



From Where I Sit . . .

“GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING??”

Sometimes we need to stop and take inventory of what’s going on around us. The President did this for our nation last night. Certainly within our homes we need to stay on top of where we are and which direction we’re traveling. It’s equally so of the church. We are in an especially busy time at Broad Street Church of Christ.

This weekend, our 19 Deacons, 6 Elders, and your minister will be going on our annual retreat out to Paint Rock Valley Lodge, where we’ll spend Friday evening and Saturday in study, devotionals, and discussions about the many works of the church here. This is our fourth such retreat, and each has been filled with valuable time spent. We’ll be looking at what works, and what might need a tune-up, budgets will be part of the agenda, and our focus will be on Stewardship. We are stewards of God’s many gifts to us. We must be good managers.

Upon returning, we will begin on February 19 a Four-Week study of Stewardship in our Sunday Bible hour as well as from the morning sermons. These lessons will be designed to help us develop the awareness of what God expects of us as stewards of our material possessions. The church has grown in the grace of giving, and contributions have increased by approximately \$1000 per week since the end of 2001. This is good, but we can do better.

In recent months 20 have obeyed the Gospel at Broad Street. While this is encouraging, there are many lost souls all around us that need to hear the saving words of Jesus. We must never grow satisfied with where we are, but ever press on to reach more.

Our Sunday night and Wednesday night attendances have enjoyed a significant improvement in the past 6 months, but we reached a plateau for Sunday Bible Study and Worship where we have “settled in” for the past two years. This doesn’t mean the church isn’t active. Many have come our way during that time, and many others have either moved, graduated and gone to college, a few have left the Lord, some wonderful saints have gone to be with the Lord. Care Groups are busily making contacts every week with some 600 assignments being given to team members during the past 12 months. Fellowship gatherings of these groups are on the increase as well.

Our young people are eagerly preparing for Lads to Leaders and Leaderettes Convention and have just completed much of their work in Good Samaritan projects, and in reading of the Scriptures. Puppets, Bible Bowl, Song Leading, and Scrapbook are requiring much of their attention each week. Additionally they are busily preparing for the annual Young At Hearts Banquet and musical production. Devotionals continue with area-wide churches monthly, and our Friday program is very successful with the middle grade students. Our young people, and this entire church was shocked into realization at the untimely death of Brandon Kennamer a few weeks ago. It has made all of us more aware of being ready to meet God, and of spending our time here in some meaningful service. Brandon was only 18, but was already making these preparations.

As always, space fails me to write of the many wonderful works that take place every day at Broad Street Church of Christ. Beyond the above, our teachers, various ladies work groups, Learning Center staff, and even our office staff, are keeping daily ministry in the vocabulary right where God placed it. May He bless all our many efforts. If you as a member here are not a part of an active ministry at Broad Street, please enlist today. It will thrill your soul. If you’re not a Christian, there is a storehouse of God’s richest blessings awaiting you. Please obey the Gospel before it’s too late.

. . . . Terry Broome