ORDER OF WORSHIP

Virtual Worship Service
9:00 a.m.

8:55 – Five-Minute Countdown
Song – Lord, We Come Before Thee Now
Welcome – Mike James
Comments – Noel Whitlock
Song –Count Your Many Blessings
Prayer – Greg Brooks
Song – Precious Memories
Communion & Offering – Dale Manor
Song – Build Your Kingdom
Scripture – Matthew 15:21-28 – Josh Brooks
"A Mother's Faith"– Noel Whitlock
Shepherd's Prayer – Al Frazier

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Moved in town:
Stephen & Jeanne Burks: 913 Golf View Drive
Moved out of town:
Dale Yoder: 54366 Palestine Ridge Road, Quaker City, Ohio 43773

LAST WEEK

5/3/2020:
Worship—virtual service / Bible Classes —dismissed
Children's Worship — dismissed
Worship p.m. —dismissed / Worship 7:15 p.m. —dismissed

FINANCES

Budget for 5/3/2020.....$52,500.00
Giving for 5/3/2020.....$42,624.61
Budget through Week 36.....$1,698,750.00
Giving through Week 36.....$1,704,303.19

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. M-F
Closed daily 12-1 p.m. through May 17
712 E Race Ave, HU Box 10798
Searcy, AR 72143
www.collegechurchofchrist.org
ccoc@collegechurchofchrist.org
or elders@collegechurchofchrist.org
501-268-7156 FAX: 501-268-2684
College/Community Outreach 268-4191
Bulletin Deadline - NOON, THURSDAYS

May 10, 2020

COLLEGE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Intentionally connected to God, His Word, His world, and to each other.

Facebook Live streaming at 9:00 a.m., Sunday morning through May 17, 2020

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby,
he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!"
Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!"
And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.
John 19:26-27, ESV

From the cross Jesus provides a perfect example of love and care for a mother—who in this case was also a widow. Because her husband Joseph is not mentioned as living during the adult years of Jesus, scholars presume he was by that time dead. In his absence, Jesus had apparently accepted the personal responsibility of caring for Mary, and in this scene He is acting in the spirit of His own words in Matthew 15:3-6, where he commands us to "honor your father and mother."

Jesus would soon give up His spirit and die. Though He would be raised early on Sunday morning, His time on earth would be temporary, and He would need to be fully focused on the final preparations for the coming of His kingdom. So at this moment, enduring the unimaginable suffering of crucifixion, Jesus did not forget to care for the aging woman who gave Him birth and nurtured Him. During His early adulthood and throughout His ministry, He had done everything necessary for Mary. Even facing death, His desire for her wellbeing was as intense as ever.

Two weeks ago at the beginning of our online service, I was touched by the image of Cliff and Charles Ganus outside The Crossing, peering in through the window of their mother, Louise. The two adoring sons (and sister Debbie Duke), unable to care for their mother in person, wanted her to know they were near. Another sweet picture showed the great-grandchildren of Sue Justus holding homemade happy-birthday signs outside her window at Harding place. I loved their creativity!



Sometimes life dictates that we can no longer care for our elderly parents personally, in-home, as we desire. In such cases we must choose an alternate form of care. None of us enjoys the changes that come with the passage of time, but we can each continue to do the best we can for the precious ones to whom we owe our very existence and upbringing.

Honoring our mothers (and fathers) in a true and helpful fashion is a blessed privilege that should invoke a spirit of joy in our hearts. Remember, we won't have those we love with us forever. Happy Mother's Day!

Noel Whitlock

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES AND THE PANDEMIC

From Europe to South America, from Africa to the Far East, College Church missionaries have felt the impact of COVID-19. Lockdowns, quarantines and curfews are the common lot of humanity.

Many countries are on the verge of opening up their economies, as we are. But like many of us, our missionaries are concerned about the lingering effects or the revival of the virus, and whether others will maintain the social disciplines we've observed these past two months.

Most missionaries have also adapted in much the same way we have. Live streaming of worship services conducted by a handful of members has become almost universal. Zoom, Skype, or FaceTime have kept most missionaries and at least some of their students connected to each other. For example, Caleb Russell of Avanti Italia has successfully transferred his lessons online.

Annalisa Perry, who works in Leipzig, Germany, notes an unexpected benefit to her unwelcomed semi-isolation: she has met neighbors previously unknown to her. Others also mention this opportunity, ironically growing out of the Coronavirus challenge.

Let's also be mindful of another group of missionaries who face a different challenge: they have been unable to return or get to their mission fields. Two of those cases are right here with us: Sujin Nelson, trying to get to Vienna, and Craig and Teresa (nèe Cloer) Phillips, trying to return to Nepal. In another case, a couple we recently began supporting is waiting to get from Texas to Albania. These stranded missionaries also use social media to reconnect or connect with former or prospective students, but they long to be with those they want to serve.

All the missionaries with whom I talked have had to make significant adjustments in the way they do "mission work." But they continue to be active for the Lord, just as many of us are trying to be.

Hearing their stories reminds me that we are part of a worldwide fellowship. We share many of the same challenges. And we can share the same prayerful support of each other regardless of the physical distance between us.

Fred Jewell

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Opal Bailey will be turning 102 on May 16. COVID-19 has changed what we had originally planned for her. We are inviting you to "drive by" her house at 901 North Cedar St. on May 16 from 2-3:00 to give her a "Happy Birthday" wave and smile, and perhaps even a honk on the horn—she could probably hear that! This will be very exciting for her. Cards are always a welcome addition to a celebration, especially if you can't drive by. Thank you for making her day special.

Opal Bailey's family

BABY BOY SHOWER



We want to celebrate the upcoming birth of a baby boy to Brady & Erin Clark, daughter of **Jim & Cindy Gurchiek**. Please join us for a drive-through baby shower on Sunday, May 17, 1:30-3 p.m., at the home of Bode & Brenda Teague, 119 Black Oak Place. They are registered at Amazon and Walmart.

WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Olyon Freeman request the pleasure of your presence at the Marriage of their daughter Carlee Mae Freeman to **Carson Grant Gentry**, son of **Todd & Debbie Gentry** on Saturday May 23rd at 7:30 p.m. at Sabrina Cedars, 325 County Rd. 321, Abilene, Tx. 79606.

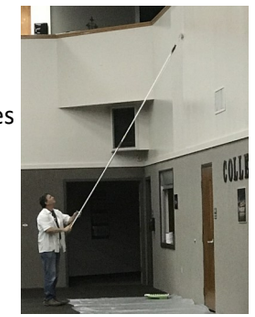
CARPENTER'S KIDS

Registration for Carpenter's Kids for the 2020-2021 school year is open. It is a preschool program for children age 2 (before August 1) through pre-kindergarten, that meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-12:30. The cost is $50 to register and $255 per semester. Please go to our website, carpenters-kids.org, download a registration form, and, at your earliest convenience, send it to the church office with the $50 registration fee.

HIS HOUSE NEWS

Since mid-March, His House has been offering safe curbside service on Mondays and Wednesdays (12:30-2:30) to those needing food. **Charles Raley** estimates that approximately 350 pick-ups have occurred, and over a thousand bags of groceries distributed. This modified operation continues until His House can reopen.

CHURCH BUILDING NEWS



Facilities Director **Kevin Eads** has stayed busy during the shutdown: repairing holes in walls, the handicap rail, and the roof; painting the Welcome Center, the Family Room, and various classrooms; and sanitizing the building.

PRAYER & PRAISE

Sympathy:

Jim Gurchiek's mother, Eleanor Jane Gurchiek, passed away Thursday, April 30, in Tennessee.

Prayers:

Mary Brown scheduled to go home Saturday after successful surgery to remove a benign tumor; **Carol Burchfield** is in South Campus rehab 417; **Louise Ganus** is in the Crossing; **Sandra Thompson** is in UH1327.

ROCK HOUSE MINISTRY

We recorded a senior student-led assembly and will post it this Sunday (May 10). These students, who grew up here in the College Church, will focus on the theme of "Blessings."

The group of seniors leading are **Kennedy Barden, Weston Burks, Charlie Collins, Alex Francis, Carson Gentry, Hunter Gowen, Easton Laird** & **Cade Williams**. All are graduating now except Easton. Included in this group of College Church seniors are **Kizzie Citty**, **Julia Dillard**, **Abby Gibboney** & **Halle Maddox**. Julia & Abby graduated in December and Kizzie graduates later this year.