8:00 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song Leader – Steven Yeakley
Welcome – Michael Claxton
Song – Praise the Lord
Prayer – Les McGalliard
Scripture – Psalm 145:1-7 – Victor Cisneros
Song – Lord, I Lift Your Name on High
Communion & Offering – Dale Manor
Song – How Great is Our God
"God Can Do Great & Mighty Things" – Noel Whitlock
Children 2 yrs old—1st grade dismissed to Family Room
Song – To God be the Glory
Shepherd's Prayer – Fred Jewell

5:00 P.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song Leader – Ryan Simpson
Welcome – Noel Whitlock
Song – Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah
Song – Great Are You, Lord
Prayer – Harry Riggs
Scripture – Acts 23:1-5 – Clay Pennington
Song – We Bow Down
"Living with a Good Conscience" – Noel Whitlock
Song – O to Be Like Thee
Prayer – Winston Reed

LAST WEEK

10/18/2020:
8:00 Worship— 281 / 11:00 Worship — 181
Bible Classes —226 / Children's Worship — dismissed
Worship p.m. —count not taken / Worship 7:15 p.m. —dismissed

FINANCES

Budget for 10/18/2020.....$45,352.00
Giving for 10/18/2020.....$43,914.79
Budget through Week 7.....$329,760.00
Giving through Week 7 .....$309,261.88

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

October 25, 2020

COLLEGE
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

A Different Kind of Family

"Let's invite the couch people!"

With those strange words over seven years ago, we formed the nucleus of our small group. Those "couch people" were a couple who sat beside us in Paul Pollard's Bible class. We hoped that like us, who fell into a weird age-gap when it came to existing classes, they might want to find their niche at College Church. If there is one decision we are eternally grateful for making, it was coming together with those friends from that class at that moment.

We started with a deep dive into the Old Testament and took small breaks for an occasional seminar on marriage or an exploration of an interesting book. We let the Spirit move us in new directions whenever we felt the pull.

Our children (now seven of them) have grown up together, sharing crayons and coloring Bible lesson pages, while the adults studied Scripture. As they mature, we struggle with how to integrate them , how to challenge them, and how to make sure that the needs of those with kids don't dominate the needs of those without kids.

We have fought through lost parents, lost dreams, lost health, and lost opportunities. But we have also celebrated new jobs, new babies, new houses, and new stories. We eat together, we pray together, we cry together, and we fight for each other.

These people are our closest friends. They are the ones to whom we would carry our spiritual struggles, expecting not only suggestions for how to fix such problems, but also the comfort of commiseration. We are connected. If someone is missing, we know. If someone is struggling, we know. We don't just care on Sunday. We have ladies' nights and guys' nights and book clubs and family outings.

It hasn't always been easy to balance everyone's needs. For example, one member became housebound, so we were meeting with that person virtually—years before COVID entered the landscape.

If all of these features – raising good Christian children, reading God's Word, or learning about important spiritual topics – are the benefits of a good small group, then the spirit of companionship that we get out of our small group has to be its essential purpose.

Kim and Greg Laing

NOEL'S NOTES

After being away the past two Sundays, it's good to be back with my College Church family! Let me thank **Bruce McLarty**, **Kenneth Mills** and **Howard Norton** for their excellent lessons during my absence! I listened to them online, and like all of you, was blessed by their reassuring messages. I'm thankful for the many godly, capable men who encourage us from the pulpit to live faithful lives.

I'm also thankful for the good things happening at this church—every blessing and opportunity God provides. I appreciate everyone for helping make each Sunday a positive and joyful experience. Your cooperation in wearing masks and fellowshipping from a safe distance helps us to grow closer to the time when we can resume our full fellowship. We are taking every possible step to provide a safe environment to worship. If you are comfortable, please join us "in person" to praise the Father above.

Today is Great Commission Sunday! I want to commend the GCS committee for all their planning during this pandemic. It would be understandable to skip GCS this year, but I truly believe it is as needed as much as ever. Your regular contribution and GCS donation will serve to reach the lives of many people and bring honor to God! We obviously will not be passing the plates, but you can leave your contributions in the boxes as you exit. If you write a check for GCS, please clearly write "GCS" on the memo line. You can always give your regular offering and GCS contribution online. Since our first GCS eleven years ago (October 18, 2009), this special offering has raised over $2 million to support efforts that reach well beyond our annual fiscal budgets for missions.

To our guests, the offerings today are intended for our members. Please do not feel any obligation to give. We are honored by your presence. If you have any questions about our offerings or anything else we do in worship to God, please visit with me after the service or contact me in the church office. I would enjoy speaking with you!

GCS has been instrumental in touching lives around the world, spreading the gospel of Jesus, and helping to meet the physical needs of many people. We need every College Church family to give as generously as possible to help us reach and surpass our goal of $142,500.

COLLEGE CHURCH SMALL GROUPS

In today's front-page article, Greg and Kim Laing share their feelings about the value of their small group. It is one of the 14 groups listed on the Family Ministry's page of the church website (click on "small groups"). Though each group's story is unique, you will find a common thread of deep fellowship and spiritual nourishment in all. Take a look at the groups, see if any have openings, and contact the person listed to join. Or contact **Charles Ganus** through the church office for information about starting your own group.

WINTER COAT DRIVE

Our Coat Drive will be on Saturday, November 14, at College Church. We are currently collecting new and gently used coats. We offer coats to the parents as well as the children in our community. Please drop off your coats in the barrels in the Welcome Center.

BULLETIN SERIES: VISION MISSION STATEMENT

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

You may have noticed that this sentence adorns the front page of our bulletin. It is the mission statement of the congregation's Vision-for-the-Road-Ahead initiative that **David Burks** reminded us of recently. Over the next four weeks, the bulletin will feature articles devoted to explaining the implications of this statement for our work in the kingdom, starting next week with **Howard Norton**, who writes about the importance of a vital connection to God.

PRAYER & PRAISE

Prayers:
Mary Bridges is home; **Edwin Myers** is at St. Vincent hospital recovering from by-pass surgery; **Susan Watson**; **Mike Wood** is home; granddaughter of **Rick & Susan Watson**, Alex Watson.

Births:
Dani Layne was born October 18, proud parents Anna & Anthony McClellan and brother Wade, of Spring Hill, TN, grandparents **Pam & David Bangs**, aunt and uncle, **Kelsey & Caleb Ingram**.

Glen & Barbara House announce the birth of their great granddaughter, Emmie Meeks, born on October 17. Parents are Jacob & Edie Meeks, Louisville, KY.

Jonathan Scott Hearn Jr, weighing 7lbs 10oz, was born October 5 to Jonathan & Audrey Hearn of Jonesboro, Arkansas. Proud grandparents are **Steve & Cindi Cooper** and **Scott & Laura Hearn**, Great Grandparents are **James & Johnice Hearn**.

Deaths:
Richard Peck passed away Wednesday, October 21. There will be a memorial service Tuesday, October 27, 10:00 a.m., in the College church auditorium. If attending, please enter through the Welcome Center entrance and remember to wear a face mask.

Jason McGlawn's mother, Linda McGlawn of St. Louis, passed away Wednesday, October 21. Visitation and funeral will be Tuesday, October 27, at the Arnold Church of Christ in Arnold, Missouri.

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; **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.

SHOWERS

Please help us prepare for the arrival of Eliza Mae Grate with a come-and-go baby shower honoring **Chelsie & Austen Grate,** Sunday, November 8, 2:00-3:30 p.m., at the home of Katie Williams, 306 Crain Drive. This will be a COVID friendly, in-person shower. They are registered at Amazon and Target. Gifts early, if convenient, to the church office or to the shower.

You are invited to a wedding shower celebrating Jane Vanderburgh (student member) and Steven Chandler Sunday, November 1, 2:00-3:30 p.m., at the home of **Jenny Citty**, 5 Burr Oak Circle. This will be a "stop-by" or "drive-thru" shower. The couple is registered at The Boutique, Target, Belk, and Bed, Bath & Beyond. Gifts early if convenient.

You are invited to a wedding shower celebrating Maci Handy (student member) and Daniel Parrish Sunday, November 8, 1:30-3:00 p.m., at the home of Sherry Burkett, 809 Golf View Drive. The couple is registered at The Boutique, Doorframes, Amazon and Target. Gifts early if convenient.

WHAT TO CONSIDER AS WE REOPEN BIBLE CLASS

We know that everyone wants to return to in-person worship and Bible classes, but not everyone may feel safe enough to do that right now. Please know that the College Church is doing everything we can to maintain a safe, clean, and welcoming environment. If you decide to return to the building, we have prepared it with you in mind. But if you are not comfortable returning now, that is ok. We will provide options for you to worship, study, and connect while at home. College Church wants everyone to grow in the love of the Lord whether it's in person or online. Check out the link below for more information about Bible classes.

https://www.collegechurchofchrist.org/B-T-B-C

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Moved in town: **Sujin Nelson**, 603 East Market Apt #1.

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 has resumed 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 flatware, towels and coffee pots.

DAY OF PRAYER

Saturday, October 24, from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., will be an opportunity to offer prayers as a part of the "40 Days for Life" event. If you want more information about how you can join, please contact **John Baines.**

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the calls, texts, and emails during this difficult time. We have certainly felt loved! Also, thank you for the beautiful plant that was sent to our family.

Family of **Sylvia Bond**
Angela Barber & Alan Bond

Thank you very much for your gift to the Allen scholarship fund at Harding in memory of our father. Supporting his love and passion for training ministers at the university where he spent so much of his life is the perfect way to honor our dad and family. Thank you, too, for surrounding and encouraging our family at his memorial service. The College church has had such a huge impact and influence on our entire family and will always be our "home." Most of all, thank you for loving our parents well.

Cindy Payne
Family of Jimmy Allen

