

EITHER/OR OR BOTH/AND

Many times in life we assume there is a dichotomy. When presented with two options, it has to be one or the other. It's an either/or situation. Sometimes we do not ask whether the answer might be both/and instead. In church life, we can have that same struggle about the focus of the ministry we do. Is our call to spread the gospel or to serve others? The answer is yes. In the life of Jesus, we see Him do both. Moreover, we see how his love and compassion for people with physical needs often opens the door to their spiritual needs. Timothy Keller writes in his book, *Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City*, about how service to others demonstrates the gospel.

"Ultimately, it is impossible to separate word and deed ministry because human beings are integrated wholes — body and soul. It is both natural and necessary that ministers of mercy also minister the Word while they are in the process of meeting human needs, and that communicators of the gospel also show compassion with regard to the material needs of the people they are trying to reach. An integrative ministry means weaving together word and deed ministry as much as possible. When Jesus raised the dead son of the widow of Nain, he spoke words of comfort (Luke 7:13). After he healed the blind man, he returned with a gospel charge (John 9:35 – 38). These go hand in hand. In Acts 2, explosive growth in numbers (v. 41) leads to radical sharing with the needy (vv. 44 – 45). In Acts 4, economic sharing by people inside the church accompanied the preaching of the resurrection outside the church with great power (vv. 32 – 35). The practical actions of Christians on behalf of people in need demonstrated the truth and power of the gospel."

Jesus cared deeply about each person He encountered. He also knew that many of them would not be forever changed. We do not read about those fed by the loaves and fishes or lepers who were cleansed following Him by the thousands all the way to His last week in Jerusalem. He served them anyway. Their response was not the criteria He used to decide who to serve. His love was. As people who are loved by Him, we serve because of Him.

- Brian

"Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." - 1 Peter 4:9-10

September 17, 2023



Elders

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

Ministers

Brian Lewis
David Dirrim
Thorin Turner
Kyle Wilson

Secretary

Dana Chilcoat

Family Matters

Chuck Love will be having a heart cath procedure on October 2nd at the Oklahoma Heart Hospital in Oklahoma City. Please keep him in your prayers.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Patty Grissom. Patty passed away last Saturday. She was the daughter of Frank and Clara White. Her services were held Thursday at Criswell Funeral Home. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Congratulations goes out to the proud new grandparents, Russell and Kristin Neill, on the birth of their new baby granddaughter, Charlotte Rose Neill. She was born September 8th to Jacob and Elena Neill and weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20 inches long.

We, along with our families, lovingly invite you to the wedding of Dalee Deanna Barrick and James Tanner Weston on <u>September 29th</u> at 6:30pm at the Lazy A Ranch in Allen, OK. Reception to follow.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."

Please continue to pray for...

Mary Barrett, Nash Gilliam, Paula Hatton, Lea <u>Crain,</u> Bettv Gerth, Barbara Hataway, Barbara Cannon, Sherry Price, Floyd Kaiser, Dona Pippen, Barbara Lewis, Randy Hall, Ronald Trent, Jesse Nickell, Sue Silkey, Shirley Love, Gerald Joliff, Katie Meaders, Johnnie Sing, Cherry Bennett, Shirley Perry, Pattie Mitchell, Debbie Harber, Warner Fleck, Randy Wilson. Thayne Consequellos, and Steve, Jana & Stacey Stewart.

Happenings

Church Events & Announcements

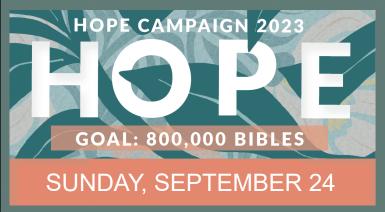
There are Power for Today study booklets for October - December in the foyer at the Welcome Center for anyone who would like one.

We will be taking new member directory photos after morning services on <u>September 24th</u> in the fellowship building. This is also an opportunity for newly married couples, as well as longtime members who missed their photo opportunity last year. For questions, see Garett Hatton.

Ladies Prayer Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 4pm. They will meet next on **September 24th**.

"The Gathering" A Church of Christ Young Adults Retreat for graduated seniors (18) - age 30 will be October 20th - 22nd. If you are interested in attending please call the office for more information.

Allen Phillips, whom we support in Glenrothes, Scotland, will be with us <u>September 22nd - 24th</u>. He will be giving a report on the work there Sunday evening. If you would like to host Allen for a meal please sign up on the sheet at the Welcome Center.



Please make your **check** out to **SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST & memo the check as "EEM**". If you donate **online**, please indicate that it is for **EEM**.



Helpers this month are: Bill Young, Jenni Trekell, Nancy Whitley, Paula Sturdevant, Don & Pam Kite, Sharon Estes, Donna Duncan and Carolyn Pults.



September at a Glance

03 Class Promotion, You. Meal/Fel.

04 Labor Day (Office Closed)

05 Ladies Bible Class Begins

06 Wednesday Nt. for the Master, Men's Class Begins

Wich's Class Degins

08-10 Move Conference (OKC)

10 Ladies Prayer Group, Golden Doers Lunch, Ice Cream Supper

12 Widower's Breakfast

14 College Meal/Devo (Hensley)

17 AWTG (Blanchard)

21 College Meal/Devo (Lampkin)

24 EEM Million \$ Sunday, Ladies Prayer Group, Youth Meal/Fellowship

25 Yellow House

28 College Meal/Devo



TEENS AND YOUTH

September 17th

AWTG at Blanchard

September 24th

Youth Meal & Fellowship



September 21st

College Meal & Devo at SBC (Hosted by the Lampkin's)

September 28th

College Meal & Devo at the Lowe's



09/17 Richard Howard, Maddux Hudson 09/18 Alex Hasley, Jeffrey Morris, Thorin Turner 09/20 Donna Love 09/23 Josh Nail



09/19 Gary & Vicki Kelley



PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

Heaven Tamayo
Josh Higginbottom
Frank Holsapple Jr.
Clay Patterson
Michale Perry
Clay Wilson Jr.



Jet McCoy Auditorium

Jeff Butler

1st Corinthians

Old Kitchen Classroom

David Dirrim

Lessons From the Parables

SW Corner Classroom

College Group

Kyle Wilson

Library

Youth Group (7th-12th Grades)

Thorin Turner

Youth Classroom

Elementary (K-2nd & 3rd-6th)

North Hall Classrooms

Preschool (2 Year Old & 3-4 Year Old)

South Hall Classrooms

Baby Class (Under 2 Years Old)

For the Record: 09/10/2023

Bible Study 185
AM Assembly 272
PM Assembly 139
Wednesday PM 162

Contributions \$15,265

Budget \$13,779

SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday AM:

Song Leader: Casey Farrar
Opening Prayer: Jack Cadenhead
Closing Prayer: Ried Duncan
Scripture Reading: Kerry White
Lord's Supper Thoughts: Butch Platt

Communion: James Bryant, Joe Dirrim, Matthew Conley, Tim Hensley, Chuck Love, Hunter Nickell, Ronnie Osborn,

Trevin Vass

Alternate Communion: Tuker Dennis & John Eck Balcony Communion: Steve Black & Don Kite

Attendance Counter: Trever Manuel
Safety Team Walk **AM/PM**: Caleb Estes
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM**: Russell Neill

Coordinator **AM/PM/Wed**: Beau Griffin & Jared Griffin Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed**: Jag Frye & Jared Hudson

Sunday PM:

Song Leader: Brad Trekell Opening Prayer: Drew Adams Closing Prayer: Justin Lane Attendance Counter: Keith Nail

Communion: Trent Barrett & Drew Graham

Wednesday PM:

Song Leader: Trenton Hensley

Announcements/Opening Prayer: Cody Frye

Closing Prayer: Mark Clark 8 Minute Devotional: David Dirrim Attendance Counting: Beau Griffin Safety Team Walk: Kyle Wilson Safety Team Camera: Jared Griffin

September Contribution Counters:

Bill Young, Chuck Love, James Byers, Ried Duncan

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Lord Reign in Me

Scripture Reading: Colossians 4:5-6

Prayer

All in All

How Can I Keep From Singing

Worthy Is the Lamb

Thoughts From the Cross: Butch Platt

Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

Lord's Supper

Pierce My Ear

Contribution

Days of Elijah

A.M. Lesson: Serving

Jesus Is Lord

Announcements

A Common Love

Prayer

P.M. Lesson: EEM Report

An elder and his wife are available in the classroom of the middle hallway of the building during each invitation.

Shepherd for September: Richard Howard Supporting Shepherd & Wife: Greg & Diana Hatton

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ONLINE GIVING



Sunday

Bible Classes - 9:00 a.m.

Morning Worship - 10:00 a.m.

Evening Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Worship & Classes Online facebook.com/swcocada

youtube.com/swcocada









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