

JULY 26, 2026

## 9:00 AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

# THE CONNECTION.

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

**Baby Blessing: The Millers**  
Byron Howell

**Song Leader**  
Todd Miller

Blessed Assurance

'Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus

Behold Our God

Still

**Summer Missions Faith  
Story & Prayer**

Edwin Hendrix

His Grace Reaches Me

**Communion & Contribution**  
Josh Daigle

O Thou Fount of Every  
Blessing

I Will Call Upon the Lord  
*Children's Worship Dismissed*

The Glory-Land Way

**"Ephesians: Standing in  
Heavenly Places"**

Jordan Guy

The Battle Belongs to the Lord

**Announcements**  
Michael Crouch

**Shepherd's Prayer**  
Norm Stone

## COME LET US SING!

Most of what I know about leading songs I learned from my father, Andy T. Ritchie III. He taught me how to beat a pattern, how to pitch and lead a song, and how to put thought into the words and music. He, of course, was influenced by his father, Andy T. Ritchie, Jr. This larger-than-life figure became an example both of us followed.

My grandfather believed that to lead a song in worship, you must understand and interpret its meaning. After all, the songs we sing speak to one another and to God, and should reflect the thoughts we want to express. Sometimes those thoughts are gentle, like those of "Father of Mercies," other times boisterous, like "A Mighty Fortress." Song leading is not just song starting; it requires thought.

The music needs to complement the poetry. When music fits well with the words, the two become a single entity. Still, the music should not detract from the words. Sometimes we are drawn to a song because of the music and not the message. If only the melody draws us in, we risk pleasing ourselves rather than God in our worship.

By my final year in high school, my mentors had given me a solid foundation for song leading, but experience taught me another valuable lesson.

At an out-of-town devotional, I was asked to lead "Years I spent in Vanity and Pride." I did not care for the song and would not have chosen it. But someone explained to me that many of those present had come out of years in the drug culture and all manner of depravity.

This song meant a great deal to them because it described their former lives and the mercy they had received through Christ. It dawned on me that my choice of songs should reflect the needs of the particular group that would be singing, not necessarily songs that appealed to me.

We sing to worship, to praise or declare the worth of our God. We sing to speak to one another words that teach and those that encourage. My grandfather suggested that we study the objective of worship and select songs that will best reach that objective.

As leaders, let us teach and lead songs that take us out of spiritual poverty and into deeper worship.

**Tom Ritchie**

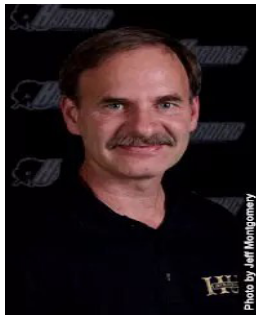


Photo by Jeff Montgomery

## PROMOTION SUNDAY

On Sunday, August 2, our Bible classes will celebrate Promotion Sunday! Children ages 2 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will move up to their new Bible classes. We look forward to welcoming everyone as we begin a new year of learning and growing together in God's Word!

## BE THE WELCOME THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!

On Wednesday, August 5, we'll be welcoming local families for our annual School Supply & Backpack Giveaway. Thanks to the generous donations from previous years, we have all the school supplies we need—so this year, we're asking for your presence, not your presents!

We need smiling faces to greet families, help them feel at home, and show them the love of Christ. If you've signed up to help, please plan to arrive 10–15 minutes before your scheduled volunteer time. Please also be praying that God uses this evening to bless our community and plant seeds of faith. If you can serve, sign up in your Bible class.

## EARLY BIRD CLASS

There will be NO Early Bird Class Wednesday, August 5, due to the School Supply Drive.

## GCS 2026

Our annual GCS special offering will take place on October 18, 2026. Applications are currently in the entrance foyer, on the auditorium tables on each side of the pulpit, in adult classrooms, [and available online](#). The deadline to submit applications is August 2.

## PRAYERS & PRAISE

**Kenna Aldrich**, Oakdale 105; **Sarah Ard**; **Janice Blankenship**; **Nancy Dart**, The Springs 29, visitors encouraged; **Mary Diles**, home; **Ken Sallee**, The Crossing 214B.

We Rejoice! **John Laing**, son of **John & Kim Laing**, was baptized on Thursday, June 16, by his father. Address: 205 Western Hills.

Congratulations to **Ezra Guy**, son of **Jordan & Taylor Guy**, who was baptized on Tuesday, July 21, by his dad. Address: 120 Meadow Brook.

**Ann Hobby** would like to announce the birth of a great-granddaughter, Evelyn Stout, born on Sunday, July 19, to Alina and Blake Stout of Piedmont, OK. Great-aunt and great-uncle are **Tianna & Kevin Tripp** and aunt & uncle are **Theo & Rochelle Westbrook**.

## SUMMER WEDNESDAY NIGHTS CLOSE-OUT CELEBRATION, JULY 29

Join us THIS Wednesday, July 29, at 6:30 p.m. for our big close-out celebration! We'll gather at Heritage Park on Harding University's campus for an evening of pizza, fellowship, singing, and a devotional. The Kona Ice truck will also be there for everyone to enjoy. Be sure and bring a lawn chair. If you plan to eat with us, please register the total number attending by THIS Sunday, July 26, [using this link](#).

## ADOPT-A-COLLEGE-STUDENT PROGRAM

Please consider signing up to "adopt" a college student. This is an intergenerational ministry in which members connect with students to provide a home away from home. This program is a blessing to both students and members. As school approaches next month, we are needing more families to adopt new students. If you don't have a current "adopted" student and would like to take part, please fill out [this form](#). **Johnny** will reach out to you when there is a match. Thanks!

## SINGING CLASS

Please join us THIS Sunday, July 26, at 10:30 a.m. for a special singing and praise class led by **Brandon Lowe**. It will be part of the Faithful Families Bible class and will meet in Room 233-234. We'd love for you to be there!

## SENIORS SUMMER DINNER

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Seniors Summer Dinner on Friday, August 7, at 5:30 p.m., in the Family Room. The theme will be, "Celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Nation!". The program will be a great presentation of many well known singers and musicians performing patriotic songs. **Dan Newsom** will be the presenter. Come for a catered meal and an inspiring evening.

## COLLEGE MINISTRY WELCOME MEAL

The College Ministry will have a lunch for our incoming **college students** in the Family Room on Sunday, August 16, following Bible class. Due to the number of students expected, we are inviting families involved in our ministry to **bring a dessert** and join us at the meal to connect with the students (including all elders, staff, Home-Bible-Study leaders, and those who have signed up to adopt a college student).

## SHEPHERDING GROUP MEAL

The **Norm Stone, Larry Long and David Bangs** Shepherding Groups will meet in Room 121 for a potluck Sunday, August 2, following Bible Class.

## ELDERS MEETING SUMMARY JULY 2026

This month the elders

- Prayed for
  - ◇ Specific needs in the church family, including those dealing with grief and difficult health issues;
  - ◇ **James and Sarah Ard**, who were invited to an elders' meeting so the elders could pray for their multiple health issues;
  - ◇ The young people who have recently been baptized;
  - ◇ The worship service beginning at His House on August 2, the families and children in the congregation, the lost in our community and around the world, and the spiritual and numerical growth of the congregation;
- Were updated on
  - ◇ The current amount of pledges and cash gifts for the building fund: \$3,308,296;
  - ◇ The planning for the renovation projects, with final construction plans anticipated shortly and work on the Rock House having already begun;
- Approved
  - ◇ A new compensation policy for interns hired by the various ministries.

## HEALTHY AGING & LONGEVITY EXPO

Harding University and the College Church Seniors Ministry are hosting a presentation on Healthy Aging & Longevity here in the Family Room on Saturday, August 8, at 9:00 a.m. Several experts will be presenting throughout the morning. Along with vendors providing demos and samples. No registration is needed. All are welcome.

## THANK YOU

From **Terry Jackson**

Thank you for the beautiful arrangement sent in memory of my mother, **Louise Jackson**, also for all the love you have shown me and momma over the years.

## HARDING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

College Church is part of the Harding School of Theology Church Audit Program. College Church members may **audit select classes** for just \$75 per class. If you are interested, please click **this LINK** for more information.

## FAMILY CONCERNS

Briarwood: **Ellen Brown** 104  
Providence: **Harold Norwood** 316  
Providence Memory Care: **Beverly Blickenstaff**  
The Crossing: **Rick Boutell** 308; **Eloise Muncy** 211B  
The House of Three, 105 Madalyn Drive: **Alice Bell**, visitors encouraged  
Ongoing Prayer Requests: **Fannie Amy; David Davis; Gary Smith**; David Mathews, grandson of **Darren & Kim Mathews**; Amy Qualls, daughter of **Cheryl Riggs**; Jason Roberson, son of **Shauna Vodehnal**

## 5:00 PM WORSHIP

### Song Leader

John Stone

### Welcome

Kenneth Mills

We Praise Thee, O God

How Deep the Father's Love

### Prayer

Arthur Mock

To God Be the Glory

Father, I Adore You

### Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Ashton Stone

Hear, O Israel

Our God, He is Alive

### "There is One God" (Part 1)

Noel Whitlock

How Great Thou Art

This is My Father's World

*Lord's Supper in Room 100*

### Closing Prayer

Ronald Johnson

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday Morning

8:15 AM | Chinese Church in Heritage Room 210

9:00 AM Worship

10:30 AM Bible Class

### Sunday Evening

5:00 PM Worship

### Tuesday

9:30 AM Ladies Class

### Midweek

4:00 PM Early-Bird Bible Class in Room 100

5:00 PM Women's Intergenerational Study | Room 226

6:30 PM Women's Bible Class Room 234

6:30 PM "What Happened to the Church?" Paul Pollard | Room 236

6:30 PM Textual Bible Class in The Family Room

6:30 PM Singing & Prayer Class | Room 100

6:30 PM 23:6ers | Room 102

6:30 PM Study on Prayer | Eddie Cloer | Room 226

6:30 PM SH and JH Meeting

6:30 PM Hebrews | Harry Riggs | Harding Place

7:15 PM Chinese Church in Heritage | Room 210

## FINANCES FOR 7/12/26 & 7/19/26

Budget for 7/12/2026 - \$52,194.00

Giving for 7/12/2026 - \$50,528.97

Budget - Week 45 - \$2,412,535.54

Giving - Week 45 - \$2,331,208.72

Budget for 7/19/2026 - \$52,194.00

Giving for 7/19/2026 - \$46,734.76

Budget - Week 46 - \$2,464,729.54

Giving - Week 46 - \$2,377,943.48

## ATTENDANCE 7/19/26

9:00 AM Worship - 846

Bible Class - 658

Children's Worship - 43

5:00 PM Worship - 239

Sunday Small Groups - 67

## 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

712 East Race Avenue, 72143

ccoc@collegechurchofchrist.org

elders@collegechurchofchrist.org

Office: 501.268.7156

Fax: 501.268.2684

College Outreach: 501.268.4191



## HIS HOUSE

### Donation Requests:

Diapers, size 5

Men's underwear and socks

Hand and bath towels

Women's socks



**COLLEGE**  
CHURCH of CHRIST

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