

# Southwest Texan

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 17

DECEMBER 2009

## DID YOU KNOW?

Pray for those that were wounded and the families of those that were killed at Ft. Hood, as well as PCG Chaplain Jason Blake and others.



Judy Cody's mother passed away.

Prayer? Call Jerry Ward 361-937-7474  
Healing is coming!

Victory Christian Fellowship in Hamilton celebrated 71 years last month.

Appreciate work at De Leon: John, Bob, Poncho, Gilbert, James, Leonard.

The District Office needs your signed CRQ to mail your 2010 credential card

Norvells, Jaynes, Chapmans in Joplin for General Board meetings last month

**Merry CHRISTMAS!**

## Merry CHRISTmas A Happy Holy Day

**T**'was the month before Christmas  
When all through our land,  
**N**ot a Christian was praying  
**N**or taking a stand.



**S**ee the PC Police had taken away  
**T**he reason for Christmas - no one could say.

**T**he children were told by their schools not to sing, **A**bout Shepherds and Wise Men and Angels and things. **I**t might hurt people's feelings, the teachers would say, **D**ecember 25th is just a "Holiday".

**Y**et the shoppers were ready with cash, checks and credit, **P**ushing folks down to the floor just to get it! **C**Ds from Madonna, an X-Box, an Ipod, **S**omething was changing, something quite odd.

**A**s Targets were hanging their trees upside down, **A**t Lowe's the word Christmas was nowhere to be found. **A**t K-Mart and Staples and Penny's and Sears, **Y**ou won't hear the word Christmas - it won't touch your ears.

**I**nclusive, sensitive, di-ver-si-ty  
**A**re words that were used to intimidate me.

**A**t the top of the agenda, there arose such a clatter, **T**o eliminate Jesus, in all public matter. **A**nd we spoke not a word, as they took away our faith, **F**orbidden to speak of Salvation and Grace.

**T**he true Gift of Christmas was exchanged and discarded, **T**he Reason for the Season, stopped before it started.

**S**o as you celebrate "Winter Break" under your "Dream Tree", **S**ipping your Starbucks, listen to me. **C**hoose your words carefully, choose what you say, **S**hout **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**, not *Happy Holiday!*

by Marilyn Hickson



As is our custom, Southwest Texas is pleased to host our very own David & Paula Parkman for mission services throughout the district during the holidays. Itineration in SW TX will conclude this month.

## Parkman Mission Services

Here is their schedule:

Nov 1 AM Lockhart, Faith  
Nov 8 AM Cuero, Trinity  
Nov 8 PM Smithville, GL  
Nov 15 AM Brownwood, NB  
Nov 15 PM Hamilton, Victory  
Nov 18 PM Rockport, NB  
Nov 22 AM Waco, Full Gospel  
Nov 29 AM Luling, River of Life  
Dec 6 AM/PM Aransas Pass, CB

Dec 9 PM Port Aransas, Island  
Dec 12 AM Austin, AHOP  
Dec 13 AM Johnson City, LLF  
Dec 13 PM Cedar Park, Trinity  
Dec 16 PM Austin, Trinity  
**Dec 20 AM (need service)**  
**Dec 20 PM (need service)**  
**Dec 27 AM (need service)**  
**Dec 27 PM (need service)**  
Dec 30 Copperas Cove, NPC



Where's Waldo?

Anything taken  
to excess  
controls you.  
God gets no  
glory out  
of your  
**BURN-OUT**  
or your **RUST**  
**-OUT.**

Bro. Ingle is the best!  
NY or SF?

Pastor Rick &amp; Bishop

## “Best Ever” Minister’s Advance

50 ministers and spouses were thrilled with Rockbox Theater and **Minister’s Advance** in Fredericksburg at Sunday House Inn, November 5-7.

Among the treats, Brandon Sanders gave us a preview of his own stand-up production “My Journey” which he will gladly perform at your church. Contact him at rex@covelive.com.

Our special guest speaker, Vernell Ingle, was top shelf for all three sessions on **Balancing Home & Ministry**. He emphasized that Ministry and Marriage are one—not compartmentalized. He taught the “Three Levels of Intimacy”: 1) self-focused; reverse the 80/20 blame to 20 spouse/80 me. 2) role-focused; emphasis is on conformity and conventionality; hypocrite/role playing/acting. Neglect and indifference is abuse. Families are not meant to get leftovers. 3) relationship-focused; Individual connected model; open communication. God loves me more

than I love Him. Marriage is a reflection of God’s love to you. Your spouse’s face is the flesh evidence that God loves you. Conflict resolution indicates a good marriage.

We were told to guard our hearts from the scriptural admonition in Luke 21:34, *But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly*, NKJV. The #1 killer in the next decade will be stress. God never meant for ministry to compete or conflict with marriage, rather to compliment. Ephesians 5:15-18 circumspectly (cautious, careful). Five Steps: 1) Have a right mindset. Marriage top priority. Order is a) God, b) spouse, c) children, d) church, etc. 2) Think through goals for marriage and family. Where do we want to be in five years? 3) Discern between dedication and overwork. Overstress distraction pulls apart. Statistic: 1,500 pastors drop out every month.

4) Refuse guilt and condemnation - run away from it all. “Come apart”- take time off. 5) Begin immediately - act now, don’t wait. “I’m not indispensable.” We teach others that being too busy is appropriate behavior by our poor example.

We had an awesome group, namely: Tim & Lori Baylor, (T. J. & Cassie Baylor), Jim & Marsha Boatright, Dan & Delores Chapman, Melvin & Rosalee Clearman, (Michael & Jennifer Lytle), Ron & Jeanie Gratehouse, Chuck & Sabrina Grubbs, Ray & Anita Helms, Albert & Lawana Hernandez, Bill & Marilyn Hickson, Bob & Eileen Jayne, Jason & Becky Norvell, John & Marilyn Norvell, (Fred & Betty Hill), (Steve & JoAnn Oates), Jim & Melissa Ogden, David & Paula Parkman, Billy & Gail Sanders, (Brandon & Jenifer Sanders), Rick & Laurel Schmidt, Mark & Stacey Swartz, T. J. & Billie Sue Thomas, (John & Cheryl Pace), Rick & Aletha Webb, Carlton Wetherell.

## Pastors

After sleepless nights and two weekends in the pulpit, Rick Schmidt was appointed pastor of **New Beginnings in Rio Frio** November 9th. Cover them with prayer

Hank Cannon is looking forward to re-opening the church in **DeLeon** in January. Pray for successful ministry outreach.

HQ facility in **San Marcos** would make a great meeting place for a new church.



## Brother Bowden

July 18, 1917 — Nov. 1, 2009  
Rev. Oliver M. Bowden passed away two days before he and Sister Bowden celebrated their 66th anniversary. They were blessed with two children, Ronald and Barbara, both in full-time ministry. Bro. Bowden served in the Army Air Force in the 40’s and graduated from Southwestern A/G College in 1951. While in college he served as pastor of a church in Eddy, Texas. After graduating

the Bowdens moved to Lockhart to pastor Faith Chapel for the next 24 years. Afterwards, he pastored Manor Road PCG in Austin. He fulfilled his lifelong dream of pioneering a church - Trinity Tabernacle in Cedar Park, where he served until his health failed, and he was forced to retire. He served as Sectional Presbyter for many years and was ordained for 58 years in PCG. He’s happy to be Home.

# Youth Ministries Director Jason Norvell

We just finished getting the 2010 calendar lined out. Post it and keep the dates available so you can be part of all the exciting stuff we



have planned. The District Youth Department wants to be more effective than ever before.

Updates on the new Youth website should be up by next week. Send us any Youth event pictures you might have so we can post them. We want to get Connected! And, don't forget to join the Southwest Texas Youth on [Facebook](#).

Wishing you a blessed Holyday (sp) season. Remember, **Jesus** is the

Reason for the Season!

*Hope to see you at the  
YM CONNECT TOUR!*



- |      |                         |
|------|-------------------------|
| 2010 | <b>YM EVENTS...</b>     |
| Jan  | <b>Connect Tour</b>     |
| Feb  | <b>Marriage Retreat</b> |
| Mar  | <b>Talent Expo</b>      |
| Apr  | <b>Handbags Wknd</b>    |
| May  | <b>Kidz Tour</b>        |
| June | <b>Summerfest</b>       |
| July | <b>YOUTH CAMPS</b>      |
| Aug  | <b>Singles' Retreat</b> |
| Sept | <b>Connect Tour</b>     |
| Oct  | <b>Leadership Day</b>   |
| Nov  | <b>Central Comm</b>     |
| Dec  | <b>Christmas Blast</b>  |

## A New Beginning in Rockport

This Summer a miracle happened in Rockport. Two churches with one vision merged to make one powerful church. One church had a newly remodeled sanctuary, nearly filled; tithes and income was more than adequate and was fulfilling the call of God. The other church had larger and more facilities; however, their church was struggling financially and then lost their pastor. The struggle continued until God told Pastor Tim

Baylor to offer to merge the two churches.

Today we are one church, both bodies blended perfectly, all financial problems have been taken care of, many repairs and improvements have been made, more people attend than ever and we are continually growing in numbers. Also, tithes and offerings have doubled what they were in both churches.

Best of all, God has once again

proven that He is a miracle-worker, souls

are being saved, people are so happy and they can't wait for the next service. We are now close to the 200 mark in Sunday morning attendance and will surpass that by Thanksgiving.

Thanks to God, miracles are still happening! See what God continues to do through New Beginnings Ministries of Rockport. *Carlton Wetherell*

[www.newbeginningsrockport.com](http://www.newbeginningsrockport.com)



*"Building excellence in the Body of Christ."*

## Miracle for Missionary Les Melton

Best information to date from the World Missions Department.

On October 17, Honduran Missionary Les Melton was found unconscious in a parsonage where he had been doing some electrical work in Nicaragua. Doctors believe he had been unconscious 24 to 27 hours before he was found and indicated that Brother Melton should have died. It is still

unclear what happened, but we know that he fell off a ladder on his head causing subdural and epidural hematomas, a fractured skull and severe bruising on the right side of his brain. The severity and swelling required emergency brain surgery before he was Medi-Vac'd to Ann Arbor, Michigan. According to doctors, he will experience post traumatic amnesia.

The good news is Brother Melton was released from the hospital November 2nd. He will require some rehab, but the doctors expect him to fully recover from his injury.

We must not forget his wife, Charlene, who stood firm under the most trying circumstances. Continue praying for the Meltons.





## Southwest Texas District Pentecostal Church of God

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## December Birthday/Anniversary



Jack Holderby	8	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Keasler	3
Marilyn Hickson	10	Mr. & Mrs. James Martin	11
Thomas Roberson	11	Mr. & Mrs. Don Allen	18
Thelma Coker	14	Mr. & Mrs. John Norvell	18
Robert Jayne	15	Mr. & Mrs. Harold Irvin	19
Jerrel Martinez	16	Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hickson	20
Les Crawford	23	Mr. & Mrs. Joe Cheesman	24
		Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Wetherell	24
		Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Jayne	31

The measure of our success is not the numbers in attendance on Sunday mornings. God has given us people so we may train them, not merely count them. Of this group, those whom we inspire to live like Christ are actually the measure of our success, the test of our effectiveness in the ministry.

*Francis Frangipane*

## Ministers Available

Gus Chupe—Seguin	(830) 386-0101
Donna Classen—Beeville	(361) 343-2844
Jack & Genevive Holderby—Schertz	(210) 722-0036
Ray Keasler—Granite Shoals	(830) 798-4019
Jim & Melissa Ogden—San Angelo	(325) 212-8689
Bill Pierce—Austin	(719) 821-6906
Jesse Webb—San Angelo	(325) 763-5512
Carlton Wetherell—Rockport	(361) 790-7610
Doug White, Jr.—Victoria	(361) 489-9032
Ben Carter—Lockhart	(512) 213-8982

A reception was held November 20th at Luling Care Center to honor Rev. Inez Brown and her late husband, Charles, for their 40 years devoted to Luling Care Center and for her 53 years in the long-term care industry. Sister Brown is a blessing to SW TX PCG.



Southwest Texas District  
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Merry CHRISTmas!  
“For unto you is born  
this day in the city of  
David a Savior which is  
Christ the Lord.”

