

# From The Ministers Desk

## Increase Is God's Work

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase." – 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

It can be discouraging when you talk to people about Christ and no one listens to you. Maybe you've tried to share the gospel with family members, and they don't respond. Sometimes you feel like saying, "Just forget about it. If they don't want to hear what I have to say, then I won't tell anyone."

A farmer can be discouraged after he plants a crop and a storm uproots all the seed, or when a drought comes and the crop doesn't take root. But then when he has a bumper crop, it is all worth it, and he plants again.

In the same way, we can tell and tell and tell people about Jesus Christ, and nothing seems to happen. Then one day, one person gets it, and he or she believes. Then we see the joy of someone coming to faith.

Jesus said there is joy in Heaven over one sinner who comes to repentance (Luke 15:7). We are told in Psalm 126:5, "Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy."

God is the one who saves people, not us. I know this seems rather obvious, but frankly, sometimes we forget it. God will prepare a person's heart to hear and receive the gospel. As Jesus said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father" (John 6:65).

Conversion is not something we do. It is not something we bring about through our persuasive words or clever arguments. The Lord must prepare the heart of the person we are speaking to. Sometimes we'll sow a little seed of the gospel, and other times we'll have the privilege of reaping where others have sown and watered. But it is God who does the work of conversion.

Donald

<b>Topics:</b>	Notes: _____
<b>Auditorium:</b>	_____
<b>AM Sermon:</b> "The Resurrection Life" 1 Cor. 15:35-58	_____
<b>PM Sermon:</b> "Fruit, Roots, and the Heart" Luke 6:43-45	_____
<b>Hispanic Studies:</b>	_____
<b>Class:</b>	_____
<b>Sermon:</b>	_____

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# Poteau church of Christ

## Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching In

Elder on Call for July 2017: Rick Parker 918-839-1593



*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:

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Or go to [www.poteaucoc.org](http://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 July 23, 2017

Worship Attendance-AM	240
Bible Class	138
Auditorium Class (Don)	74
Jr. High & High School	13
Women's Class (Shirley)	18
Hispanic Class: (JJ)	0
Prison Class:	30
NewLife Behavior Ministries	26
Wednesday Attendance	

Week of July 23, 2017

Contribution	\$9,229.
Budget - Weekly:	\$7,385.
Contribution-YTD	\$188,780.
Budget - YTD:	\$206,005.
Over/(Under):	(-\$17,225.)

## 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 - Shepherd group meetings** after evening service.

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

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

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

**Wednesday Nights - Mid-Week Manna** - closed till the fall.

**Wednesday Nights - Fishers of Men - Class in the Auditorium** @ 6:30pm.

**Wednesday @ 6:30 - Ladies' class:** taught by Shirley Martin, in the GAP classroom.

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

## Elders Prayer List

**Cancer:** Larry Didway, Malita Tracy, Nancy Frier, Cindy Wallace, Mia Miller, Ronald Cherry, Sandra Lum, Pat Price, Shirley Holter, Marilyn Pledger, Jerita Minyard, Angela Collett, Teresa Redwine, Melissa, (Christy S. friend); Diane Tipton, Michelle Glassburner, Joe Wise (pancreatic cancer).

**Health:** Halle Cherry (1st baby, pray full term); Bonnie Starr (cancer tests, pray/good results); Jess Hurlocker (hospice, pray comfort/strength); Amy Espinoza (illness); Merlin Scott, Kay Garrett's dad (ICU, low BP, kidney problems); Darlene Seaman (upcoming bone marrow tests); Debbie Little (blood clots in legs); Pat Price (recovery colon surgery); Coach Michael Odom (blood clots in lungs); Liz Ibison, Faylin's daughter (health issues); Maverick (oncology check-up); Kathleen Allgeyer (recovering/skin cancer removed); Mikki, Viola's daughter (health/legal issues); Dale Lumon, Sue and Judy's cousin (hospice, pray/comfort & strength); LeeAnn Starts, Loretta's daughter (high PHS, thyroid issues, new meds); Chris Jones (in rehab); Bob Marchant (surgery August 1); Michael Armstrong (stress); Jim Emerson, Christy & Manty's dad (stress test results); Don Bentley, Benny's brother (shrinking brain tumor); Liz Hooper (blood clots/legs/new medication); Kara Wright Watts (healing/tumor growing); Susan Odom, Mints daughter (BP problems); Carlton (recover sight); Kendall Jameson (head injury); Angela Collett (aggressive breast cancer); Rita Mahoney (recovering from neck fusion); Will Reece (double knee replacement); Teresa Redwine (brain tumor, in hospice care); Windred & Marilyn (strength, free of pain); Sue Carty, Benny's sister (needs liver transplant), Rona (recovery).

**Miscellaneous:** Artemio (needs work); Todd Robertson (remission). Ted & Mary's mom (moved to assisted living).

**Prisoners:** Shane Calico, Charles Barbee, Sean Hawks, Joey Wolfe, Nick Lewis, Tommy Jay, David Weaver, Michael Manny, Dwayne Ford, Lee Minyard, Danny Grimm, Jeffrey McCarley, Daniel King.

**Bereavement:** Bill & Terry Coats (Harbuck's cousin, in Calif) loss of their daughter; Ed Murray passed away, he was the preacher of church of Christ in Riverton, WY.

**Thankful:** Darleen Seaman received good test results.

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

## Update List on Our Sick

- Chell Cherry's mother, Juanita Brown passed away on Thursday morning.
- Mint Johnson's cousin, Maxine Elkins has bone cancer.
- Tom Hughes had knee replacement on July 25th. Keep him in your prayers for a speedy recovery.
- Bob Marchant will have surgery on Tuesday, August 1st. Pray for strength.
- Mickey Renick had knee surgery on Friday, July 28th.
- Maverick Nixon will have his 6 month check-up on Monday, July 31. Praying for NED!
- Jackson Jones, Bentley's grandson asking for prayers for his healing of silent seizures.
- Benny Bentley had test run on Wednesday, pray for favorable results.
- Benny's niece hasn't had a seizure in 12 weeks. Praying for continued good health.
- Pray for Daylon Tyler Blue Farmer's family during their time of bereavement.
- Pray for Sue Williams' good health. She has a leaking heart valve.
- Ben Couch, Kevin Lashley's co-worker has pneumonia, and other health issues. Keep him in your prayers.
- Tyler Whittaker's cousin's baby (16mo.old) has a rare form of cancer. His white blood cells are zero. He is in Little Rock Children's hospital.
- Donald's uncle, Bill Syrus had an emergence surgery to put in two stints. Pray for a speedy recovery.
- Rona is in Rehab after her recent surgery. Pray for speedy recovery.
- Bonnie Starr received good results from her test. Cancer free. Praise the Lord!
- Winfred Ashley is having real bad headaches. Keep Winfred and Marilyn in your prayers.



## Notice

- Food Pantry had a good turn out for food on July 19th, 24 families which included 57 individuals. This has depleted our supplies. We are in need of canned vegetables, spaghetti sauce and spaghetti, instant mashed potatoes, cereal, canned meat, pancake mix and syrup.
- Southern Christian Children's Home will be here to pick up supplies on August 8th. Items they need the most is toilet paper, paper towels, deodorant, cleaning supplies, coffee creamer, coffee filters and trash bags. A more detailed list is on the bulletin board.

## Responses:

- Bob Marchant asking for prayers for upcoming surgery, on August 1st.
- Adonia dealing with the sin of worry. She is asking for prayers for strength.

## YOUTH NEWS

1. **Jumpstart Weekend Youth Rally** in Neosho, MO will be August 25-27. We will leave on that Friday after school and return that Sunday by the time worship assembly gets out at Poteau Church of Christ. Cost will be \$35 per student.

## Thank You

With Special Thanks to all of you: "To know you is to know people who are kind, considerate, and thoughtful. To know you is to be grateful for the special things you do" For everything you've done, for being the special people that you are..... Thank you so very much.

We love each and everyone of you. We're blessed to be part of the family of God here at the Poteau Church of Christ. We pray the Lord will bless us with many more years of service and labor in the Lord here with our Christian brothers and sisters.

In Christian Love,

Don and Chell

## Get your Free 8x10

Sign up today in the lobby, to get our free 8x10 photograph taken on **Saturday August 12th, 11 am to 7 pm, Sunday August 13th, 11 am to 6 pm and Wednesday August 23rd, 4 pm to 9 pm.**

Your first photograph 8x10 will be free and you will receive a free church directory. You will be able to order extra photos at the same time. See the insert for more information.