



September 13, 2020

**Sunday
Bible Classes**

www.facebook.com/swcocada
www.swcocada.com

**Morning Worship
10:00 a.m.**

www.facebook.com/swcocada
www.swcocada.com

**Tuesday
Ladies Bible Class:
CANCELLED**

Wednesday
www.facebook.com/swcocada
www.swcocada.com

Elders
Jeff Butler
Scott Estes
Greg Hatton
David Hendricks
Richard Howard
Brent Lowe
Butch Platt

Ministers
Brian Lewis
David Dirrim
Thorin Turner
Kyle Wilson

Secretary
Dana Chilcoat

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The Southwesterner

Spiritual Heirlooms: Part 2

In a time where people talk about leaving the church or what is wrong with the church, it is good to remember there are many good things about the church. This week I am sharing part 2 of an article about some of those good things by Dan Bouchelle of Missions Resource Network. Some of his thoughts are challenging but worthy of our consideration. You can find the first four things he mentions in last week's bulletin. - Brian

For over 30 years, I've been hearing that Churches of Christ have an identity crisis. I've heard endless self-critiques. I've added to them myself. We've explored our weaknesses and their origins obsessively. It is not hard to find defenders or critics of our heritage. But wise self-awareness - that is more elusive. While I don't think I am naïve about the flaws of my spiritual ancestry, I believe it is important to affirm the good that has been passed down to us. Here are some heirlooms from my heritage in Churches of Christ for which I am thankful and that I wish to preserve regardless of what comes next.

- **Simplicity:** Because of our bias for New Testament models and concerns about the corruption that develops over time, Churches of Christ have valued simplicity. This can be abused, but it has enabled the church to travel light with less cultural baggage. It doesn't take much for us to "have church." We have not fully utilized this value and have promoted many culturally derived traditions, nonetheless. But our bias towards simple church has the capacity to serve us well moving forward.
- **Separating kingdom from nation:** You won't likely see any flags up front in any gathering. While most congregations tend to share similar political views, Churches of Christ have been leery of overt nationalism and have avoided promoting partisan politics in our gatherings. This matters more and more to me with each passing year.

The following two traits have been more rhetorical than actual in the churches I have known.

- **Unity of Believers:** Churches of Christ are products of a movement that began with a concern over division in the church. We have affirmed there is only one church comprised of all God's children, known completely only to God. We have rejected denominationalism as out of step with God's plan for the church. While our practices ironically led to needless and disastrous divisions over what constituted a "faithful" church (for which we must repent), underlying all of the unfortunate debates was a belief that there is only one church which should be united in Christ. We will never achieve uniformity of practice, but the value of the greater unity of God's people, and a passion for oneness among believers, needs to be reclaimed as we overcome sectarianism.
- **Restoration:** Churches of Christ have preferred the word "restoration" to "reformation." In our view, the church needed more than modest reform. It needed a complete overhaul according to God's vision. In our better moments, we claimed that every generation needs to start with God's purpose and vision for the church and not just make minor modifications to what we have inherited. While the early leaders of our movement looked backward too naively and assumed a perfect early church that never existed, their impulse to recover God's ideal was a good one. This instinct is becoming particularly important as we move deeper into a post-Christian society. In the future, we need to look to God's purposes for the culmination of history more than just the recovery of a pattern from the first century. But restoring God's vision for the church is still a healthy impulse.

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CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PLAN UPDATES

There are now three ways you can join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 10:00.

- Mask-optional service in the auditorium
- Mask-required service (live on video) in the fellowship building
- Live streamed service online

On Wednesdays we will meet at 7 pm for a Bible class in the auditorium. This lesson will also be live streamed. There will be no other classes.

All Bible classes except the teen class are available at [facebook.com/swcocada](https://www.facebook.com/swcocada) or [youtube.com/swcocada](https://www.youtube.com/swcocada).

Sunday: Baby Bible Class, Preschool Bible Class, Kids Bible Class, Adult Bible Class - Study of Luke taught by Jeff Butler
Facebook Live Young Adult Class - David Dirrim
Youth Group Zoom Night Bible Study - Brian Lewis

Wednesday: Auditorium Class at 7:00 p.m.

Servers Scheduled for 10 am Sunday, September 13th:

Song Leader - Caleb Estes
Opening Prayer - Jeff Butler
Closing Prayer - Brent Lowe
Communion Thoughts - Kyle Wilson
Attendance Counting - Chuck Love
Safety Team Walk - Kevin Graham & Hunter Nickell
Safety Team Camera - Russell Neill
Service Coordinator - Todd Martin
Sound Booth - Cody Frye & Jag Frye
Elder of the Month - Greg Hatton

On Wednesdays we will have a new evening class theme: **Passages That Give Courage and Hope.** We will have various speakers from Southwest including our ministers, elders and some others who will be presenting thoughts from passages that are significant to them. These lessons will continue to be live in the auditorium as well as online. Please join us as we all seek to grow together in Christ.

Family News & Updates

Steve Iorga is battling the COVID virus and has been admitted to Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City with pneumonia in both lungs. Please pray for his recovery and peace of mind for the rest of his family during this time.

Bill Hart is in Integris Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City for treatment and may be having a pace maker put in. Please keep him in your prayers.

Joan Elliott's newborn great-great nephew, Baby Henry, was born two weeks ago today. He has been placed on a heart-lung machine until surgery can be performed. Prayers are much needed for Baby Henry, as well as his parents and the doctors and nurses who are caring for him.

Jessica Lee, Glenn and Sue Ogle's granddaughter, had major surgery on Tuesday in Oklahoma City. She is doing well but will have a long recovery and the family asks that we continue to remember her in your prayers.

Our sympathy goes out to Larry Maxwell on the passing of his younger sister, Debra Maxwell, who passed away Wednesday afternoon. Her funeral service will be Monday at 10am at the Allen church of Christ. Please keep Larry in your prayers.

Youth and Family Meeting: There will be a youth and family meeting Sunday evening at 6 pm in the fellowship building. Bring your own dinner. We will be discussing upcoming events and ministry plans. Chalk drawings and singing to follow.

The Yellow House will pass out food on Monday, September 21st from 8-10 am. Workers this month are: Ted and Bobbie Rutherford, Glenda Lillard, Chris Kaiser, Lynnette Bryant, Madonna Tidwell, and Wendell and Judy Voto.

Meals On Wheels week is September 21st - 25th.

EEM: Ben Mereness from Eastern European Missions will be speaking to us on Wednesday, September 23rd.

Please Continue to Pray For: Connie McKinney, Jessica Lee, Katie Meaders, Patsy Hill, Verna Cannon, Johnnie Sing, Alyene Sims, Joe Don Harrison, Joe Medlock, Jim Begin, Jeannie Wingard, Mildred West, Cherry Bennett, Shirley Gatewood, Shirley Perry, Sherry Price, Pattie Mitchell, Debbie Harber, Donna Love, Thayne Consequellos, Joy Crowell, Lewis & Lea Crain, Warner Fleck, Jessie Glover, Randy Wilson, Paul & Shirley Love, Steve, Jana & Stacey Stewart, & Bill Scott.



Week of September 6th
\$8,496
Weekly Budget
\$12,821
[swcocada.com/giving](https://www.swcocada.com/giving)

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

13 Haivyn Chilcoat
14 Sheri Hayes
15 Daimon Alexander, Sue Hamilton,
Becky Myers, Alan Simpson
16 Matthew Conley, John Eck, (A) Tyler
& Lindsay Jones
17 Richard Howard, Maddux Hudson
18 Thorin Turner
19 Marilyn Balch

Pray For Our Service Men:

Daniel Hataway, Clay Patterson,
Michale Perry, Chanse Alexander,
Dawson Hendricks, Frank Holsapple
Jr., & Jonathon Wingard.

If you have a family member or know of someone you would like to add to our prayer list let the office know.