

From The Ministers Desk

The Danger of the Gospel

“How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him?” – Hebrews 2:3

We may think the best thing for unbelievers is to be in church week after week, hearing the gospel again and again.

For committed Christians, I think that is absolutely the best place to be. But I don't think the same is necessarily true for unbelievers. If they are choosing to live in sin and have no intention of responding to the gospel, then their hearts are becoming more hardened as they listen to it yet again.

That is the danger of the gospel. It is actually dangerous to be exposed to the gospel and not respond to it. The first time we hear the gospel, we enter into what could be called a spiritual danger zone because we are, from that point on, held accountable for what we know.

A similar thing happened to Pharaoh in the Old Testament. He saw miracle after miracle. But remember the Bible says that Pharaoh's heart grew harder (Exodus 8:15, 19). And then we also read that “the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh” (Exodus 9:12). Some people have a hard time with that, but a better translation of that phrase would be “the LORD strengthened the heart of Pharaoh.” Pharaoh made his choice, and God strengthened him in it. It's frightening that someone can be exposed to so much truth, yet remain in, and even be strengthened in, unbelief.

If a person chooses to believe, then God will strengthen him or her in that commitment. If someone chooses to harden his or her heart, then, in a sense, God will strengthen him or her in that as well. We make our choice, and then we reap the results of it. That is what happened with Pharaoh, that is what happened with Judas, and that is what can happen with us.

Donald

Sermon Topics:

Sermon

AM: “The Seed Promise: God's Plan of Redemption” Pt. 1

Gen. 12:1-3

PM: “Jesus as Mediator and Advocate”

1 Tim 2:5-6

Hispanic Studies:

Class: “El Libro de” Daniel

Sermon: “Division Acausa del Evangelio” Mateo 10:34-39

Song of the Month: “For The Lord is a Righteous God” from the Righteous Lord CD.

AM: “The Seed Promise: God's Plan of Redemption” Pt. 1

1. “And in you _____ of the earth shall be blessed.
Gen.12:3
2. The Old Testament is about a _____ and a _____.
3. The story of _____ is not about Joseph, it's about _____.
4. Judah is carrying the seed promise because the _____ is going to come from the tribe of Judah.
5. The book of Ruth is about God's providential care to bring, together _____ and _____ in order to preserve His _____.

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February 26, 2017

Poteau church of Christ

Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In

Elder on Call for February 2017: Winfred Ashley 918-776-4034



Welcome to the Poteau church of Christ!

If this is your first time to worship with us, please know that we are thrilled to share in your journey of faith. We invite you to join in the singing of praises, praying, studying from God's Word; to enjoy the warmth of just being together with fellow seekers. Our prayer is that you will feel the love & grace of God during your worship experience this morning. We are honored to have you as our guest today and look forward to meeting you after our worship service. May God bless you richly and deeply.

DEACONS:

Danny Baker –Worship
Ben Bentley –Missions
Russ Campbell –Fellowship
Joe Harbuck –Building
Don Johnston –Building/Vans
Phillip Kirkes - Youth
Bob Marchant –Benevolence
Brad McMillin –Missions
Tim Olive –Youth & Budget

ELDERS:

Winfred Ashley
Randy Lum
Dick Moore
Rick Parker
Rendall Thompson

MINISTERS:

Donald Cherry –Pulpit
J.J. Espinoza –Hispanic
Paul Fletcher –Youth
Robert Martin –Prison
OFFICE:
Sue Taylor-Dunn - Secretary
Loretta Sisco –Secretary

Contact Information:

20690 292nd Street, Poteau, Oklahoma 74953

(918) 647-4873

don@poteaucoc.org

sued@poteaucoc.org

loretta@poteaucoc.org

Or go to www.poteaucoc.org for prayer requests, our audio & video sermons and classes as well as upcoming events.

You will also find online study tools and other information to help you grow stronger in your faith.

We're also 'Live-Streaming' the 9:30 a.m. Bible Class, our 10:20 a.m. Worship Service and the 6:00 p.m. Evening Service.

By The NUMBERS

Week of February 19, 2017

Worship Attendance-AM	219
Bible Class:	140
Jr/Sr. High School:	24
Auditorium Class (Randy)	86
(25-36 yr. olds)	12
Women's Class (Amy)	14
Hispanic Class: (JJ)	11
Prison Class:	30
NewLife Behavior Ministries	27

Week of February 19, 2017

Contribution	\$7,175.
Budget -Weekly:	\$7,925.
Contribution-YTD	\$45,653.
Budget -YTD:	\$55,475.
Over/(Under):	(\$9,822.)

Monthly Events

First Sunday - Cake & Ice Cream for birthdays & anniversaries after evening worship.

First Sunday - Elders, Deacons and Minister's meeting after evening worship service.

First & Third Sunday - Elder's Meeting after worship service.

Second Sunday - Fellowship Dinner March 12th, 2017, will be the first Fellowship Dinner.

Third Sunday - Deacon's Meeting after evening worship service.

Sunday PM - The Ladies of the Church have a prayer meeting in the auditorium after evening service.

Sunday - Ladies' class taught by Amy Johnston, "The Mind Connection", Positive Self Talk.

Every Sunday - Young Adults Class - Sunday mornings at 9:30, in the gym.

Wednesdays- Mid-Week Manna - @ 5:15 in the MPB

Wednesdays - Women's Outreach Class @ 6:30 p.m. in the MPB.

Second Thursday Game Night - @ 6:00 p.m. in the MPB.

Fourth Sunday - "Hearts in Harmony" come and sing, come with a heart that loves to praise God.

Elders Prayer List

Note: First of the month; many will be removed from the list to keep it current. Submit new cards for requested prayers.

Cancer: Tonya Crittenden, Larry Didway, Wayne Gist (hospice care); Willie Phillips, Enedina Lopez, John Clark, Jerry Dotson, Arie Luster, Dustin McBeth, Shiela Brown, Sue Horton, Hudson Campbell, Mary Layman (hospice care); Bill Maynor (hospice care); Malita Tracy.

Health: Bill Reese (health); Mary Tipton (cancer); Bill Mahor ((very ill); Linda Lockhart (stint, heart problems); Ruth Morgan (failing health); Bob Allgeryer (failing health); Keith Free's son (pituitary gland collapsed); Anita Morrison's sister, Pam (neck surgery); Linda Henson (recovery, stomach surgery); Milissa Kilgo (blood pressure); Kaylin McCormick (Viola's daughter-n-law, blood clots; on life support); 4 month old baby (cancer in eye); Angel Morrison (blood clot in jugular); Rick Parker (upcoming procedures); Carl Lockhart (kidney issues); Ruth Patterson (recovering from stroke); Juanita Brown, Chell's mom (in hospital, low blood count); Tina Nola (continue recovery/brain injury); Chub, Lonnie's cousin (brain tumor); Sue Carty, Benny's sister (needs liver transplant); Eddie & Frank White (health issues); LeeAnn Starts, Loretta's daughter (blood disorder); Phill Reese (health); Mannix (broken collar bone); Evelyn Davies and her boys (hospitalized); Teresa Redwine (brain tumor); Karne Simpson (blood disease); Winfred Ashley and family (starting radiation, brain tumor); Our loved ones in the nursing home and our Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Miscellaneous: T.K. (overcome addiction & depression); Jamie Baker and Baker family (marriage/overcome addiction & depression); Victor Glenn (struggles in school and relations with father); RJ Davis (serving in Iraq); Kiara Cherry (upcoming wedding).

Prisoners: Lee Minyard, Curtis Rogers, Damone Burse, Tanelle Turner, Sean Hawks, Daniel Grimm, Shane Calive, Dwayne Ford, Joey Wolfe, Carl Fisher, Colby Lusk, Bobby Davouh, Michael Manning Sammy Brake Jr, Dwight Cross, Brandon Holifield.

Update List on Our Sick

- Danny Armstrong passed away last Wednesday. His Memorial service was held on Saturday. Please pray for the family during their time of bereavement.
- Rona, Regina's sister is in the hospital with pneumonia and an infection.
- Martha Bell's sister, Jamie Johnston, had a biopsy done and is waiting on results. Pray for good results.
- Winfred Ashley will start his treatments on March 8th for 6 weeks, 5 days a week. Prayers for Winfred and Marilyn.
- Vicki Locke had brain surgery last week to remove a tumor. Praying for a complete recovery.
- Ronald Cherry was diagnosed with lung cancer. Please pray for his health.
- Barbara, Christy Stanfill's co-worker had a stroke and seizures.
- Mike Ferguson, former neighbor, is in ICU at Sparks, with multiple problems. He had part of his foot removed.

Do you Feel Spiritually Weak?

One dark winter evening, an elder made a trip to the country to visit a member who had missed assembling with the saints for several weeks. He found the member in his living room, sitting in front of a roaring fire in the fireplace. They passed a few pleasantries, and then both got quiet. The elder reached for a poker and used it to push a red hot ember out of the glowing fire and onto the hearth by itself. They both watched as the glowing ember faded, turned gray, then black. It died. The member looked at the elder and said, "I see your point. I'll be back Sunday."

Things to Remember to Do:

- Potluck Fellowship dinner will be March 12th, after morning worship in the MPB building. Encouraging all to stay and fellowship.
- Midweek Manna ministry need cooks for March, April, and May. Please see the signup on the bulletin board.**
- February Nursery duties:** 26th - Linda Lashley.
- February Food Pantry volunteers:** Tuesday - Faylin LaSalle & Natalie Carson; Wednesday - Laveda Turpen and Nora Fay Lum.
- Food Pantry items needed: Green beans, mashed potatoes, pancake mix, syrup, and canned meat.
- Sallisaw Church of Christ will have a Singing Workshop and Congregational singing, March 4th & 5th, led by Tim Lowry. More information on the bulletin board.

Kiara Paige Cherry And Logan Ray Stinson

Request your presence at their wedding on Saturday, March 25th at 12 o'clock noon at the Westside Church of Christ 2434 W. Okmulgee St., Muskogee, Ok Reception to follow at the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame 401 S. 3rd St., Muskogee, Ok 74401 RSVP by March 1st.

Wedding Shower

A wedding shower for Kiara Cherry and Logan Stinson, March 5th, in the MPB at 2pm. They are registered at Dillards, Wal-Mart and Target.

YOUTH NEWS

1. Sunday March 5th the Poteau Church of Christ Youth Group will go to Henryetta Church of Christ for an area wide youth event. We will have lunch together that Sunday morning immediately following worship in the gym then we will leave for Henryetta. They will have activities for the youth that afternoon and a worship assembly that evening. We will be back at the PCC building at 8:00pm so make arrangements to have a ride at that time.

2. Camp Wyldewood Registration

Update on Camp Wyldewood Sign-Up: Sign up for Camp Wyldewood by signing your name on the sign-up sheet on the youth bulletin board. Do NOT worry about signing up online. Originally signing up online was the plan but Chad Hudelson, the assistant director, contacted me and said it would be better if we just created a list and then fill out the medical forms separately and mail them in.

The Dates: Poteau Church of Christ will attend Session #1 at Camp Wyldewood June 4-10. We will leave that Sunday June 4th after church and return Saturday June 10th.

Register: By signing up on the bulletin board.

The Cost: is \$120.00. You can mail a check to Camp Wyldewood. Deadline to pay is Sunday April 30th.

Please sign up and register as early as possible so we can know how many are going this summer.

Volunteers: Parents and youth workers are encouraged to attend as volunteers. You will need to register also. More info. on that to come. There is no cost for volunteers. Background checks are required for all staff and volunteers at Camp Wyldewood.

