

The *Southwesterner*

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THE POWER OF JOYFUL SERVICE

I always enjoy Jim Martin's Encouragement Note. I don't know Jim well, but I have heard him speak at several lectureships and conferences. He serves with the joy he describes here. The sources of joy he mentions in the article below are things that God has blessed us all with. Let's strive to be more joyful in all that we do. - Brian

Have you known someone who genuinely served with joy? Such a person is perhaps what Paul might have had in mind when he wrote: "Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God without blemish in a crooked and perverse society. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky as you hold firmly to the word of life." (Philippians 2:14-15)

Those who refresh and encourage others will themselves be refreshed with joy. This isn't about putting on a happy face or always being positive. Rather, this is a person whose words and demeanor can even refresh others: "For I derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you." (Philemon 1:7)

What is the source of lasting joy? True, lasting joy for life and service comes from:

- An intimate relationship with Christ.
- A heart of gratitude.
- The empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

Joy can transform our roles whether we are a parent, a business person, or a coach working with high school students.

So how can leadership be joyful?

- Lead with humility. Whether you are guiding a family, coaching a team, or serving as a shepherd of a church you are always learning. Ideally, you have learned but you are also learning. Consequently, we lead with humility.
- Follow the Spirit of God. True leadership is not about focusing on your gifts and abilities. Rather, it is about leading others to follow our God who goes before us (Exodus 6:1).

December 8, 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

Glendel Hatton is in Mercy Hospital Ada being evaluated for a possible small heart attack and a UTI. Please keep him in your prayers.

Shelley Meaders will be having knee replacement surgery on Tuesday at Mercy Hospital Ada. Please keep her in your prayers.

Joe Dirrim went forward last Sunday asking for prayers with some struggles that he is having. Please keep him in your prayers.

A Big Thanks to Everyone that helped or was involved in any way with the Thanksgiving boxes or the Yellow House last month. Thank You, Chuck Love

Remembering those in our congregation:

Please remember in prayer those that have upcoming surgeries soon:

Susan Pickle - December 9th & 19th

Shelley Meaders - December 10th

Glenda Cross - December 18th

Mary Shirey - January 2nd

Also, please remember in prayer those that have lost loved ones recently, those on the "Pray without ceasing" list, and those that have been mentioned in our bulletins throughout November and December.

1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Pray without ceasing."

Please continue to pray for...

Glenda King, Lea Crain, Arles Wells, Pat Morgan, Jana & Stacey Stewart, Barbara Cannon, Ken & Wanda Roper, Myrtle Clarke, Nash Gilliam, Betty Gerth, Barbara Hataway, Sherry Price, Dona Phippen, Barbara Lewis, Randy Hall, Ronald Trent, Sue Silkey, Shirley Love, Katie Meaders, Johnnie Sing, Cherry Bennett, Shirley Perry, Pattie Mitchell, Debbie Harber, Warner Fleck, Randy Wilson and Thayne Consequellos.

Happenings

Church Events & Announcements

The Ladies Prayer Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 4pm. They will meet next on **December 8th**.

The last class for the Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Class will be on **December 17th**. They will start the class back up on **January 7th**.

The Yellow House will hand out food this month on **Friday, December 20th**, from 8am - 10am. Helpers this month are: Scott Estes, Bill Young, Chuck Love, Tommy Myers, Donna Duncan, James Bryant, Janna Byrd, and Don Kite. **The food will be picked up and sacked on the morning of Wednesday, December 18th**. See **Chuck Love** if you are unable to help.

The church office will be closed on **December 24th - 25th** for Christmas and **January 1st** for New Year's Day. **There will not be a bulletin on Sunday, December 29th**.



The Golden Doers lunch will be Sunday, **December 15th**, in the fellowship building following our morning services. If you want to participate in the "Dirty Santa" gift exchange; men bring a man's \$10 gift and women bring a woman's \$10 gift. If you are 60 years or older, please come join us!

18 UPCOMING EVENTS

December at a Glance

- 01 Youth Meal/Fellowship
- 03 Widower's Breakfast
- 04 WNFM Meal
- 05 College Meal/Devo (Hatton),
Youth Meal/Fellowship
- 06 Christmas Paint Party
- 07 Pancakes with Santa
- 08 AWTG at Chickasha,
Ladies Prayer Group
- 12 College Meal/Devo (Qualls),
- 15 Golden Doers, Youth Meal/Fell.
- 17 Last Tues. Ladies Class for 2024
- 20 Yellow House
- 22 Ladies Pr. Grp, Youth Meal/Fell.
- 24-25 Office Closed (Christmas)
- 29 Youth Meal/Fellowship



TEENS AND YOUTH

December 8th

AWTG
at Chickasha

December 12th

Youth Group
Home Bible Study

December 15th

Youth Group
Meal & Fellowship

Birthdays of the Month

- 12/08 Amanda Lampkin, Al Lucas,
Harley Riley
- 12/10 Ann Mayes
- 12/11 Glinda Byers
- 12/12 Jamie Maples,
Alex Robinson,
Zach Sullivan
- 12/13 Jeff Butler, Kyle Wilson

Happy Anniversary

- 12/09 Ray & Melba Hamlett
- 12/11 Brian & Stacey Lewis



December 12th

College Group Meal & Devo
(Qualls)

January 16th

College Group Meal & Devo
(Hensley)

Bible Classes

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Adults

David Hendricks
Auditorium

Jeff Butler

Titus

Room 100

David Dirrim

Adult Bible Class

Fellowship Building

Drew Adams

"A Christmas Story"

Room 111

College Group

Kyle Wilson
Room 107

Youth Group

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, 2's & 3's: Room 114
- Babies: Room 113

For the Record: 12/01/2024

Bible Study	175
AM Assembly	260
PM Assembly	125
Wednesday PM	151
Contributions	\$16,787
Budget	\$13,777



PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

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

SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday Morning:

Song Leader: Jack Cadenhead
Opening Prayer: Dusty Dennis
Closing Prayer: Cody Frye
Scripture Reading: Taker Dennis
Lord's Supper Thoughts: Drew Adams
Communion: Drew Adams, Trent Barrett,
Brad Butler, Jag Frye, Jet Frye,
Drew Graham, KerVon James, Keith Nail
Alternate Communion: Matt Bryant & John Eck
Balcony Communion: Steve Black & Tommy Myers
Nursing Home Communion: Raymond Johnson
Attendance Counter: Kerry White
Safety Team Walk **AM/PM**: Josh Nail
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM**: Kevin Graham
Coordinator **AM/PM/Wed**: Quaid Clark & Trevin Vass
Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed**: Casey Farrar & TBA
Welcome Desk (Dec): Alan & Kim Simpson
Greeters (Dec): Hunter & Jena Nickell; Glinda B. & Amy W.

Sunday Evening:

Song Leader: Ronnie Osborn
Opening Prayer: Mark Coleman
Closing Prayer: Thorin Turner
Attendance Counter: Jared Hudson
Communion: Joe Dirrim & Todd Martin

Wednesday PM:

Song Leader: Nathan Lewis
Announcements/Opening Prayer: Kyle Wilson
Closing Prayer: David Lewis
8 Minute Devotional: Cody Frye
Attendance Counting: Beau Griffin
Safety Team Walk: James Bryant
Safety Team Camera: Jared Griffin

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome
I Will Call Upon the Lord
Scripture Reading: Hebrews 12:28-29
Prayer
How Sweet, How Heavenly
Take Time to Be Holy
Grace Greater Than Our Sin
Thoughts From the Cross: Drew Adams
In Christ Alone
Communion
We Give Thee But Thine Own
Contribution
Lord, Reign In Me
A.M. Lesson: Unshakable
Trust and Obey
Announcements
Blest Be the Tie That Binds
Prayer

P.M. Lesson: Commitment

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

Shepherd for December: Greg Hatton

Supporting Shepherd & Wife: Richard & Camille Howard

December Contribution Counters:
Tommy Vass, Caleb Estes, Brad Butler

SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ONLINE GIVING



Sunday

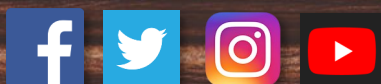
Bible Classes - 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.



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