

From The Ministers Desk

Are You a Thermometer or a Thermostat?

“Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth” - Luke 1:26

It's interesting how cities are known for certain things. Rome is known as the Eternal City. Paris is called the City of Lights. New York is the City that Never Sleeps. And Las Vegas has been nicknamed Sin City.

Nazareth, too, could have been called Sin City in the first century. Overrun by Roman soldiers, it was one of those places you went through on the way to another place. Nazareth was also known for its sin. One commentator described it as a hotbed of corruption. This is why, when Nathanael heard that Jesus was from Nazareth, he asked, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (John 1:46).

Imagine if Jesus were born today. We might expect Him to be born in Jerusalem, or maybe in Rome, London, or Paris. But what if He were born in Las Vegas? The Savior has arrived: Jesus of Las Vegas. That's what it would have been like to use the term Jesus of Nazareth.

In that wicked city, however, lived a young woman of royal blood. Living in an impure world, Mary was pure. She showed it is possible to live a holy life in an unholy place. We often blame our wicked culture for the way we are, but the fact is that it's our job as followers of Jesus to permeate and affect our culture.

Here's a question to ask yourself: Are you a thermometer or a thermostat? A thermometer is affected by its surroundings. Depending on the temperature, it goes up or down. In contrast, a thermostat affects its surroundings. Unlike the thermometer, it controls the environment around it.

Do you merely react to what is happening around you, or do you have some kind of impact on it? Are you changing the culture, or is the culture changing you?

Donald

Sermon Topics:

AM: “Messed Up People”
Genesis 3:1-7

PM: Shepherd Group Meetings

Hispanic Studies: JJ Espinoza

Class: Los Hechos

Sermon: “Quero, Quero, Quero
2 Reyes 5:1-14

Notes: _____

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Poteau church of Christ

Reaching Up, Reaching Out, Reaching IN

Elder on Call for October: 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

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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 October 01, 2017

Worship Attendance-AM	168
Bible Class	120
Auditorium Class	57
Jr. High & High School	0
College age 18-25	4
Women's Class	13
Hispanic Class:	4
Prison Class:	30
NewLife Behavior Ministries	29
Wednesday Attendance	127
Wed. Ladies class	14
Wed. College Age	13
Wed. Adult Relationship Class	8

Week of October 01, 2017

Contribution	\$5,780.
Budget -Weekly:	\$7,385.
Contribution-YTD	\$261,697.
Budget -YTD:	\$279,685.
Over/(Under):	(-17,978)

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.

Every Sunday - Elder's Prayer 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.

Sunday Morning and Wednesday night - College age students - 18-25 - meeting in the MPB.

Wednesday Nights - Mid-Week Manna - has started.

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

Wednesday Night@ 6:30 - Relationship Class in the gym.

Wednesday @ 6:30 -Ladies' class: taught by Sue Dunlap, in the GAP classroom.

Elders Prayer List

Health: Crystal Eaves and her son (Crones Disease); Larry Earls (blood pressure); Victoria Salcedo (recurring brain tumors). Kelley Mitts (sinus infection); Mila Delyn Nix (newborn, internal organ problems); Glenn Pool (surgery, speedy recovery); Nealie Thornburg, sister-in-law of Viola's (Alzheimer's/stroke); Natalie Carson (upcoming trial, good results); Jr. Saulsberry (bad motorcycle accident); Windred Ashley (relief from Numbness/pain/strength); Mark Lashley (speedy recovery/two neck surgeries); Sandy Keys (tumor/brain stem); Cecil Williams (heart); Joseph Seaman (hospital, pain, confusion); Darlene Seaman (health issues); Sandy Long (back/leg pain); Karen Daugherty (stroke); Bob Marchant (prayers for a speedy recovery); Sue Williams (leaking heart valve); Mike Qualls (heart issues); Jess Hurlocker (Hospice, pray comfort & strength); Winnie Bowen, Ted, Kaye & Mary's mom (Hospice care); Sue Carty, Benny's sister (needs liver transplant). Our loved ones in the nursing homes and our Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers.

Bereavement: Rona Sheffield family; Larry Ellis family, Merlin Scott family.

Cancer: Kara Wright, Jerita Minyard, Cindy Wallace, Joe Wise, Mia Miller, Sandra Lum, Don Bentley, Angela Collett (Mandy), Angela Watts (Hugo), Shirley Holter, Pat Price, Larry Didway, Steve Doshier, Nancy Frier and Malita Tracy.

Prisoners Prayer list: Dwight Cross, Bo Hartsfield, Bryan Kirby, Richard Thompson, Shane Calico, Zackery Marcus, Bill Largen, Curtis Rodgers, Joey Wolfe, Raymardo Madrid, Justin Mass, Dwayne Ford, Mark Vesslon

Update List on Our Sick

- Pray for the victims of Los Vegas and for their families.
- Mary Scott's daughter, Michelle Glassburner has been diagnosed with leukemia. Keep Mary and Michelle in your prayers.
- Helen Bethel fell and broke her shoulder in 3 places. Helen was moved from Health South to Covington Court (skilled nursing) on Tuesday. The address there is 4500 Old Greenwood Road, Ft Smith, AR 72903
- Tim Cauthen had back surgery October 2nd at Mercy. Tim will be in the hospital for another week, legs are still numb. He will then go into rehab at Mercy. Not wanting visitors at this time.
- Kelci Fulmer, Loretta Sisco's granddaughter has Thyroid cancer. She had an appointment on Friday at M.D. Anderson. Pray for good results.
- Rita Mahoney had shots in her back that didn't help. The next step will be surgery to remove the rods and pins from a previous surgery.
- Judy Crabtree, Viola's sister, had a colonoscopy which in turn caused a tear in her colon. She is now in OSU hospital in Tulsa, in ICU.

Notice

- Shepherd groups will meet this evening after service.
- Game night is Thursday, October 12th, at 6 pm in the MPB.
- The Food Pantry is in need of the following: Jiffy cornbread mix, instant potatoes, pinto beans, canned vegetables, cans of chicken and tuna.
- Benefit Spaghetti Dinner for Garry Waymire. **Today**, Sunday October 8th, Howe School Cafeteria, 11am to 2pm. \$5.00 per plate. Proceeds go toward medical bills. He has no insurance.

Congratulation!



Avery Kate Whitaker has arrived!



7lbs 1oz, 20in long

Proud parents are Tyler and Bethany Whitker
Proud grandparents are Kevin and Linda Lashley and Bobby and Lisa Whitaker.

Church Picnic / Trunk or Treat

This year the church picnic/trunk or treat for members of the church will be Saturday, October 28th. The church will furnish the hamburger meat and buns, hot dogs, and condiments (lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, onions and cheese). There will be a list on the bulletin board for food items needed for you to volunteer to bring.

Russ Campbell will need volunteers to help set up for the meal and the trunk or treats for the children. Contact him ASAP if you can help.

Teddy Roosevelt is quoted as saying:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errors, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually try to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

Jesus warned in Matthew 25:14-30 about not burying our talents and it was the person who constantly operated out of fear and never tried anything or did anything because he was always afraid of this or that or this person or that person who Jesus said was cast into the outer darkness.

The apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:7-9, "But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed."

May we keep our eyes on Jesus alone and continue to run the race with perseverance knowing that Christ has us in His hand and will never let us go. He is using broken people like us to bring His kingdom on earth as it is in heaven and he does it that way so that our faith may rest in Him alone and that His name may be glorified. And He certainly is worthy of the praise. Let Him use you for the cause of Christ! Do not fear the things that most men fear but rather find out what pleases the Lord and do it by faith, not fear, no matter what. God's got you. Paul