DECEMBER 5, 2021

THE CONNECTION.

INTENTIONALLY CONNECTED TO GOD,
HIS WORD, HIS WORLD AND EACH OTHER.

9:00 ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song Leader
Steven Yeakley

Blessed Be Your Name

Welcome
Michael Claxton

Deacon Installation
Charles Ganus

There's a Stirring

Prayer
Dale Manor

Praise the Lord

There is a Redeemer

Communion & Offering
Jeff Montgomery

It is Well With My Soul
Children's Worship Dismissed

John 17:12-21
John Boone

Sermon Series-Connected to the Word Lesson 4
"Back to the Bible:
The Restoration Principle"
Noel Whitlock

O Listen to Our Wondrous Story

Shepherd's Prayer
Richard Duke

5 PM Order of Worship on back

TRANSLATIONS AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE

This summer, I taught a series of lessons about the Old English, Middle English, and Early Modern biblical translations that pre-dated the more famous King James Version. That experience helped strengthen my faith in the authority of God's word.

Great biblical scholars like Anselm of Canterbury, John Wycliffe, William Tyndale, and Erasmus of Rotterdam all played influential roles in faithfully rendering God's Word into the language of their time. Later translations would build on the work of these men.

Skeptics might assume that so many updated editions over the centuries have corrupted the original text. After reading these scholars, who devoted their lives to Holy Scripture, I am convinced their efforts did the opposite.

From Old English monks onward, they all emphasize the seriousness of biblical translation. It must maintain the sanctity of the Bible, strive to understand the Word of God, and insist on the paramount concern of accuracy. Facing fierce opposition, Tyndale defended his efforts by saying, "I call God to record against the day we shall appear before our Lord Jesus, that I never altered one syllable of God's Word . . . nor would do this day, if . . . honor, pleasure, or riches, might be given me."

They also recognized the divine inspiration of the original words, and the continuity between the Old and New Testaments concerning Christ. The Logos, for these men, was not mere text; it was access to God's divine love. They understood what Jesus himself said: "These are the very Scriptures that testify about me" (John 5:39).

The more I studied these earlier English translations, the more confident I felt about the authority and power of God's Word. New translations of the Word will appear, and variations between those texts will spark debate; however, I am confident that such differences are an important part of our faith. They invite us to look deeper into the Word to understand God's message for our lives.

At the same time, I believe that the Word is built on God's authority and is unchanged throughout the centuries. There are more ancient and medieval copies of the Bible than any other texts from those eras, and we – as believers in the sanctity of that Word – should be confident that our translations represent the most accurate and authoritative text in history.

Greg Laing

THANK YOU

Thank you to **Phil & Ann Dixon** and **Robin Miller** for the Christmas decorations on the auditorium stage and the poinsettia tree in the Welcome Center during the holidays.

THANK YOU

Aunean Rainwater

Thank you so much for the cards and calls following my recent fall. I truly appreciated everything. I still miss being with you every week. May God bless each and every one of you.

Dale & Sharon Manor

Thank you so much for your many expressions of sympathy, calls, and cards on the passing of **Sharon's** mother, **Opal Reynolds**. While Opal had been in Searcy for several years, her health conditions were such that she was confined most of the time she was here. Regardless, your gracious visits and remarks continued to bolster us through the years.

The graveside memorial service for Opal will be in Toney, Alabama on Wednesday, December 8. We ask for your prayers as we gather for that service.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

His House needs volunteers to help sort through clothing that has been donated during the past couple of months. Volunteers gather each week during the following times, Monday and Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.; and each Thursday at 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions, you can contact **Gale Hanna**.

PRAYERS, PRAISE & SYMPATHY

Prayers:

Bettye Alley is under hospice care at her daughter's home. Visitors welcome but please call first (368-0833); **Sue Caldwell** will be in the Arkansas Heart Hospital Mon-Thur; **Adam Dunning,** cancer treatments; **Kathy Nunnally**; Lindsey Farley, daughter of **Lisa Farley**.

Births:

Charlie & Clara Carroll would like to announce the arrival of their 5th grandchild. Wendell Bryan Goertzen was born October 4, to Julius & Jacqueline Carroll Goertzen of Aurora, Nebraska. Wendell joins twin sisters Samantha and Caroline.

Trey & Ronda Reely would like to announce the arrival of a new granddaughter, Madison Jewel Reely. She was born Monday, November 22, to Taylor & Kelsey Reely. Great-grandparents are **Bob & Charlan Reely**.

Kerry & Rhonda Thompson announce the arrival of two new grandchildren. Granddaughter, Amelia Ann Woods, was born November 4, to Casey & Lauren Woods. Grandson Davis E. Thompson was born Monday, November 29, to Lance & Audrey Thompson of Portland, Oregon.

Sympathies:

Dennis Cox, brother-in-law of **Paul & Mary Gardner**, passed away. Services will be Monday, December 6, in Vienna, West Virginia.

Jean Minor, mother of **Linda Thompson**, passed away Saturday, November 27. Services were Saturday, December 4. She was a member of Don England's Shepherding Group.

FAMILY CONCERNS

Briarwood Nursing & Rehab: **Ellen Brown** 104
Hickory Heights: LR: **Larry Heusel**
Oakdale: **Rick Boutell** 518
The House of Three: LR: **Bill Diles**
The Crossing at Riverside: **Mable Carpenter** 303; **Louise Ganus**; **Eloise Muncy** 115B; **Joe Hurd's** mother, Patsy Hurd 208A.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Moved in town: Johnice Hearn, 801 S Benton #1107.

Moved out of town: Tom Burkett, St. Bernards Villa, 2217 Parker Road #125, Jonesboro, AR 72404. Cards appreciated.

NEW CLASS

Gene Luna invites you to a new Bible class, "How Can a Lost World be Found?" The class will start Sunday morning, January 9, in Room 207.

NEW DEACON GREG BROOKS



New deacon **Greg Brooks** and his family began worshipping at College Church six years ago. A professional educator at the college level (HU), Greg is involved in four ministries but spends most of his time with Caring and Sharing (working with children) and Youth Ministry (teaching Bible for Lads to Leaders). His passion for working with younger kids makes sense: He and wife **Deana** have four children: Emily, Josh, Melody and Katelyn. But, Greg says, "I also had a great role model in my dad, who worked with children's worship for years." Greg served as deacon at his previous congregation, an experience that taught him "all tasks are important. Each one contributes to the church as a whole."

SENIORS CHRISTMAS DINNER

From Harry Riggs, Seniors Minister

Please join us for the annual Seniors Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 10, 5:30 p.m. in the Family Room. Turkey, ham, homemade dressing, homemade rolls and drinks will all be provided. Please bring your favorite side dishes and desserts. We will be entertained with the music and singing of **Tom Alexander** and **Chuck Hicks**. Invite your senior friends and/or neighbors to come with you, and let's all enjoy a wonderful evening of good food, joyful holiday spirit, and warm fellowship! I hope you can come. I am looking forward to spending the evening with you.

NEW MEMBERS

Velma Joseph moved to Searcy from Garland, Texas. She works for Texas Health Insurance as a cost accountant. Velma loves writing cards, gardening and being outdoors. She recently joined the Discipleship Ministry and has already started working with the group. Her mother, Jackie, is here for an extended stay from her home in Colorado.

Steve & Sue Ulrich recently moved here from California, where they lived for the last ten years. They both graduated from Harding in the 70's and were married at the College Church in 1981. They have a married son in Kentucky and a married daughter in Oklahoma. Steve loves to play golf, and Sue loves crafts, walking and baking.

DEACON APPOINTMENT

These men have been recommended to serve as deacons for the College Church: **Dave Daughety**, **Scott Hearn** and **Pat Howe**. If you have a scriptural reason why any of them should not be appointed, please contact **Charles Ganus** by this Sunday, December 5.

SHEPHERDING GROUP

Gowen Shepherding Group

The Gowen Shepherding Group is invited to meet in the home of **Jim & Kay Gowen**, 8 Franklin Circle, this Sunday, December 5, after Bible classes, at approximately 11:30 a.m. Smoked meats will be provided. Each family is requested to bring a potluck side dish and/or dessert to go with the main dish. If the weather allows, we plan to be outside. If not, we have room inside for all of you and your children. If possible, please let us know if you plan to attend. God bless each of you. We look forward to our time together.

COLLEGE STUDENTS

The church elders would like to invite all college students to stay for lunch after Bible Class on Sunday, December 12, in the Family Room.

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Charles & Krista Underwood will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on December 12, 3:00-4:30 p.m., at Cone Chapel. All are invited to attend this reception in their honor. Please RSVP to Lindsey Sexton at (501)940-6496, if you plan to attend.

GENTRY RECEPTION

The congregation is invited to a reception on Sunday, December 12, 1:00 p.m., in Room 100, to honor **Todd & Debbie Gentry**.

5 PM ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song Leader
Chad Burchfield

Welcome
Howard Norton

O Worship the King

Lord, We Come Before Thee Now

Prayer
Don Hood

Praise Ye the Lord

Come, We That Love the Lord

"Is the Restoration Principle Still Valid Today?"
Noel Whitlock

Give Me the Bible

I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Lord's Supper in Room 100

Closing Prayer
Nathan Anguish

HIS HOUSE

Donation Requests:
Towels
Dishes
Silverware
Toasters

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning
9:00 AM Worship | 10:15 AM Bible Class
7:15 AM | Chinese Church in Heritage Room 210

Sunday Evening
5:00 PM Worship

Tuesday Morning
9:30 AM Ladies Bible Class in Room 100

Wednesday
4:00 PM Early Bird Bible Class in Room 100
5:30 PM Mabee Bldg in Room 101
7:00 PM Convicted Series in the Family Room
7:00 PM The Gospel of John in Room 232
7:00 PM Cradle Roll - 6th grade
7:00 PM SH Meeting in Homes | JH Meeting in Building
8:30 PM | Chinese Church in Heritage Room 210

FINANCES

Budget for 11/28/2021 - $47,088.00
Giving for 11/28/2021 - $37,212.41
Budget through Week 13 - $627,835.00
Giving through Week 13 - $651,081.28

ATTENDANCE 11/28/21

9:00 Worship - 693
Bible Class - 641
Children's Worship - did not meet
5:00 Worship - 212
Sunday PM - Many Small Groups Meeting
Live-Stream Worship - 113

WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Office Hours - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday
Closed daily from 12-1 p.m. for lunch
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ccoc@collegechurchofchrist.org
elders@collegechurchofchrist.org
Office: 501.268.7156
Fax: 501.268.5684
College/Community Outreach: 501.268.4191

COLLEGE CHURCH of CHRIST

If you have a request for the bulletin, please submit all information by noon, Thursday prior to service.