

# The Oak Grove Oracle

(Family News & Views of the Oak Grove Church of Christ)

Meeting Weekly At Our Building Located At:

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## Are You Praying?

It's time for us to prepare for this summer's special spiritual activities here at **Oak Grove**. We are now less than three weeks away (19 days) from our **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gospel Singing**, scheduled for **Friday night, July 20<sup>th</sup>**. Also, today (**Sun., July 1**) we are exactly five weeks away from the opening day of our annual **Gospel Meeting**, scheduled for **Aug. 5 - 8**. Brother **Mike Price** will hopefully be present with us to share some inspiring Gospel messages on the theme: "**What Jesus Taught.**"

You will likely remember we had brother **Price** scheduled to hold a **Marriage Seminar & Gospel Meeting** in the late summer of 2016. However, due to his wife's illness, we had to reschedule him for 2017. Instead, we had a great **Gospel Meeting** (maybe **OG's** best ever) with brother **Mike Vestal**, one of our former beloved preachers. Sadly, last summer, due to brother **Price's** wife's relapse and impending death from brain cancer, we rescheduled him once again for this summer. In the place of his **Marriage Seminar/GM**, a lectureship-style **Gospel Meeting** was hurriedly planned, using a different speaker (primarily from our NE TX area) for each day of last summer's effort. Once again, we heard some tremendous Gospel sermons, which were focused on encouraging the erring and reclaiming the spiritually fallen.

Finally, the time is almost upon us to host brother **Mike** here in the Mt. Pleasant area, for a four day series of Gospel lessons. He has been hard at work preparing himself to share with us some maturing messages on the **Master Teacher's** unique teaching style and content. Remember, when **Jesus** talked, other people listened, and were "astonished at His teaching" because "he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes" (Matthew 7:28-29).

**Brother Price** will be here at **OG** and ready to preach just **35 days** from this very morning. Whether we have a great Gospel endeavor, or just a "so-so" effort is now up to all of us. It will do little good for him to preach even the best of sermons, if he preaches to half empty pews and echoing walls. So, to use that proverbial tennis expression, "the ball is now in our court!" Will we let it get by us and hear the Judge of the universe shout "**FAULT**," or will we swing with all our might to bring glory and honor to the name of Christ Jesus our Lord?

I believe **Oak Grove** will rise to the challenge! Though it's a metaphor from a different sport than tennis, let me encourage **YOU** to "**swing for the fences!**" Please let me suggest one critical element, just one word really, that will help **ALL** of us in this endeavor together as God's children. Will you start right now, this very day, to "**PRAY**" for the success of our **Gospel Meeting 2018** (James 5:16b)? Pray for brother **Price** that he will have good health, safe passage, and great boldness to lovingly preach God's Word. Pray for the friends, neighbors, relatives and associates, who **YOU** will invite to attend with you. As that old hymn says: "Pray all the time!" **David A. McCain**