

125th Anniversary Celebration

First Baptist Church of New Boston, Texas

Established in 1880 Rededicated in 2005

To the GLORY OF GOD!

1 Corinthians 10:31



Sunday, July 31, 2005

Fellowship Gathering 9:00 am in the Hospitality Room

Donuts and pastries, coffee, drinks will be served

Worship Celebration, 10:30 am, Sanctuary

Pre-Service music begins at 10:15 in the Sanctuary provided by the Music Ministry

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"
"Old Time Religion"
"Onward, Christian Soldiers"
"Blessed Assurance"
"Heaven Medley"
"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name"

Ringing of the Bell

"Majesty/How Great Thou Art"

Instrumentalists

Opening Prayer and Welcome

Bro. Ken

125th Anniversary Theme and Scripture

Billy Bob Birdwell

125th Anniversary Theme Chorus

"Give Glory to God"

Hymn #66

"To God Be the Glory"

Fellowship Chorus

"I Sing Praises"

"Look for Me Around the Throne"

Music Minister Quartet

Recognition of Former Staff

Recognition of Former Members Tribute to Our Membership

"Find Us Faithful" Men's Trio

Hymn #43 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

"Faithful I Will Be" Sanctuary Choir

"Shout to the Lord"

Hymn #4 "How Great Thou Art"

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" Shirley Brooks & Lynne Cox

"Written in Red" Sanctuary Choir directed by Paul Wakefield, Minister of Music, 1974 - 1986

125th Anniversary Message Dr. Frank Brooks
Pastor. 1971 - 1991

"HOW CAN WE GLORIFY GOD?"

1 Corinthians 10:31

Hymn of Invitation #342

"Just As I Am"

Recognitions and Blessing

125th Anniversary Banquet in the Fellowship Hall

The flowers in the Sanctuary are in loving memory of our parents, Randy & Mary Wortham and Leeman & Pearlena Rachel, from their families.



A Note from our Pastor...

Ken CoxOctober 1991 to Present

Welcome to the 125th anniversary celebration!! This event was set in motion several months ago by an observation by Travis Bryant, Minister of Music/Singles. He noticed the inscription on the bell in the courtyard indicated our church would be 125 years old in July, 2005. Discussions followed, a committee was formed, and today's worship service and fellowship are the result.

On the following pages is an interesting synopsis of church facts and figures. This brief history is incomplete without your recollections of other key events of the past, which I hope you will enjoy reliving today.

I enjoy listening to the "verbal history" of this church. The past is learned through comments over coffee, during visits, at funerals, and in Sunday School classes. There are remembered times of sacrifice when deacons personally guaranteed bank notes of the church. Outdoor baptismal services of throngs saved in summer revivals are recounted. There are recalled notes of humor when a pastor slid into a freshly-dug grave, or when the preacher got tongue-tied during the conclusion of a sermon. Gifted teachers are remembered along with business meetings when significant, humorous, or sad items were transacted. These memories comprise the wonderful human personality of the church.

Our members, called out of the world by our Savior, have written the history of this fellowship through dedication. Jesus has been pleased to dwell in the lives of these members and will continue to inhabit the testimony and purposes of our church in the years to come. I'm grateful that nineteen brave souls commenced this work in 1880. Countless others have done their part to continue the work until the present hour. Today we are celebrating something that only God could have accomplished through a committed, willing people.

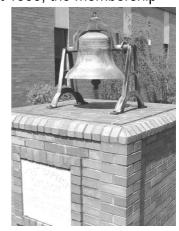
Your pastor, **Ken Cox**



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NEW BOSTON, TEXAS 125 YEARS OF HISTORY

On July 31, 1880 nineteen charter members met and organized the First Baptist Church in Old Boston, TX. For five years the church met in a one room frame building and experienced steady growth. In August 1885, the membership

voted to move the church to a location on the corner of Hwy 82 and Main Street in downtown New Boston and that the name be changed to First Baptist Church of New Boston. T.L. Fulbright was pastor and served until H.H. Echols was called in 1886. The church completed a frame building in 1887 with a bell tower (this bell is on display in the atrium of this church) and stained glass windows (windows believed to be from this church are being restored and are on display in this church). During these years church services were held only twice a month and lasted as long as four hours (this included a business meeting and dinner on the grounds). The new building was dedicated to the worship and service of God at one such meeting in the fall of 1887.



In 1889 Rev. J. B. Lumbley was called as pastor and the annual salary was raised from \$150.00 to \$350.00, with several poundings each year to supplement the salary. Rev. Lumbley served the church full-time until 1893. He was asked to remain as pastor but could not continue to serve and Rev. M.A Gunter was called and pastored the church until 1896.



During Rev. Gunter's tenure the local paper reported the baptism of 23 new members in a nearby pond on June 3, 1896 which was witnessed by a large crowd.

A Ladies Aid Society was organized in the parsonage on April 30, 1890. So far as is known, this is the first such women's organization in Bowie Association. Thirteen women met to plan and carry out mission projects both in the New Boston community and to support the mission endeavors throughout the state and nation. One of the main focuses of missions in the early days was to the Indians of Texas and Oklahoma. Other missions were added by the 1900's. The Ladies Aid Society later became the Women's Missionary Union and became part of a world wide mission organization, an auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

During the early years -- late 1880's to early 1900's -- the church was very strict on the conduct of its members and wielded great authority in disciplining those who failed to meet the standard expected of church members. In reading minutes of early church meetings, several incidences of action taken by the appointed committee to oversee such matters came to our attention. We thought it would be interesting to share a few of them so we can compare "then and now."

Dec.10, 1892 -- "Passed a resolution as follows: Resolved that this church will regard continual tippling (excessive drinking of alcohol) as a great evil and shall regard such conduct as sufficient cause for the expulsion of a member."

"Same was approved by the church which also resolved that this church regards attending dancing parties by church members and aiding and abetting in the dance be sufficient cause for the expulsion of members."

Action taken in 1893 against members in violation of above resolutions:

"The committee appointed to look into charges against a Brother, have satisfactory evidence of his being guilty of excessive drinking, cursing and other acts of gross immorality, and recommends that this church withdraw fellowship from him, which was done by unanimous vote."

"Charges made against a Sister for dancing have been investigated and found to be true and are sufficient for the committee to recommend that we withdraw fellowship, which was done by unanimous vote."

"After letters of admission and dismission were granted, the meeting was adjourned with peace and harmony prevailing." (A unique way to adjourn a business meeting!)

As the church grew, two Sunday School rooms were added to the existing building. A Parsonage was also completed in 1915 on Hwy 82 west of the church location and served as the pastor's home until a new Parsonage was completed in 1956 on the site. The need for more space led to starting new construction while Rev. M.R. Gaddis was pastor during the years of 1926-1929. A new auditorium was begun with plans that included an inside Baptistery, with the original building to serve as Sunday School space. The addition of this construction at approximately



\$22,000.00 was considered to be excessive indebtedness and the building was not completed. The church decided to revert to a half time church in order to pay off the debt.



After recovering from some of the indebtedness, Bro. John B. Bell was called in 193l as pastor and led the church until November 1935. During his tenure a young man, Joe Kelley, surrendered to the ministry and was licensed to preach by the First Baptist Church of New Boston. (Joe pastored a church in Houston for several years.)

Two memorable milestones from 1939: The church set the salary of the pastor at \$100.00 per month and the church voted to participate in the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention, setting aside every fifth Sunday's collection for this purpose. The church also voted to go on the Church Budget System for operating the business of the church and elected a Budget Committee at the business meeting held December 13, 1939.

Included in the minutes of the business meeting on May 15, 1940 is the record of approval of the first Daily Bible School (today - Vacation Bible School), to be held in July of 1940. There are no records to confirm it, but it is believed that every summer since then a Vacation Bible School has been a part of this church's vacation schedule.

The indebtedness of the church was paid in full and the auditorium was completed and the building completely furnished by 1940-1941. A community celebration and "dinner on the grounds" was held April 27, 1941. The ringing of the bell from the l887 building heralded the sunrise on this day of thanksgiving.

Rev. Leon Gorsline became the first full time pastor in ten years in 1939, and served the church until he resigned in 1942 to volunteer as a Chaplain in the United States Army. During these years a full schedule of Preaching, Graded Sunday School and BYPU training was begun. An interesting note concerning Rev. Gorsline's military service while in North Africa in 1943, he was granted permission by this church to receive converts and baptize them into the membership of First Baptist Church, New Boston, TX.

Following Rev. Gorsline's resignation, Rev. W. T. Bratton served as pastor until Rev. S. R. Malone was called in September 1944 and served as pastor through one of the largest growth periods of this church's history. Rev. Malone served until 1954.

With the location of Red River Army Depot nearby, the City of New Boston and the First Baptist Church both reflected rapid growth, to more than four times their pre-war population. The need for more space was met with the plan to build a new sanctuary and convert the older building to education space. A building fund was set up in 1945 to construct a modern

worship center with the latest seating, central heating and air conditioning and modern lighting throughout.

All programs of the church needed more space, but the children and bed babies came first. A completely furnished nursery and toddler area were set up in 1945 with plans to upgrade it when the new building was completed. A Primary Department was also begun where pre-school and young children were taught God's Word using the latest teaching materials.

By the year 1949-50, the church's programs included not only a completely graded Sunday School, Baptist Training Union, Church Choirs, Woman's Missionary Union, Baptist Brotherhood, but faithful teachers and a dedicated Board of Deacons.



When the Building Fund reached \$36,000.00, construction of a new sanctuary and remodeling of the older building was begun. The \$130,000.00 project was completed in April 1952 and was celebrated with a Community Wide Open House which registered more than 600 guests.

Rev. James C. Monroe was called as pastor by the church in Jan. 1955. He served until Nov. 1960. During his pastorate, in 1956, the frame house located one block west of the church on Hwy. 82, which had served as the parsonage since 1915, was torn down and a new brick home was constructed on the site. A pounding and open house welcomed the pastor to the new home. During Rev. Monroe's ministry here, Woodrow Priest and Archie Shockley surrendered to preach.

Bro. Joe Denton was called as pastor in Dec. 1960 and began his ministry at First Baptist Church in Jan. 1961. Under Bro. Denton's leadership the membership continued to increase and soon more space was needed. In 1960 the building to the west of the church, known as the Tyson building, was purchased and completely remodeled to house the Children's Department. In 1961 the church called its first full time Music and Education

Director. While Bro. Denton was pastor, Joe Srygley, John Crain and Wesley Pearson surrendered to the preaching ministry.

The church set up its first library in Jan. 1965 and marked the 85th Anniversary of the church on Oct. 10, 1965 with a barbeque "dinner on the grounds". About 500 people attended the day of thanksgiving for God's continued blessings. Rev. Denton resigned in Sept 1966 and Bro. Edwin Johnson was called in March 1967 and served as pastor until May 1971. With future needs of the church in mind, and the possibility of relocating the entire church plant to a larger area, the church purchased 6.14 acres of land on Hwy 8, South in 1969. A mission was started in a small frame building on Lindsey St. in 1967, and was named the Oak Terrace Mission. The frame building was replaced by a brick structure in 1976, and not only housed the Oak Terrace Mission but developed a ministry to senior citizens, including a daily nutrition program. This ministry has been continued to today and weekly Worship services and Sunday School are a regular part of the program of this mission.

Dr. Frank Brooks led the church for the next twenty years. He was called as pastor in Aug. 1971 and served until his resignation to become Bowie Baptist Association Executive Director of Missions in 1991. Many and varied are the events of the next twenty years: An additional 10.59 acres of land was purchased in 1975 and excitement grew with the possibility of moving the entire plant to the new



location in the near future; Ground was broken for the First Phase (2I,585 sq. ft.) of the facility on July 8,1979. Adequate parking space and driveways (144,446 sq. ft.) were also planned at a cost of \$1,000,900.00. Phase One included a temporary auditorium (Sanctuary), Bible Study Classrooms, Office Space, Kitchen, Nursery Facilities and Children's rooms.

After almost a century at the downtown location, the move was completed to the new address on McCoy Blvd., South on Sunday, Dec. 14, 1980 when the first worship service was held in the temporary sanctuary, known today as the Fellowship Hall. Still in need of Sunday School space, two portable buildings were constructed on the west side of the building in 1986 to meet that need.



With continued growth and a successful stewardship campaign, the Second Phase of construction began in Oct. 1987. This phase included a beautiful and modern Sanctuary, Music Suite, Bride's Room, Chapel and Office Complex at a cost of \$1,200,000.00. The first worship service in the new Sanctuary was Apr.23, 1989. Homecoming and Dedication of this new facility

was on May 20-21, 1989. Dr. Brooks' dedication to his call to First Baptist Church and the vision God had given him for the future of this church, made that vision a reality.

Dr. Ken Cox was called to pastor the church in Nov. 1991 and is still serving in that capacity under God's leadership. Since 1991 renovations have been made to enlarge Sunday School space in the Adult Department, the Children's Department and the addition of rooms at one end of the Fellowship Hall to fill the need for Mission Education space.

A ground breaking ceremony for the Third Phase of the building program was held May 25, 1997 which included a two story children and youth wing, and an enlarged Library. Improvements to existing parking lots were also completed in this building phase. The new wing was completed in April 1998 at a cost of \$813,188.00. The north parking lot was also improved and resurfaced in 1998 and other education space was renovated in the adult department.



An enlarged program in the last few years includes a Bus Ministry, organization of new classes, improvements in the nursery and pre-school department, Children, Youth, Singles and Adult Ministries, Education and Outreach emphasis, Royal Ambassador, Baptist Men, Mission Friends and Girls Auxiliary mission organizations growth, a live Weekly Radio broadcast and a visitation-outreach ministry. First Baptist Church has just completed a Missionary House and plans to have a family occupying it very soon. Missionaries will live in the Missionary House while home on furlough from the Mission Field.



Under the leadership of our Pastor, Dr. Ken Cox, an outstanding staff leads in the various ministries of this church: Rick Rothwell, Youth Minister and Children's Education; Travis Bryant, Music and Singles and Terry Hughes, Adult Education and Outreach. Other staff includes Music Accompanists Shirley Brooks and Lynne Cox; Secretaries Maxine Torian and Dot Rosser, Nursery Coordinator Julie Rothwell and Custodian Paul Wakefield.

It is impossible in writing 125 years of history to pay homage to all who served faithfully in helping First Baptist Church survive the lean years – from those who trimmed the lamp wicks and built fires in the winters of 1880-1920 - to those who sacrificed to pay the church indebtedness during the depression years of 1929-1939. It is equally important to remember all who supported the various building programs by serving on committees or giving sacrificially to the ministry of the church.

No church history would be complete if mention was not made, giving thanks, for all the faithful workers through the ages who cared for our babies, taught our children, youth and adults, served on committees or as Deacons, visited the sick, helped the needy and prayed and attended faithfully.—Through 125 years God supplied all our needs and we claim the promise in His Word in Philippians 4:19-20 to guide us as we continue the history of this great church.

"And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever, Amen."





The Current Pastoral Staff

Ken and Lynne Cox moved to New Boston in November, 1991, when Ken became Pastor of First Baptist Church and Oak Terrace Mission. Ken and Lynne have five children: Amanda, Brooks, Rachel, Clara and Casey. He attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and received the Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry Degrees. Prior to beginning their family, Lynne attended Southwestern's School of Church Music. Prior to serving in the pastorate, Ken worked as a Certified Public Accountant. He has served three other Texas Baptist churches.





Terry Hughes is the newest addition to our staff, coming on board in November of 2004. He serves as Minister of Adult Education and Outreach. Terry received a Bachelor of Science in Education from Memphis State University and a Master of Arts in Religious Education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Terry and his wife, Christy, have one daughter, Grace. Prior to coming to First Baptist, Terry served various roles at churches in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

Travis Bryant joined the staff in August of 1996 and serves as Minister of Music and Singles. He served as Minister of Music and Senior Adults at First Baptist Church, Nocona, before coming to our church. Travis was Band Director at Comanche High School and Paducah High School. He has a Bachelor of Music Degree from Wayland Baptist University and Master of Music Degree from East Texas State University. Travis and Cathy have two sons, Josh and Jase.





Rick Rothwell joined the staff of our church in June of 1995 and serves as Minister of Youth and Education. He received a Bachelor of Arts, Religious Education, from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Oklahoma, and a Master of Divinity, with Biblical Languages, from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Rick and Julie have two daughters, Anna and Sara. Prior to coming to New Boston, Rick served as Minister of Youth at First Baptist Church, Terrell.



PASTORS

R. B. Pender

Various visiting ministers

T. L. Fulbright

H. H. Echols

J. B. Lumbley

M. A. Gunter

T. L. Fulbright

J. E. McClurkin

J. M. Mizell

H. E. Summers

R. J. Naney

Rev. Gibson

Rev. Clifton

W. J. Simmons

E. B. Black

W. E. Wright

M. R. Gaddis

Rev. Shelton

J. B. Bell

Fred Goodman

Leon Gorsline

W. T. Bratton

S. R. Malone

James C. Monroe

Joe Denton

Edwin Johnson

Frank Brooks, Jr.

Ken Cox, Jr.

July 1880 to July 1881

1881 - 1885

November 1885 to May 1886

June 1886 to December 1889

November 1889 to February 1893

December 1893 to September 1896

February 1897 to May 1898

June 1898 to August 1906

July 1906 to July 1910

July 1910 to May 1915

June 1915 to 1920

Less than a year

Less than a year

Served about two years

Served about two years

Less than a year

1926 to 1929

March 1930 to August 1931

December 1931 to November 1935

February 1936 to 1939

August 1939 to November 1942

1943 to June 1944

September 1944 to 1954

January 1955 to November 1960

December 1960 to September 1966

March 1967 to May 1971

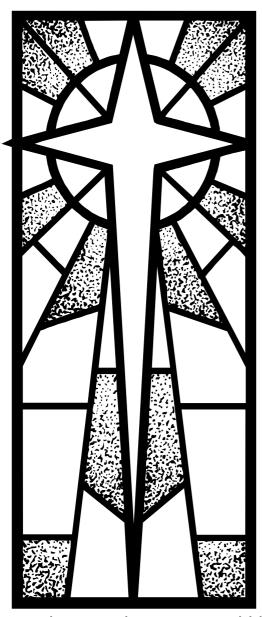
August 1971 to May 1991

October 1991 to present

OTHER MINISTERIAL STAFF

Bob Murray	Minister of Music/Education	1961 - 1963
Doug Turner	Minster of Music/Education	1963 - 1964
Jim Davis	Minister of Music/Education	1965 - 1966
Don Gray	Minister of Music/Education	1967 - 1969
Larry Talbert	Minister of Music/Education	1969 - 1974
Oris Smith	Interim	
Paul Wakefield	Minister of Music/Education	1974 - 1986
Byron Kirkpatrick	Minister of Youth	1982 - 1985
Joel Allen	Minister of Music	1986 - 1987
Monty Pierce	Associate Pastor of Education/Youth	1986 - 1991
Kenny McKay	Minister of Music/Outreach	1987 - 1995
Mike Pickop	Minister of Youth/Education	1992 - 1994
Rick Rothwell	Minister of Youth	1995 to present
Travis Bryant	Minister of Music/Singles	1996 to present
Terry Hughes	Minister of Adult Education/Outreach	2004 to present

ABOUT THE STAINED GLASS WINDOW PROJECT



Part of the celebration of our present is remembering our past and preserving of that for remnants past generations. The restoration of three stained glass windows from the original building of 1880 is part of the 125th Anniversary Celebration planned for our church July 31, 2005. This date was chosen when it was brought to the attention of the planning committee that the date July 31, 1880 was inscribed on the bell located in the atrium of our present church and known to have been in the bell tower of the church constructed in Old Boston, Texas in 1880. This building was moved from Old Boston to a location in New Boston, Texas in 1885. So far as is known, the bell and the stained glass windows are the only artifacts from the small white frame building which sat on the corner of Hwy. 82 and Main Street. Additions were made as the church membership grew, but a new brick building was not completed until 1927.

When construction began on the new building, the stained glass windows were to be discarded, but H. N. Kelley wanted them preserved and provided storage for them

until proper disposition could be made. The windows remained in the care of the Kelley Family for many years. The windows were finally in the custody of Lonnie ("Scooter") Kelley who constantly encouraged restoring the windows for display in the church. The Anniversary Planning Committee voted to restore the windows as a project commemorating our 125th Anniversary and paying homage to the nineteen charter members who founded our church in July, 1880.

These windows are currently being restored and will be displayed in the Vestibule.



125th Anniversary Committee Members

Evelyn Wheeler, Co-Chair

Margie Lynch, Co-Chair

Billy Bob Birdwell David Daniel Jetty Duffer Maxine Torian Dick Waldrep Dot Rosser Ken Cox Rick Rothwell Terry Hughes Travis Bryant

125[™] ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Commemorative
Plates - \$20
Proceeds to the
Youth Trip
Scholarship Fund



Commemorative Coffee Mugs - \$5 Proceeds to the Singles Mission Trip to the Missionary Learning Center, Richmond, VA

Also available in limited supply:

Youth Cook Books - \$10

Sanctuary Choir CD and Cassette - \$10 "Our Favorite Anthems"



"HOW CAN WE GLORIFY GOD?"

125th Anniversary Message Sunday, July 31, 2005 Dr. Frank Brooks

1 Corinthians 10:31.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."

This sermon's introduction began 125 years ago and continues to be written. It is the story of people who acted with courage, commitment, sacrifice, love and dedication to form a church and keep it going for the glory of God. This weekend we celebrate God and honor the memory of those who contributed much to make this church what it is. Those people sought to glorify God and we should continue that same commitment. We know that what glorified God in the past glorifies Him now because God does not change. (Cf. James 1:17 and Malachi 3:6)

However, what does it mean to "do all for the glory of God?" God's glory is self-sustaining and does not depend upon anything we humans do or fail to do. "Glory' in 1 Corinthians 10:31 translates a Greek word which means "dignity," "honor," "praise," or "worship." So "glorifying God" must refer to what we experience in our innermost beings regarding God. So whatever we think or do, if it honors God in our hearts and influences others to honor God in their hearts, then it is for His glory. Three truths, applicable to all generations, are essential if we are to accomplish this.

REAWAKEN TO THE WONDER OF GOD

- 1. This comes as we make time to contemplate God and what He has revealed to us about Himself. We are living too fast and furiously. We need to "be still and know" that He is God.
- 2. We also need to be sure we have God with us as we serve.

REDISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD

God reveals His will to us primarily through the Bible illuminated by the Holy Spirit. Here are some of the things the Bible reveals about how we may glorify God.

- 1. Rely on Him and His promises. Romans 4:20; "Yet he [Abraham] did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God."
- 2. Pray for one another. 2 Thessalonians 1:12; "We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him..."
- 3. Bear fruit. John 15:8; "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." Philippians 1:11; "Filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God." Matthew 5:16; "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." 1 Peter 2:12; "Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us."
- 4. Obey God. 2 Corinthians 9:13; "Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." John 17:4; "I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do."

RESOLVE TO DO THE WORK OF GOD

- 1. Actually, God does the work; we simply allow Him to work through us by being available and useable.
- 2. Useable availability comes through obedience as we yield our wills to God's will.

Laid on thine altar, O my Lord, Divine,
Accept my gift this day, for Jesus' sake;
I have no jewels to adorn thy shrine,
No world-famed sacrifice to make;
And here I bring within my trembling hands
This will of mine, a thing that seemeth small;
Yet thou alone canst understand
That when I yield Thee this, I yield Thee all!

-- James S. Hewet.