ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 a.m.
Worship Service

Song Leader – Max Ross

Welcome – Michael Claxton

Song – Blessed Assurance

Prayer – Mike Justus

Song – Break My Heart

Communion & Offering – Craig Phillips

Song – Ten Thousand Angels

Scripture – Romans 13:1-7 – Darrell Welch

“Faith & Politics” – Noel Whitlock

Song – Lord, Reign in Me

Shepherd’s Prayer – Darren Mathews

LAST WEEK

9/20/2020:
8:00 Worship— 233 / 11:00 Worship — 172
Bible Classes —dismissed / Children’s Worship — dismissed
Worship p.m. —dismissed / Worship 7:15 p.m. —dismissed

FINANCES

Budget for 9/20/2020.....$45,352.00
Giving for 9/20/2020.....$40,485.82
Budget through Week 3.....$142,204.00
Giving through Week 3.....$131,762.91

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. M-F
Closed daily 12-1 p.m. for lunch
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

September 27, 2020

COLLEGE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

An Abundance of Opportunity

It was sometime during my years of preaching for the College Church that I first noticed the interesting contrast between the ministry of Acts 6 and the ministry of Acts 9. Both are inspiring stories, and both are accounts of how people in need were helped by early Christians. If you are looking for a way to engage in meaningful ministry, especially in a place as large as the College Church, those two chapters may supply just the direction you are seeking.

In the early chapters of Acts, Luke recounts the way that the explosive growth of the early Jerusalem church created a large community of people who needed food. Christians responded by bringing free-will gifts and putting them at the Apostles’ feet. However, in time, their simple system was overwhelmed, and some began to complain. In Acts 6, the Apostles quickly responded by asking the disciples to select seven godly men from their number who could help to resolve this problem. Their coordinated effort worked. The organization of the early Jerusalem church is a marvelous model for ministry.

Then, in Acts 9, the story is told of a generous and hard-working servant of God named Tabitha (or Dorcas). She became ill and died, and Peter was urged to come to Joppa where the people had washed her body and laid her in an upper room. When Peter arrived, what he saw is recorded in one of my favorite passages in the Bible: “All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them” (9:39). Both the Greek language and the cultural background indicate that they were probably showing Peter the clothes that they were wearing! The personal ministry of Tabitha is another marvelous model for ministry.

Do you see the difference in these two passages? In the first, the ministry is organized and involves a number of people. In the second, a single person saw a need and responded to it. At the College Church, there is an abundance of organized ministries where everyone can find a place to serve. At the College Church, there is also an abundance of opportunities where one person can start his or her own ministry simply by asking a Harding student, “Can you come over for lunch?”

Bruce McLarty

NOTES FROM NOEL

I want to commend the College Church family for your continued faithfulness to worship "in-person" or online each Sunday! Our numbers fluctuate week to week, but seem to be incrementally increasing over time. As the COVID threat is lessening, it is still ever present, so for the time being, please wear a mask and be thoughtful of those around you. We are optimistic about resuming our 5:00 p.m. worship next Sunday, October 4. The safety requirements will be the same as the morning assemblies, and individual communion cups will be available. This service will also be livestreamed. There are still no Sunday morning Bible classes in the building, but our leadership is working toward this goal. More information about when this may happen will be shared in the coming days.

Please take some time to read the insert in this week's bulletin regarding our 2020 Great Commission Sunday on October 25. Our theme each year is "Blessed to be a Blessing." This is when we will take up a special collection to help support several good works that are not in our regular budget and have been approved by the elders for funding from this special offering. Two special ministries that are staples in our GCS offering are Sparrow's Promise and World Bible School. The inserted brochure also highlights several other ministries and missions that will receive significant funds and each one is sharing the gospel in their own part of the world.

This year's GCS goal is $142,500. We are blessed to partner with these good works to encourage them in their teaching and serving. GCS is just four weeks away, so we all need to begin now praying and planning what we will do to help us reach and surpass the goal of $142,500.

I want to personally thank everyone for your patience and understanding as we have worked together throughout the Coronavirus crisis. Your generosity is keeping the works in the budget going, your Zoom classes are essential to keeping our family connected, and your care and concern for one another makes sure everyone feels loved. Good things are still happening at College Church, and little by little, we are gaining momentum! God continues to bless this church and the work of His kingdom continues. Stay fervent in your prayers for God's blessing and protection, and if you are comfortable doing so, please join us in person for worship.

SHOWERS

Our joy is complete! After 20 months in foster care, **Joshua & Savannah Daigle** will be welcoming Robyn into their sweet family forever. Please come celebrate her story, their new family, and God's goodness and answered prayers. Join us for a drive-by money-tree shower TODAY, 2:00-3:30 p.m. at the home of **Kris & Jenny Citty**, 5 Burr Oak Court, Searcy. Gifts early please. They are also registered at Walmart and Amazon.

PRAYER & PRAISE

Prayers:

Opal Bailey is in UH South Campus rehab 425 following a fall; **Jerome Barnes** is moving to rehab following surgery; **Mary Bridges** is in UAMS for stem cell transplant; Ezra Kreh, new grandson of **Keith & Stella Kreh**, continues to improve and may be released from NICU soon; former member, Julie Daughety, health concerns, her mailing address: 15505 Sandstone Terrace, Oklahoma City, OK 73170.

Deaths:

Mary Reed, wife of **Winston Reed** and sister of **Harry Riggs**, passed away Monday, September 21. Funeral services were on Wednesday, September 23.

Betty Lovil, grandmother of **Beka Thompson** and **Jessica Pratt**, passed away Saturday, September 19, in Mineola TX. Services were September 26, in Mineola, TX.

FAMILY CONCERNS

Briarwood Nursing & Rehab: **Ellen Brown** 104.
The House of Three: LR: **Bill Diles**.
The Crossing at Riverside: **Mable Carpenter** 309; **Louise Ganus**; **Eloise Muncy** 317B; **Margaret Parker** 212A; **Melodee Harris'** mother, Leorra Walker 305; **Joe Hurd's** mother, Patsy Hurd 216A; **Joe Jernigan's** mother, Joan Jernigan; **Sharon Manor's** father, Harvie Reynolds 105; **Sharon Manor's** mother, Opal Reynolds 114; **Danny & Mike Wood's** mother, Frances Wood 115A.
Oakdale: **Carolyn Boutell** 117; **Rick Boutell** 117.
Providence: **Lottie Nichols** 46A hospice; **Laura Smith** 308.
Searcy Healthcare: **Clarene Keesling** 82.

BIBLE CLASSES

John W. Smith is teaching a class on the Holy Spirit Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. in Room 100.

The Wednesday afternoon Early Bird Class will restart on October 14, in Room 100 or the west side of the auditorium, depending on attendance. The class will be respecting health guidelines (mask, social distancing, etc.). The class will meet at 4:00 p.m. and continue the study of the Prison Epistles with **Howard Norton**.

HIS HOUSE NEEDS

His House needs soup pots, towels, and wash cloths.