

From The Ministers Desk

Cruise Ship or Battle Ship?

“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” – Ephesians 6:12

If you had to choose between being a passenger on a cruise ship or a sailor on a battleship, which would you select? I’m confident most would choose the cruise ship since its purpose is essentially to pursue pleasure. Few, when given this choice, would decide to serve as a sailor on a battleship because of the hard work and potential risk of losing one’s life in combat.

A cruise ship is not designed for battle but for pleasure and relaxation. A cruise is a time to “get away.” I can imagine that a typical day for a sailor on a battleship would be exceedingly different than an average day for a passenger on a cruise ship. On cruise ship, you can sleep as late as you want, eat whenever you desire, and basically do whatever you want since you have no responsibility. But, for a sailor, your day would likely be filled with duties to tend to at appointed times. Each sailor has an assigned job (or jobs) and is fully expected to carry out his intended service. Otherwise, things won’t go very smoothly, and the whole ship may fail its purpose. This is the nature of a military ship, and properly executed service becomes even more critical during combat.

What does this have to do with God’s word? As a Christian, are you on a cruise ship or a battleship? Christians should be on the Lord’s “battleship,” if you will. The Scriptures depict that we are to be in battle spiritually against evil; we are to be faithful soldiers for the Lord and His kingdom! The apostle Paul writes to his son in the faith in 1 Tim. 6:12, “Fight the good fight of faith...” In 2 Tim. 2:3, “You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”

Is the church to be a cruise ship or a battleship? We know the answer, but does it accurately describe our present condition? Every Christian (or crew member) has a place to fit in and a task to accomplish. We are not tourists aboard God’s vessel! We must find our place and fit in. We are here to fight the good fight of faith and endure hardship laboring for the Lord!

Donald

Sermon Topics:

“Look What God Has Done For Us” series:

AM: “Put Your Trust in God”

Proverbs 3:5

PM: “Sin is The Problem”

Luke 13:3

Hispanic Studies:

Class: “El Libro de Daniel”

Sermon: “Viendo el Futuro”

Daniel 10:1-4

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



Volume 29, Issue 14

April 2, 2017

Poteau church of Christ

Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In

Elder on Call for March 2017: Randy Lum 918-647-7859



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
Philip 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 March 26, 2017

Worship Attendance-AM	232
Bible Class:	142
Jr/Sr. High School:	20
Auditorium Class (Randy)	81
25-36 yr. olds	0
Women's Class (Amy)	14
Hispanic Class: (JJ)	3
Prison Class:	30
NewLife Behavior Ministries	27
Wednesday Attendance	

Week of March 26, 2017

Contribution	\$8,201.
Budget -Weekly:	\$7,925.
Contribution-YTD	\$84,546.
Budget -YTD:	\$95,100.
Over/(Under):	(\$10,554.)

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.

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

Sunday PM - The ladies meet for prayer meeting in the auditorium after evening service.

Sunday - Women's Outreach Class @ 9:30 am. taught by Marilyn Ashley in the MPB.

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

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

Wednesday @ 6:30 - Ladies' class taught by Amy Johnston, in the GAP classroom. "The Mind Connection", Positive Self Talk.

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

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.

Health: Louis Shrimsher (recover from gunshot wound); Paul Doby, Becky Baker's uncle (heart attack & gallbladder infection); Christine Smith, Kendall Lomon's grandmother (Pocola Nursing home; kidney failure); Larry Hamilton, John's father (stage 4 cancer); Joe Hooper (back pain); Cecil Williams (recovery/knee replacement); Mia Miller, Caroline Cooper's daughter (cancer); Amy, Sue William's daughter (recovery after tumor removal); LeeAnn Starts, Loretta Sisco's daughter (health); Ralph LaRosa & family, Gina Roger's dad (recovery after heart procedure); Harold Masterson, Lashley's friend (recovery, surgery); Richard Haynes, Spiro Supernatant (extensive heart procedure); Denise Holland, Linda Henson's daughter (cancer, upcoming surgery); Ruth Morgan (failing health); Mike Ferguson (multiple health issues); Corbin Merking family (2yr. Old child needs heart transplant); Ronald Cherry (terminal cancer); Winfred & Marilyn Ashley (Winfred undergoing cancer treatment); Dory (health); Sue Carty, Benny's sister (needs liver transplant); Eddie & Frank White (Nursing home, Pocola); Mabel McKinney (hospice care); Our loved ones in the nursing home; Our Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Cancer: Larry Didway, Wayne Gist (hospice care), Enedina Lopez, John Clark, Jerry Dotson, Hudson Campbell, Arie Luster, Dusti McBeth, Sue Horton, Savannah Knight, I.D. Gist, Shirley Holter, Malita Tracy, Mary Tipton, Tonya Crittenden, LeeAnn Starts (blood disorder); Pat Price.

Miscellaneous: R.J. Davis (serving in Iraq); Linda Luitze, Linda Murray's grandmother (requesting prayers).

Prisoners: Lee Minyard, Curtis Rodgers, Tanelle Turner, Carl Fisher, Bob, Sean Hawks, Jeff McCarley, Detrick Green, Tommy Jay, Mike Hobbs, Joey Wolfe, Ricky McQueen, Shane Caliué, D. Cross, Dwayne Ford, Sean Hawks, B.Arbee, Paul Jeffrey Elton Rose, Joshua Stone, David Weaver, Apollo Johnson, Daniel Grimm, Colby Look, Bobby Duvoutt.

Bereavement: Theodore Paul, Justin's dad (passed away); Ronald Cauthen, Tim's brother (passed away); Behr Place Family (passed away); Haskin Family (daughter passed away); Freddy Graham's family, Chell's brother (passed away); Sharon Hickman family (husband, Don passed away).

Update List on Our Sick

- John Beasley is in Health South, His possible release date is April 5th.
- Kenneth Bible recovering from pneumonia, he is asking for prayers. He is in Sparks.
- Bo Turpin has an appointment on April 6th for an MRI to see if his cancer is still in remission. Asking for prayers for good results.
- Marilyn Ashley's brother-in-law, Jerry Holter passed away on Tuesday, March 28th.
- Tim Cauthen's brother, Ronald Cauthen passed away March 26th. Grave side service was Wednesday.
- Bob Algeyer passed away on Tuesday, March 28th.
- Regina Lewis' niece, Rona is in a medical induced coma, and has been put in hospice care, her left side is paralyzed. Please keep this family in your prayers.
- Asking for prayers for Kara Wright Watts from McCurtain. She has aggressive breast cancer. Will start chemo treatment next week. Mother of 3 young children. Granddaughter of Linda and Stanley Wright and niece of Phillip and Sherry Hamby.
- Dory Fletcher will have a MRI on left shoulder on April 20th.

Power of Prayer

Things to Remember to Do:

- Singing at the Oaks Nursing home at 2 pm today. If you have questions contact Jim Wood.
- Robert Martin's class will meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30 in a classroom in MPB.
- Fisher's of Men Class beginning Wednesday, April 5th, in the auditorium. This will be our new Wednesday adult Bible Class. Bob Marchant is teaching this class.
- Midweek Manna cooks for April 5th: Linda Lashley
Cleanup:
- Food Pantry items needed: Spaghetti, instant potatoes and peanut butter. Thank you very much for your help.
- Nursery workers for April:
AM: Amy Espinoza
PM: Sue Taylor Dunn
- Don Johnston is asking for volunteers for "Grounds Maintenance" for the church. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Contact Don Johnston if you have any questions.

A bird does not sing because it has an answer.

It sings because it has a song.

-Chinese Proverb

YOUTH NEWS

1. Parents/Grandparents of graduating high school seniors please submit a total of 20 pictures on a CD or flash drive to Paul by Sunday April 2nd. These will be used for our "High School Graduate Senior Sunday."
2. "Graduation Sunday" - Sunday morning May 7th we will honor our high school graduating seniors. Please make plans with family members for all to be here that day to support and honor these outstanding students who we are all so proud of.
3. 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.

Ladies Day 2017

Saturday, April 8th

Registration @ 9 am

Lunch at 12 noon

There will be a fashion show again this year during lunch. Parents that would like for their children to be in the fashion show, please sign up on the bulletin board. You can contact Nina Bowen or Heather Garner if you have any questions.

If you are planning to attend please sign up on the bulletin board.