memory of Wylodean Dabbs, Olene Hanback, Dorson Vickery, Robert Todd, Bob Green, Mike Farris, and Mrs. Shah (Ibon's grandmother).

Vertie Eady made a donation to the building fund in memory of her late husband, Herbert.

Ola Dean Clark has made a donation to the building fund in memory of Olene Hanback & Opal Farris.

In lieu of flowers the congregation at H.P. has made a donation to the Building Fund in memory of Paul Reid.

The Orick family has made a donation to the mission fund in memory of Willa Orick.

### Teen Valentine's Party

Tomorrow, February 13 @ 6:30

At Stuart & Summer's

Bring chips, desserts, and drinks

## THOSE TO SERVE

### 10:00 AM WORSHIP

Read Scripture.....Sam Wallace  
Opening Prayer.....Michael South  
Closing Prayer.....Glen Grubbs

### 5:00 PM SERVICE

Read Scripture.....Randy Branscome  
Opening Prayer.....Pete Waldrep  
Closing Prayer.....Jim Dabbs

Building Lockup.....Russell Smelser  
Greeters.....Terry & Susan Williams

### February Contact Elder Russell Smelser



### Prayer Lists:

Austin & Betty Davenport,  
Mabeth Jones, Pauline Jackson, Harvey Hasha, Rayburn Moore (Melinda Logan's brother-in-law), Vic & Margaret Addington, Lois Black, Guy Jeffreys, Reagan McBride  
Jimmy Hanback, Albert Sharp, Kim Hallmark, Christine Kirchner, Edmund Cagle, Jewell Morrison (Diane's mother), Paul Barcomb, Christine Davis, Hailey Walton, Cody Wallace, Foy, Shirley, & Braxton Wagnon

### Please remember our cancer patients:

Robin McCollum, Brenda Pettus, Peggy McCollum (Robin McCollum's sister-in-law), Norma Hallmark, Shelia Renfro, Vicki Henson, Kenneth Harrison (Dot Crowden's brother), David Blazer, Ann Hargett, Betty Barnes, Dot Willis, Danny Edmonds, Garey Austin, Betty Williamson

### Widows & Singles

Will meet at Rick's following tonight's service



Pantry item  
Rice

## Observations

Greetings from Katmandu, Nepal. Actually I am writing this before I depart the U.S., as there is no way to write it and get it to you after I arrive in Nepal. But as you read this I will be finishing a busy day in Katmandu, having worshipped with two congregations there (Greenland and Subidhanagar Churches of Christ) and having met with several preachers following the evening assembly.

For the past few years we have flown by different routes and used various airlines. The first several years I came to South Asia I flew Delta to my departure point within the U.S. (New York or Los Angeles), then Singapore Air the rest of the way. After a few years I switched to Thai Air for the international flights. But with all the changes in schedules, prices, and airlines, I have used many different routes for the past 3 or 4 years. For this trip I have flown out of Atlanta via Delta to Mumbai, India; then Jet Air to Katmandu, Nepal. Coming back from Dhaka we will fly Emirates Airlines to Dubai, then Delta the rest of the way home. I also have a few domestic airlines to fly between Nepal and Bangladesh. I don't especially relish those.

You have given generously to make this campaign possible. I thank each of you once again for your encouragement and faithful support of our work. I love each one of you, and will miss you greatly until my return. Please continue your wonderful prayers on our behalf.

M.E.B.

## Potluck Lunch Today!!

### In honor of Ben, Kenya, & Family



Bring a covered dish & plan to stay with us to help welcome Ben & his family into their new chapter here at Highland Park.

## Thank You Card

To any and all of the Highland Park family who demonstrated their love, care, and concern for me during my recent hospital stay and recovery, goes my heart felt thank you. May God continue to bless your good works.

Kenneth Jackson