In reading an article written by the late Avon Malone dated 1982, I found myself chuckling at an observation he made about the societal views of the day. He lamented the fact that personal responsibility had all but disappeared. I wonder what he would think if he were still alive today?

I had the pleasure of listening to brother Malone preach and teach as well as having had some very special private conversations with him early in my own preaching career. I think we need more men like him in our day. He observed that, in the church, action is often more important than the work of the church. He expressed this idea in his own humorous way, but he made his point very well. Doing is sometimes considered to be the thing that matters, even if what we are doing doesn’t really matter at all. We do kick up a lot of dust sometimes, yet our efforts didn’t really further the cause of Christ.

Furthermore, what “the church” is doing is also viewed as more important than what the individual is doing. We might prefer to boast that “We have a great mission program.” Or, “We have a great local outreach program.” Yet, actually, “I” am not involved. I’m just a member who takes pride in my affiliation with the work of others. Almost from the beginning of the church age, that has been a challenge.

Still, there are good role models from the Scriptures worthy to pattern our lives after. There were men and women who made a difference because they were individually working for the cause of Christ, not just a member of a congregation that was active. Paul certainly stands out as a great example. Paul wrote often about what he personally was doing—and he personally was doing a lot!

I’m sure that there were times when his activities and the weariness that came with them must have seemed futile. We can look back over the past two millennia and see what an impact his work had, but I wonder if he could always realize that impact while laboring in solitude or with a handful of fellow workers in places so far from home? I don’t believe he ever “majored in minors” in his labors. He wasn’t just about being busy or kicking up a lot of dust. But did he always understand that his individual efforts were making a positive difference? I believe that he did.

I’ve shared this illustration before, but it’s worth sharing again: Texas, as well as California, was admitted into the union by just one vote. A single vote ended the monarchy of kings in England and in France. In other words, a single vote made a huge difference.

No one remembers the presidency of Samuel J. Tilden. You probably can’t recall a single thing he did while in office. The reason is that even though Tilden, a former governor of New York, was the Democratic nominee and won the popular vote, he lost to Rutherford B. Hayes in the Electoral College by a single vote. Who cast that last electoral vote for Rutherford B. Hayes? I don’t know. But I do know this: his vote, his participation in the election process, made all the difference! Without his involvement then, the question today would be, “Who was Rutherford B. Hayes?”

It’s not just the church that is called to be the light of the world; it’s the individuals in the church who are so called. Two ways to diminish the church’s role in our society are: 1.) Do a lot of things as a church but not the things that matter (in place of engaging in evangelistic efforts—reference my most recent Sunday PM class) and 2.) As the church, do all the right things—the things the church is called to do, but as an individual be an uninvolved witness.

You can make a difference, and you do!

DC Brown ©2016
JULY 20, 2016

For the Record—7-17-16

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Weekly Bible trivia question. Please submit answers to the elders. The first correct answer reported to the office will be recognized and published in the next bulletin. Here goes...Who said God was able to do beyond our imagination to ask? Was it Peter, Paul, or Philip?

Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, July 21, 2016:

- **Thursday**—Ephesians 1-3
- **Friday**—Leviticus 1-3
- **Saturday**—1 Kings 10-13
- **Sunday**—Psalms 69-71
- **Monday**—Proverbs 4
- **Tuesday**—Ezekiel 1-6
- **Wednesday**—Luke 11-12

The correct answer to last week’s question was: Colossae (Colossians 4:16) and Thessalonica (1 Thessalonians 5:27). As far as we know, there were no correct answers.

Camp Twin Oaks Ranch for 3rd-6th graders will be July 27-31, 2016. Applications and scholarships are available; please see Paul Cartwright.

During the rest of the summer, the combined adult Sunday morning Bible class will be held in the Annex at 9 AM.

Mark and I are so happy that we belong to this Church of Christ. All the people are so kind and giving. Thank you for all the prayers.

With lots of Christian love,
Mark & Mary Holmberg

**KEPT IN PRAYER**

Becky Nicholson received a good report from her recent medical test.

Our deepest sympathy to the family of Robert Austin, who passed away recently. Robert’s son and daughter-in-law, Ryan & Holli Austin, brought their children to our VBS this year. They have recently moved to this area from Texline.

Greta Burkett, Judy Indest’s aunt, does not have cancer, but still needs prayers. She is in hospice care for COPD and dementia.

Sandra Brown Ryan, Barbara Shock’s cousin, is in ICU at Conroe Regional Hospital. She had emergency surgery last Sunday night for a burst bowel and is in an induced coma for 3-4 days. Please pray for her recovery.

We received some good news from Greg Fabian Sunday night that Kinnie Warren is now cancer-free and that Mike Barnhill is back at work after a serious motorcycle accident.

**Continuing Need:**

**Our Members:** Fran Barnhill, Annette Bumpers, David & Libby Clayton, Daisy Dees, June Evans, Bennie Sue Galindo, Ross Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Murrell Hill, Judy Indest, Kaliya Kelly, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Von Knight, Wanda Knight, Clifford Layton, Jan Lemoine, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, David Smith, Loma Stone, Sandy Stone, Doris Stuteville.

**Others:** Leona Anderson, Timothy Anderson, Lincoln Backward, Greta Burkett, Evelyn Cordell, Ray Craycraft, Billie Dykes, Linda Evans, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Carolyn Knight Head, Charles (Huck) Huckabee, Carol Jackman, Sharon Johns, Nelderine Johnson, Kerry Lemoine, Pat Lewis, Austin, Celia, & Doug Matthews, Ron McCright, Mary Means, J. S. Miller, Pat Miller, Lewis Moss, Lauren Murphy, April Parker, Mark Pridgen, Cloey Pruitt, Henry Schaefer, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Rick Stone, James Thabiso Taylor, Larry Thornhill, Bennett Vincent, Mary White, Wanda Williams.

If you are unable to attend Billie Dykes’s reception in Fort Worth on August 6, 2016, you are welcome to send her a card at:

Lakewood Village Retirement Center
5100 Randol Mill Rd Apt 4308
Fort Worth TX 76112

or an email to bdykes4@hotmail.com

For the Record—7-17-16

Sunday AM 106
Sunday PM 45
Contribution $3,736
Weekly Budget $5,800
YTD Contribution $150,508
YTD Budget $168,200

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Fort Worth TX 76112

or an email to bdykes4@hotmail.com
Kevin Scarsdale is our contact elder for July. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Kevin.

July 2016
25 Jabberwacky—Katy Church of Christ—Van will leave Annex at 6 PM.

August 2016
1 Secret Sisters—6:30 PM—Spring Creek Barbeque, 9005 Broadway St, Pearland TX 77584. Jean Adams, Linda Fabian, and Janice Pearson are hosting.
3 Wednesday Night with the Master—No meal—Service areas begin at 7 PM.

Farewell
Friends & Family Day is August 7, 2016. We will also honor the Cartwrights on their last Sunday with us.

13 Ladies’ Prayer Breakfast—8 AM—Kelley’s

July Birthdays
20 Doris Teague 23 Sarah Brown
24 Jayden Terry 27 Jack Cherry
27 Leah Gartrell 30 Emily Townzen
31 James Maxcey 31 Kylee May

August Birthdays
2 Mark Holmberg 5 Lynn Adams
8 John Adams 9 Russell Genaro
9 Dorothy Kirkland 10 Molly Godwin
10 Nathan Scarsdale 11 Billie Dykes
13 Jeff Coe 13 Beverly Stewart
14 Annette Bumpers 15 Chloe Hudman
15 David Smith 16 Peggy Chisum
17 Brenda Blair 22 Robbie Alatrash
22 Laurie Maxcey 26 Charlie Layton
27 Wanda Knight 30 Pat Fletcher
30 Josh Hamilton

July Anniversaries
28 Jeremy & Heather Cook 31 Jack & Dorothy Cherry

August Anniversaries
1 Von & Jo Knight 2 Jim & Judy Indest
3 Randy & Trudy Knight 4 Leon & Valerie McHargh
20 Gheath & Kristin Alatrash 29 Ben & Susan Lenamon

NEW ADDRESS:
Brandon, Patricia, & Katie Stafford
9717 Maryville Ln
Fort Worth TX 76108

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive, and painless health screenings at our Annex on Friday, August 5, 2016. Flyers are in the foyer. In order to register for this event and to receive a $10 discount on any package priced above $129, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.

It’s that time again. Updated pages for the Pocket Directory are on the bulletin board. Please review and make changes as necessary. If there are no changes, please put a check mark beside your name. We would like to publish a new directory by the end of July 2016. Thanks.
### Those to Serve

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### Morning Worship

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### Worship Times:

**Sunday**
- Bible Study ..................9 am
- Morning Worship.............10 am
- Evening Worship.............6 pm

**Wednesday** Bible Study........7 pm