

The Southwesterner

VOLUME XLIX | NUMBER 5

WHEN YOU EXPERIENCE A SENSE OF DREAD

Jim Martin's Encouragement Note is always one of my favorite items to see in my email inbox. Jim is a former full-time preacher who now leads the Harding School of Theology, and he always has some helpful ideas to share. Each of us has likely felt the kind of dread he describes in the message below. In those times we especially need to remember our place with the one who "will not let us go." - Brian

Maybe you've said something like this: "I dread that conversation!" Dread is a combination of fear and imagination as you anticipate an event, a conversation, or a future situation. It was late Spring 1994. I had just learned I had a large tumor in my chest. The surgeon tried to assure me that it was probably benign but it needed to be removed. He explained that the surgery itself was rather invasive and it would probably take much of the summer to recuperate.

This, was my first surgery. Since birth, I had not spent a single night in the hospital. I was optimistic but scared. Yet, what was worse than either the procedure itself or the recovery, was the sense of dread that I lived with as I anticipated entering the hospital for surgery. This surgery occurred many years on June 17. It went well. After the surgery, I was taken back to my room, where I slept off and on, glancing at the television occasionally as the police chased O.J. Simpson's Bronco. I would like to say that after this moment, I never had a sense of dread about the future. Yet, the truth is, occasionally dread comes back to haunt.

Maybe you have experienced dread as you thought about questions like these:

- What if that meeting goes poorly?
- What if that hard conversation goes off the rails?
- What if the agreement isn't carried out like I hoped?
- What if this purchase is just too much?

Yet, consider Isaiah 40, where God attempts to reassure his people that he has not forgotten them during their exile in Babylon. He reminds them of his tenderness (vs 11): "He tends his flock like a shepherd. He gathers them in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those who have young."

This tender God gathers us in his arms and carries us close to his heart. Dread does not have to take over when we face hard moments. Rather, we can rest in the arms of the shepherd and know that he will not let us go.

February 4, 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:

Charles Cannon had a test run on Monday and will be having a procedure done Thursday in Oklahoma City.

Jared Hudson had surgery on Wednesday for a broken leg.

Gayle Johns' surgery went well on Tuesday. She was moved to rehab at Mercy Hospital Ada on Wednesday. She will be in rehab for 2 to 3 weeks.

Our sympathy goes out to the families of Kellie Hudson, Kerry White, and Amy White on the passing of their cousin, Kristi Riese-Bugher, who passed away Monday morning.

Dear Southwest family, Terrell and I wanted to thank everyone who came and celebrated us for our wedding shower. We want to especially thank all of the wonderful women who put together the shower for us. We are so blessed to be apart of such a loving church family. Terrell and Taylor Wilson

Happenings

Church Events & Announcements

There is a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk for those that would like to help with the Youth Thursday Night Bible Study and meal. See Thorin for questions.

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.**

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.

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.

Ladies Prayer Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 4pm. They will meet next on **February 11th**.

We rejoice and welcome to our family here at Southwest, Sarah Walker and Briana Bess. They both made the decision to be baptized last Sunday.

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.

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.



**All ladies are invited to a
baby shower for
Dakota & Kaleigh Blackwell
at 1pm on Sunday, February 11th,
at The Venue in Ada.
It's a boy!**



February at a Glance

- 04 Deacons & Ministers Meeting
- 04 AWTG at Yukon
- 06 SW Widower's Breakfast
- 07 WNFM Meal
- 08 College Meal/Devo (C Dennis)
- 11 Golden Doers, Ladies Pr. Grp,
Baby Blackwell Shower
- 15 College Meal/Devo (S. Estes)
- 16-18 T3 Youth Conference
- 19 President's Day (Off. Closed)
- 21 Yel. House Food Pick-Up
- 22 Col. Meal/Devo (Hensley)
- 23-25 Grief Seminar at SW
- 25 Ladies Prayer Group,
Youth Meal/Fellowship
- 26 Yellow House
- 29 College Meal/Devo
(Hendricks/Johns)



TEENS AND YOUTH

February 4th

AWTG at Yukon

February 11th

Youth Meal & Fellowship



February 8th

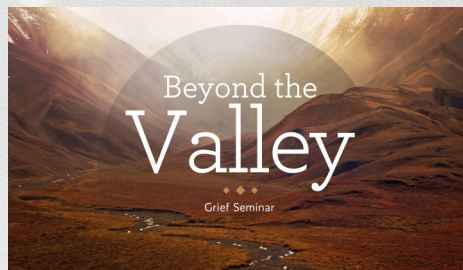
College Meal & Devo
(Dusty & Clarie Dennis)

February 15th

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



- 02/04 James Myers,
Leona Strong
- 02/06 Steve McWilliams
- 02/07 Baker Butler,
Ashley Dansby,
Camden Finley
- 02/09 Barbara Houston,
Grant Rowsey,
- 02/10 Maddie Dansby



Grief Seminar

At Southwest February 24-25

Maggi (Dansby) Tucker will travel to Brazil this summer to serve in a congregation for two weeks and be hosted by a church family. She will be reading through the gospel of Luke with local people as an to help them practice their English while introducing them to the story of Jesus. She welcomes your prayers for the effort. If you would like to help financially, you can send checks with her name in the memo line to Let's Start Talking.

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: 01/28/2024

Bible Study	195
AM Assembly	302
PM Assembly	135
Wednesday PM	131
Contributions	\$15,842
Budget	\$13,777

SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday AM:

Song Leader: Casey Farrar
Opening Prayer: David Dirrim
Closing Prayer: Dusty Dennis
Scripture Reading: Kerry White
Lord's Supper Thoughts: Butch Platt
Communion: Steve Black, Matthew Conley, Toker Dennis,
Joe Dirrim, Drew Graham, Chuck Love, Trever Manuel,
Butch Platt
Alternate Communion: Jack Cadenhead & Ronnie Osborn
Balcony Communion: Jared Griffin & Nathan Lewis
Attendance Counter: Jared Hudson
Safety Team Walk **AM/PM:** Kevin Graham
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM:** David Lewis
Coordinator **AM/PM/Wed:** Bart Conley & Beau Griffin
Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed:** Cody Frye & Garrett Hatton
Welcome Desk Attendant (February): TBA
Greeters (February): Tommy & Joni Vass,
Kerry & Jessica White

Sunday PM:

Song Leader: Drew Adams
Opening Prayer: Hunter Nickell
Closing Prayer: Alan Simpson
Attendance Counter: John Eck
Communion: Ried Duncan & Brent Lowe

Wednesday PM:

Song Leader: TBA
Announcements/Opening Prayer: Cody Frye
Closing Prayer: Drew Adams
8 Minute Devotional: Mark Coleman
Attendance Counting: Jag Frye
Safety Team Walk: Brad Butler
Safety Team Camera: Keith Nail

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

I Will Call Upon the Lord

Scripture Reading: John 8:31-32

Prayer

He Gave Me a Song

We Fall Down - Holy, Holy, Holy

As the Mountains Surround

Thoughts From the Cross: Butch Platt

Worthy Is the Lamb

Lord's Supper

Make Me a Servant

Contribution

Greatest Commands

A.M. Lesson: Whoever

In Need

Announcements

Walking in Sunlight

Prayer

P.M. Lesson: Missions Report

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

Shepherd for February: David Hendricks

Supporting Shepherd & Wife: Greg & Diana Hatton

February Contribution Counters:

Ronnie Osborn, Will Lampkin, Beau Griffin, Jared Griffin

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.

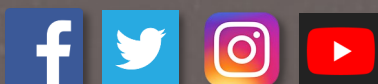
Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.

Worship & Classes Online

facebook.com/swcocada

youtube.com/swcocada



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