

The Southwesterner

VOLUME XLIX | NUMBER 4

THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION

This week Jet and I will finish our Wednesday night class series. I have mentioned to several people how much I have enjoyed teaching this class. Obviously some of the credit for that belongs to Jet, but I think there's another piece. I love good questions. There have been a lot of good and difficult questions throughout our study.

I am currently reading John Mark Comer's book, *Practicing the Way: Be With Jesus. Become Like Him. Do As He Did*. As someone who loves a good question, the author got my attention when I read the words, "The single most important question is..." Usually we reserve that description for the question asked during someone's confession of Christ before baptism. Comer writes to people who have already answered the question of who Jesus is, and they desire to be more like Him. It is in that context he asks this question:

Are we becoming more loving?

He has a point. It's a great question. He continues:

"Are we becoming more loving? Not, Are we becoming more biblically educated? Or practicing more spiritual disciplines? Or more involved in church? Those are all good things, but not the most important thing. If you want to chart your progress on the spirituality journey, test the quality of your closest relationships—namely, by love and the fruit of the Spirit. Would the people who know you best say you are becoming more loving, joyful, and at peace? More patient and less frustrated? Kinder, gentler, softening with time, and pervaded by goodness? Faithful, especially in hard times, and self-controlled? Are you growing in love not just for your friends and family but for your enemies? When you are hurt, wounded, and treated unjustly (as we all are), are you finding yourself increasingly able to emotionally release the bitterness, to absorb the pain and not give it back in kind? To pray for and even 'bless those who curse you'? [Luke 6:28] And is all this feeling more and more natural and less forced? More and more like this is just who you are? If not, then no matter how well you know the Bible, how many books you read, how many insights you amass, or how many practices you build into your Rule of Life, you're not on track."

Love is where the Bible we know, the disciplines we practice and the church involvement we value turn into action toward others. Let's all become more loving.

- Brian

January 28, 2024



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

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Gayle Johns will have knee replacement surgery on January 30th at Mercy Hospital Ada.

Leon Hughey's surgery went well and he is now in rehab at Mercy Hospital Ada. Visitors are welcome after 2pm each day.

Floyd and Margaret Kaiser are both having some heart issues at this time.

Our sympathy goes out to Shari Todd and her family on the passing of her brother, Bill Box, who passed away Wednesday. There will be a private family service held for him.

Our sympathy goes out to Linda Medlock and her family on the passing her husband, Joe Medlock, who passed away Wednesday at an Oklahoma City hospital. His graveside service will be held at 1pm Tuesday at Rosedale Cemetery.

Our sympathy goes out to Diane Morris on the passing of her mother, who passed away Wednesday.

Deacons & Ministers:

On **February 4th**, after morning services, the elders ask to meet with all deacons and ministers with their families in the fellowship building. Food will be provided.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Pray without ceasing."

Please continue to pray for...

Leon Hughey, Jessie Nickell, Myrtie Clarke, Mary Barrett, Nash Gilliam, Paula Hatton, Lea Crain, Betty Gerth, Barbara Hataway, Barbara Cannon, Sherry Price, Dona Phippen, Barbara Lewis, Randy Hall, Ronald Trent, 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

We are in need of a babies class teacher for the month of February. Please see Dusty Dennis if you can help.

We are looking for a handful of couples who would be interested in helping with our "Golden Doers" program. Please contact Tommy Vass if you are interested in serving in this area.

We are collecting money for gift cards for the church of Christ in Maui to use for assisting families displaced by the recent fire. If you would like to participate, please give your donation to an elder or Ried or Donna Duncan. **The deadline for donations is Sunday morning services, February 4th.**

Ladies Prayer Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 4pm. They will meet next on **January 28th**.

Deacons meeting Feb 4th –David H. note

There will be a breakfast for our Southwest widowers and single men on Tuesday, **February 6th**, in the fellowship building. Coffee will be ready at 7:30am and breakfast will be served at 8:00am. See Mark or Cindy Coleman for questions.

The Wednesday Night for the Master meal will be at 5:45pm on **February 7th** in the fellowship building.

The Golden Doers lunch will be Sunday, **February 11th**, in the fellowship building following our morning services for those 60 years and older.

Wedding Showers

All ladies are invited to a wedding shower for David Lewis and Paige Dewberry at 3pm on Sunday, January 28th, in the fellowship building.



January at a Glance

- 01 New Year's (Office Closed)
- 01-05 Meals On Wheels Week
- 02 SW Widower's Breakfast
- 07 AWTG at Westside
- 09 Ladies Bible Class Resumes
- 10 WNFM Meal
- 12-14 WinterQuest at Pettijohn
- 14 Golden Doers Lunch,
Ladies Prayers Group
- 17 Yellow House Pick Up Food
- 18 Col. Meal/Devo (R & M Smith)
- 21 Wilson Wedding Shower,
Youth Group Meal/Fellowship
- 22 Yellow House
- 25 College Meal/Devo (Conley)
- 28 Lewis Wedding Shower,
Ladies Pr Grp, Youth Meal/Fel



TEENS AND YOUTH

January 28th

Youth Meal & Fellowship

February 4th

Youth Meal & Fellowship



February 8th

College Meal & Devo
(Dusty & Clarie Dennis)

February 15th

College Meal & Devo at the SBC
(Scott & Sharon Estes)



- 01/28 Jack Cadenhead
- 01/29 Jake Nail
- 01/30 James Bryant
- 02/01 Brad Butler, Casey Farrar,
Beau Griffin
- 02/02 Carolyn Pults, Talon Vass
- 02/03 June Dixon



- 01/28 Daimon & Joey Alexander,
Dub & Loretta Borders
- 01/29 Wade & Ardith Sumpter,
Travis & Jeannie Wingard
- 02/01 Ken & Wanda Roper



**PRAY FOR OUR
SERVICE MEN & WOMEN**

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



Adults

Jason Vanlandingham

Auditorium

Jeff Butler

1st John

Room 100

David Dirrim

Lessons From the Parables

Room 111

College Group

Kyle Wilson

Room 107

Youth Group (7th-12th Grades)

Thorin Turner

Room 101

Elementary

5th - 6th grades: Room 104

2nd - 4th Grades: Room 102

K - 1st Grade: Room 105

Preschool

3's & 4's: Room 112

Toddlers: Room 114

Babies: Room 113

For the Record: 01/21/2024

Bible Study	186
AM Assembly	283
PM Assembly	—
Wednesday PM	186
Contributions	\$11,115
Budget	\$13,777

SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday AM:

Song Leader: Drew Adams
Opening Prayer: John Eck
Closing Prayer: Cody Frye
Scripture Reading: Jared Hudson
Lord's Supper Thoughts: TBA
Communion: James Bryant, Matthew Conley, Brad Butler,
Mark Clark, Tim Hensley, Will Lampkin, Justin Lane,
TBA
Alternate Communion: Brett Butler & Jet Frye
Balcony Communion: Don Kite & Hunter Nickell
Attendance Counter: Jag Frye
Safety Team Walk **AM/PM**: Bart Conley
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM**: Josh Nail
Coordinator **AM/PM/Wed**: Jared Griffin & Beau Griffin
Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed**: Casey Farrar & Bruce Huddleston
Welcome Desk Attendant (January): Clarie Dennis
Greeters (January): Cody & Tiffany Frye,
Sue Hamilton & Jan Manuel

Sunday PM:

Song Leader: Brad Trekell
Opening Prayer: Mark Coleman
Closing Prayer: Ried Duncan
Attendance Counter: Caleb Estes
Communion: Trent Barrett & Trevin Vass

Wednesday PM:

Song Leader: Kerry White
Announcements/Opening Prayer: Tyler Jones
Closing Prayer: Drew Adams
8 Minute Devotional: Kyle Wilson
Attendance Counting: Keith Nail
Safety Team Walk: KerVon James
Safety Team Camera: TBA

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome
Song
Scripture Reading: John 6:67-69
Prayer
Song
Song
Song
Thoughts From the Cross: TBA
Song
Lord's Supper
Song
Contribution
Song
A.M. Lesson: To Whom Shall We Go?
Song
Announcements
Song
Prayer
P.M. Lesson: Positivity

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

Shepherd for January: Greg Hatton

Supporting Shepherd & Wife: Jeff & Pam Butler

January Contribution Counters:

Bill Young, Chuck Love, Mark Clark

SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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.

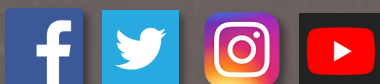
Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Worship & Classes Online

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youtube.com/swcocada



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