

The *Southwesterner*

VOLUME XLIX | NUMBER 2

FOUR VALUABLE LIFE LESSONS

If you read the bulletin article often, you know that Jim Martin is one of the people I borrow from most frequently. His Encouragement Note is one of my favorite email subscriptions. I always find something thought provoking or encouraging. When he shared four lessons that have been of value to him, I knew they would probably be helpful for the rest of us too. As we have look at Mark 2 last week and this week, we see a lot of Jesus practicing the first lesson and the scribes and Pharisees missing on the third one. Here are Jim's four lessons:

Invest in what will make a significant difference. For example, be intentional about investing in your own spiritual formation. You and I were meant to become Christ-like. We have been called to be shaped and formed into the image of Jesus. Do I have soul-shaping habits and practices that will help me become more like Jesus?

Know that you will often have to either pay now or pay later. For example, if you shop impulsively, you may find yourself living beyond your means each month. Every bill eventually comes due. If you are like some people, you might prefer to ignore this, thinking that it will all work itself out. Yet, there can be a price for postponement. You can pay now (defer or postpone spending) or pay later. Wisdom helps us see that paying the price now can save us from a heavier burden later.

Deal with the issues in your own life. Far too often, we can speak like experts on others' flaws while we ignore our own. Yet, the greatest power we have is in dealing with what we have control over - our own issues.

Know that too many people rust out instead of wear out. Some people quit long before the race is over. Life becomes about nostalgia instead of responsibly dealing with the challenges of the present. We were never meant to shut down before we die.

Let's strive to learn these lessons to be more like Jesus and have an impact for Him on those around us.

- Brian

January 12, 2025



Elders

Jeff Butler

Greg Hatton

David Hendricks

Richard Howard

Brent Lowe

Butch Platt

Ministers

Brian Lewis

Thorin Turner

Kyle Wilson

Secretary

Dana Chilcoat

Family Matters

Please keep the McCray family in your prayers as they have lost their loved one recently. Jeff Butler is friends with the McCray family.

Southwest Family, With sincere humility and gratitude, we Thank God for each of you daily. Your acts of kindness shown to our family during our recent journey and loss of Don, are such a testament to the love of this congregation. Your unwavering prayers, words of encouragement, visits, hugs, meals brought to our home, funeral meal, and the beautiful plant are just to mention a few. We pray God's riches blessings on each of you and we ask for your continued prayers as we learn what our "new normal" will look like. In Christ, The Don Byrd Family



The **Abundant Living** Spring Retreat will be **March 10th - 13th** in Waco, TX this year. This retreat is a retreat for retirement-aged Christians. If you are interested in attending, please see the board to the south of the welcome desk for more information.

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, Myrtie 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 **January 12th**.



The **Wednesday Night for the Master** meal will be on **January 15th** at 5:45pm in the fellowship building. We will be having chili.



The **Golden Doers** will be Sunday, **January 19th**, in the fellowship building after morning services. If you are 60 years or older, please come join us!



The **Yellow House** will hand out food on Monday, **January 20th**, from 8am - 10am. Helpers this month are: Cindy Geiger, Sharon Estes, Debra Provence, Don &

Pam Kite, Diana Hatton, Wade Sumpter, Butch Platt, & Bill Young. **The food for the Yellow House will be picked up and sacked on the morning of Wednesday, January 15th.** Please let Chuck Love know if you are unable to help.



All ladies are invited
to a wedding shower
for
Nathan Lewis and Macie Etheridge
on
Sunday, **January 26th**, at 3pm
in the fellowship building.
They are registered at
Walmart and Amazon.

18 UPCOMING EVENTS

January at a Glance

- 01 Office Closed (New Year's Day)
- 05 Congregational Fellowship Meal
- 06 Meals on Wheels
- 07 Widower's Breakfast,
Ladies Bible Class Resumes
- 12 Ladies Pr. Grp, AWTG (Norman)
- 15 WNFM
- 16 College Meal/Devo (Hensley)
- 19 Golden Doers, Youth Meal/Fell.
- 20 Yellow House
- 23 Col. Meal/Devo at SBC (Smith)
- 26 Lewis/Etheridge Wed. Shower,
Ladies Pr. Grp, Youth Meal/Fell.
- 30 College Meal/Devo (Estes)



TEENS AND YOUTH

January 12th

AWTG
Westside (Norman)

January 19th

Youth Group
Meal & Fellowship



January 16th

College Group Meal & Devo
(Hensley)

January 23rd

College Group Meal & Devo
at SBC (Ryan & Macy Smith)

Birthdays of the Month

- 01/12 Barbara Cannon,
Raygn Tinsley, April Wade
- 01/13 Ted Rutherford
- 01/14 Jared Griffin
- 01/17 Aiden Robinson
- 01/19 Cooper Hamilton, Jean Kelley

Happy Anniversary

01/17 Mark & Debbie Willis

PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

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



2025 Daily Bible Readings

- 1/12 - Genesis 38-40, Psalm 12
- 1/13 - Genesis 41-42, Psalm 13
- 1/14 - Genesis 43-45, Psalm 14
- 1/15 - Genesis 46-47, Psalm 15
- 1/16 - Genesis 48-50, Psalm 16
- 1/17 - Exodus 1-3, Psalm 17
- 1/18 - Exodus 4-6, Psalm 18
- 1/19 - Exodus 7-9, Psalm 19

Bible Classes

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Adults

David McMillin
Auditorium

Jeff Butler

Colossians
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: 01/05/2025

Bible Study	165
AM Assembly	286
PM Assembly	126
Wednesday PM	—
Contributions	—
Budget	\$15,738

SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday Morning:

Song Leader: Casey Farrar
Opening Prayer: Will Lampkin
Closing Prayer: Dusty Dennis
Scripture Reading: Cale Hudson
Lord's Supper Thoughts: David Dirrim
Communion: David Dirrim, Toker Dennis,
Chuck Love, Cody Reynolds, Keith Nail,
Mark Tinsley, Casey Farrar, Sam Austin
Alternate Communion: James Bryant & John Eck
Balcony Communion: Matt Bryant & Don Kite
Nursing Home Communion: Mark Coleman
Attendance Counter/Safety Team Walk: Hunter Nickell
Safety Team Camera **AM/PM**: Trever Manuel
Service Coordinator: Caleb Estes & Tyler Jones
Sound Booth **AM/PM/Wed**: Jag Frye & Justin Lane
Welcome Desk (Jan): Dalee Weston & Kim Simpson
Greeters (Jan): Sue H. / Jan M. & Kerry / Jessica White

Sunday Evening:

Song Leader:
Opening Prayer: Beau Griffin
Closing Prayer: Jared Griffin
Attendance Counter/Safety Team Walk: Hunter Nickell
Communion: Joe Dirrim & Drew Graham
Service Coordinator: Tyler Jones & Caleb Estes

Wednesday PM:

Song Leader: Justin Lane
Announcements/Opening Prayer: Brent Lowe
Closing Prayer: Drew Adams
8 Minute Devotional: Brad Trezell
Attendance Counter/Safety Team Walk: Josh Nail
Safety Team Camera: Keith Nail

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome
"I Will Call Upon the Lord"
Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 10:5-6
Prayer
"All In All"
"Faithful Love"
"How Deep the Father's Love"
Thoughts From the Cross: David Dirrim
"Here I Am to Worship"
Communion
"Hosanna, You're My King"
Contribution
"The Greatest Commands"
A.M. Lesson: Rethink
"In Need"
Announcements
"A Common Love"
Prayer

P.M. Lesson: God Provides

An elder and his wife are available in room 107 during each invitation.

Shepherd for January: Jeff Butler
Supporting Shepherd & Wife: Brent & Diana Lowe

January Contribution Counters:
Bill Young, Chuck Love, Mark Clark

SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST

505 WEST 17TH

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ONLINE GIVING



Sunday

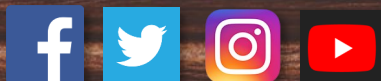
Bible Classes - 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship - 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes - 6:30 p.m.



SWCOCADA