

Clay's Corner

As most of you who know me know, *Forrest Gump* is my all time favorite movie for many different reasons, mostly the "one liners" Forrest is so famous for.

One of the most touching scenes is when Forrest and his Jenny went back to the old house where she grew up with her father. Evidently, he was an abusive man and it took it's toll on Jenny. Forrest took her back to the old house hoping to exorcise some of the demons of the past and, at one point towards the end of the scene, Jenny begins to throw rocks at the house. She continues to throw until she is out of strength and out of rocks. Forrest, in the narrative said, "sometimes... there's just not enough rocks".

That's true. Sometimes, there are just not enough physical rocks that we can throw at the source of our emotional and spiritual hurts to make them go away. I always cry during that scene. I know the hurts are all too real and all too true.

I've dealt with my hurts. Most of them were my own fault anyway. Some were not. But before I could deal with those hurts I had to run out of rocks to throw at them. When I finally ran out of rocks and the pain was still there, that was when I finally found the real God.

This past week many things have come across my plate. Two very beautiful people are leaving our congregation to tend to responsibilities they have elsewhere. Jan and Randy Moerbe's last Sunday with us is today. Together they have done many, many great things for our congregation. Their absence creates a void in our congregation that I pray will one day be filled with another God-loving, Christ-serving couple. Until then, we'll be somewhat handicapped and not completely whole. But we love them with all that we are and expect good things for them as they seek to continue in their service to the Lord in another place. We'll meet again one day, and we'll pickup where we left off. Of that I am sure.

In other news, there is another family with deep roots in Gonzales who are mourning the loss of a husband, father, son and brother. Robert Remschel, Jr. passed away this week. His death leaves a lot of hurt behind. We are in constant prayer for his family, whom many of us have known for many years. The questions in times like these are very difficult and there are no easy answers. My prayers are for Valerie and the kids. May God grant peace in the midst of deep tragedy.

There are others among us who are hurting. I know of several. You do, too. As I think of this, a song we used to sing years ago, "I'll be a Friend to Jesus," pops into my head. The wisdom of the fact that we cannot be a friend of Jesus without being a friend to others, especially those who are hurting, comes resoundingly obvious and clear. My challenge to you this week is the same as it is every week, with one added instruction: Invite someone to worship and be a friend to those in need. You don't have to have answers; just an ear to hear and a shoulder to lean on. If more than that is needed, look me up, I'll do what I can to be a friend to your friend, too.

Have a blessed week.

PRAYER LIST

- **Lauren Babb** (health)
- **Aaron Banks**
- **John Beiler** (health)
- **Jane Brady, Elsie Clements, and Jorja Clements** (health)
- **Dawn Clarke** (Shirley Kuchynka's daughter)
- **Betty Cox** (Brent Barnick's sister—homebound, rheumatoid arthritis)
- **Helen Davis** (hospice care following heart attack)
- **Dixie** (Debbie Faires's mother—Alzheimer's)
- **Leon Giesecke** (Jan Moerbe's father—throat cancer)
- **Herbert and Nelle Hahn** (health)
- **Sandra Jetton** (health)
- **Debbie Jalufka** (recovering from surgery)
- **Edward Jungbauer** (Moerbes' friend—health)
- **Kuchykna Family**
- **Family of Lovie Lewis** (Kevin Johnson's grandmother)
- **Junior and Ada Powell** (Sharron Mason's brother-in-law and sister—health)
- **Remschel Family**
- **Deborah Rhoades** (health)
- **Parker Robertson and family** (Ratliffs' friend—health)
- **Jocelyn Seals** (Hallettsville—cancer)
- **David Taylor** (Cody Chrismon's uncle—cancer)
- **Adrienne Zingrich** (Susan Barnick's cousin—cancer)

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 the family and friends of **Robert Remschel, Jr.**, who passed away this week. Family visitation is Thursday, Sept. 29, from 4-7 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fredericksburg. Rosary will follow at 7 p.m. Funeral mass will be held Friday, Sept. 30, at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's with a reception to follow at St. Joseph's Hall. **A graveside service will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 10:30 a.m. at the St. James Catholic Cemetery in Gonzales.**

Aaron Banks, an ISF resident, requested the congregation's prayers.

Helen Davis was discharged from the hospital into hospice care after suffering a heart attack last week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fellowship Meal

Join us **TODAY** for our monthly fellowship meal in the annex immediately following morning worship. Everyone is invited!

Singing at The Heights

Please join us **TODAY at 3:30 p.m.** for a time of singing and fellowship at The Heights of Gonzales nursing home (701 N Sarah DeWitt). Everyone is invited!

Come & Take It Parade

The Come & Take It Parade is **this Saturday, Oct. 1**. Our float theme this year is "Team POSSIBLE." **We will have a prep day at the building TODAY immediately following the fellowship meal.** We will finish in time to attend singing at The Heights. **Please sign up in the foyer if you are able to ride the float this year. We will meet at the building at 8:15 a.m. on Saturday.** Please wear your Team POSSIBLE shirt. If you need a shirt, please see Victoria Johnson.

Service Opportunity: Legacy Ranch Fall Carnival

Legacy Ranch, which brought several children to our VBS this year, is looking for volunteers for their Fall Carnival on **Saturday, Oct. 15**. The carnival is expected to last from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. They are in need of volunteers for the whole day, but are happy to accept anyone that can work a shift. Volunteers are needed to help with activities and to help escort children between activities.

Please sign up in the foyer and list what times you are available. For more information, please talk to Victoria Johnson. **If you can help, you must fill out a volunteer packet (available in the foyer) and return it to Victoria by THIS FRIDAY, SEPT. 30 AT NOON.**

Wednesday Evening Meal & Bible Study

Please join us **at 5:15 p.m. this Wednesday** for dinner in the annex. This week's entrée is south your mouth (Salisbury steak) with rolls. Anyone who is able is asked to bring sides to share, but please do not let that prevent you from joining us.

REFRESH

You are invited to REFRESH (Raising Effective Followers Ready and Energized to Serve Him) a meet and greet fellowship designed to refresh the saints through fellowship. The retreat will be held **October 14-16** at Lake Cisco Christian Camp. Donations will be accepted to offset the cost of meals, but there is no cost for the retreat. For more information, please pick up a flyer in the foyer.

Volunteers Needed: Wednesday Night Meals

Volunteers are needed to prepare the entrée for meals on Wednesday evenings. To help, please sign up in the foyer. **If you signed up to prepare a meal, please send your menu to Victoria by Wednesday the week before your turn.**

Sunday Night Small Group

There is a small group that meets in the annex each Sunday evening from 6-7 p.m. The Lord's Supper is available.

Tuesday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited to the annex each Tuesday morning at **6:20 a.m.** for a time of breakfast, prayer and fellowship.

Mark Your Calendar:

- Oct. 9
 - Men's Meeting
 - Youth Sunday: Dinner & a Movie (grades 7-12)
- Oct. 23
 - Singing at The Heights
- Oct. 30
 - Fall Fellowship

YOUTH ZONE



MONDAY, SEPT. 26
JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL
GONZALES 7TH "B" @ WIMBERLEY, 5 P.M.
GONZALES 7TH "A" @ WIMBERLEY, 6 P.M.

SATURDAY, OCT. 1
JUNIOR HIGH CROSS COUNTRY
SHINER HOME MEET



Caden Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Cross Country
Jacy Chrismon—Shiner Jr High Cross Country
Coach Kevin Johnson—Gonzales 7th Volleyball

Carly Pustka—Shiner Jr High Cross Country
Hannah Pustka—Shiner Jr High Cross Country