



# Saints Alive

June 2009

## We Are What We Measure So, Measure UP!

By Jim Burdick

In mid-May this year, I went to Sacramento for memorial services for a maternal aunt and a paternal uncle. Memorial services usually give us cause to reflect. So, let me share my reflections with you.

One of the services was for my uncle Leroy Burdick. He was a pretty amazing guy - mostly because he was real good at being himself! We called Leroy 'Uncle Red' because of his (long ago) red hair. Uncle Red did magic, was habitually late, loved boats, and cooked pizza. But, he was so very much more. Professionally, he was a youth parole officer, a police officer, a social worker, a teacher, and co-owner of a commercial fishing boat.

Personally, Leroy was a father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and a really great guy.

In his church life, Uncle Red was a minister, teacher, companion, friend, servant, leader, and follower.

At his memorial service, several of his favorite scriptures were shared and some were discussed, I want to share three with you and then I want to share a thought that came to me about why I think we Christians sometimes seem to have trouble living out these profound scriptures.

**John 15:9-17**

*9 As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 17 This is my command: Love each other.*

See next page for conclusion on Jim's article.

## June Greeters

7—Pat Campbell  
14—Richard Cole & girls  
21—Carol Burdick  
28—Richard Cole & girls



# JUNE BIRTHDAYS

**4--Ginny Ford**

**7--Dottie Klaus**

**8--Donald Tucker**

**9--Michael Theisen**

**12--Wayne Spiekermann**

**19--Reta Tucker**

**20--Jeeta Caraballo**

**27--Sam Osterhaus**

## News From the Pews

**Jan and Arlie Brucks** are the proud grandparents of grandson, Elijah Graham Jensen, born May 13th at 12:01am. He weighed in at 6 pounds, 11.5 ounces and 19 1/2 inches long. Both Eli and Cyndi are doing great; however, it takes longer to get over a C-Section and not able to drive or lift over a few pounds for quite awhile—very limiting—so they will be staying until June 8th. Also, they will get to be here for the dedication service on June 7th. They send thanks for all of your prayers throughout these many months.

The **Walkers** always are on the move in the summer, and 2009 will be no different. **Tom** competed in the Texas History Day competition in Austin on May 20th with his project on Dwight D. Eisenhower and took 2nd place in his division, "Individual Exhibit." All 1st and 2nd place winners move on to the national competition. So Tom will be competing at the National History Day competition at the University of Maryland on June 15th – 18th. Please say a prayer for his safe travel with his teachers and that he is able to perform at his very best.

Also, the Walkers will be in Colorado Springs from June 1st – 8th and then in upstate New York from June 17th – 24th for the wedding of Patty's niece.

The **Talcotts/Williams** have had company most of May and continuing into June. Matt, Marcella and three-year-old Lafe were here, and Matt continued on to Rhode Island, Alabama, and Misawa, Japan. Marcella and Lafe stayed here in San Antonio, and will return to Okinawa about the time Matt is able to be home. How great it's been

for Wayne, Lisa, Lafe, Evelyn and Sarah to have the grandson around to play with!

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## Visiting Our Church

At his first visit to the Shenandoah Congregation several weeks ago, Coastal Bend Mission Center President Terry Shelton had a chance to review architectural sketches of the building project that is planned...the addition to the fellowship and educational building, and the construction of an enclosed foyer linking the sanctuary with the renovated structure. The final plans have been approved. Shown with the President Shelton are Ray Jackel center, and co-pastor Richard Cole is at the right.



*A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best,  
was running as fast as she could, trying not to  
be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed,  
"Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear  
Lord, please don't let me be late!"*

*While she was running and praying, she  
tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes  
dirty and tearing her dress. She got up,  
brushed herself off, and started running again!*

*As she ran she once again began to  
pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be  
late...But please don't shove me either!"*