



Weekly Newsletter

December 4, 2011

Order of Worship

Welcome

Clay Joseph

Song Leader

Jon Ewing

#282

Opening Prayer

Grant Wheeler

#80

#752

The Lord's Supper

Jeremy Thurlkill

Contribution

Jeremy Thurlkill

#742

#234

Lesson

Dennis Smith

#263

Announcements

Clay Joseph

"In Christ Alone"

Closing Prayer

Tyler Thornton

*You are the light
of the world. A
city set on a hill
cannot be hidden.
(Matt. 5:14)*

"And Dwelt Among Us"

The faith of Christ is not like any religion of man. It is not merely adherence to the teachings of a prophet, nor simply acceptance of the philosophy of a teacher, nor even just commitment to the code of a lawgiver. No. Christians believe in what Jesus Christ actually did upon the real stage of life.

The New Testament makes the claim unmistakably. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. The One who existed in the form of God took the form of a man. He served. He overcame. He obeyed God, even in the midst of the worst of human experience.

First John is most insistent about it. "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life...By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God...And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world" (1 Jn. 1:1; 4:2, 14).

But the significant thing is not only *that* it happened; the significant thing is that what *had* to happen *has* in fact happened.

God had to be made known where alienation from him had produced ignorance of him, so, by Christ's coming in the flesh, the life "which was with the Father was made manifest to us" (1 Jn. 1:4).

The moral authority to lead had to be gained, so he walked in the light and invited us to walk in the same way (1 Jn. 1:7; 2:6).

Sin had to be judged, so "he appeared to take away sins" (1 Jn. 3:5) by becoming "the propitiation of our sins" (2:2), being righteous himself but bearing our sins in his body.

Death had to be conquered, so the Son of God appeared in the body to destroy the works of the devil (1 Jn. 3:8); he was born to keep the evil one from touching us (5:18).

Fellowship had to be made real, so he became a sharer in what can be seen and heard in order to be able to faithfully represent us with the Father as an advocate (1 Jn. 2:1).

If Jesus is not Christ come in the flesh, not one of these things is possible. The faith of Christ holds that his incarnation to dwell among us is not a story. It's a necessity.

—Bill McFarland

Today's Lessons:

AM: Inspiration

PM: "With My Spirit and With My Mind": Songs and their stories

Prayer List & Notes

Welcome Visitors

We are honored that you joined us. We hope you will be blessed by your time with us. We have an attended nursery, a cry/training room and a nursing mother's room for your convenience if you have small children. Please fill out an attendance card and pass it to the end of the pew so that we may thank you for your visit.

For The Record November 27

Bible Study: 276
Morning: 321
Evening: 220
Wednesday (11/30): 221
Contribution: \$ 8,099



Elder of the Month
Clay Joseph

In Our Prayers

- ☞ Elizabeth Lilly has severe back pain
 - ☞ Jeff Treat is recovering from foot surgery
 - ☞ Shelia Hansen is recovering from shoulder surgery
 - ☞ Herman Harris is at Cox Walnut Lawn, Rm. 311,
 - ☞ Jarita Nimmo is at Christian Health Care
 - ☞ David Ratterree is having some additional health problems
 - ☞ Lucille Ford is now at her daughter's home
- Friends and Family:**
- ◆ Dennis Smith's nephew, Mark Gentry, is recovering from heart by-pass surgery
 - ◆ Jon Ewing's dad, Winston Ewing, is at Mercy Villa
 - ◆ Kerry Cole has several family members he would like you to keep in your prayers: his niece, Sandra Barnett, who lives in Dixon, ILL; his cousin, Greg Cole who is recovering from surgery in North Carolina; his niece Kaitlyn Behr, who has an inherited disease that causes her to go blind.
 - ◆ Gail White's brother, Paul Ellard, who has cancer
 - ◆ Jan Bowling's cousin's daughter, 6-year old Shelby Davidson, is still undergoing testing at St. Jude for a tumor in her leg
 - ◆ Noel Green's father-in-law is in the hospital in Albuquerque



Please consider sending a card or contacting at least one person on the Shut-in and Long-Term sick list during this holiday season. I'm sure they would appreciate it more than you know.

Shut-ins:
Kay Adams
Joy/Alice Allen
Shirley Bartlett
Doris Iorg
Fern Davis
Thelma Fain
Irene Johnson
Carol Law
Carol Mahon
Wilma Melton
Annie Overstreet
Wilma Spoor
Doris Thomason
Judy Todd

Long-Term
Paul Bratcher
Doris Burch
Bonnie Cole
Lucille/Milton Ford
Herman Harris
Jarita Nimmo
Betty Shaw
Doris Tobler
Pat Woods
Military:
Matthew Patterson



We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Cora Lee Minnick, former member, who passed away recently in Illinois.

Golden Messenger for December is available in the foyer!



Just wanted to Thank everyone for their continued prayers. After almost 3years, my nephew, Cody Newman, is home safe for good! Thank you all!, Love, **Lora Luna & family**

Thanks so much for the cards, prayers and support you all have given me and my family. It has been very tough these last few months. I still have issues after my surgery but the doctors hope things will improve but it make take time. Jarita is doing about the same and as good as can be expected. Thanks again for everything and I hope to be back soon. I miss you all. In Christian love, **David Nimmo & Family**

Sometimes just simple words say it best. We thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts for all the cards, kind words and phone calls. We thank so many of you who came to the building to help us celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. We feel so blessed to be a part of this congregation. In Christian love, **Verl & Karen Duncan**

I do not have the words to express my sincere thankfulness for all of your love, concern, caring sentiments and beautiful cards I have received since my brother's death. Words aren't enough to say what it means for so many to love you, care about you in this time of sadness. I love you all. Thank you. In Christian love, **Mary Jo Rookstool**

Thank you to everyone for the many acts of love and kindness shown to us after the loss of our father. A special thanks to Bill, Dennis and Kerry for helping with the service and to everyone who provided food for the family after the service. **The family of John Luallin**

Thanks to everyone for all the birthday cards and words of encouragement for my birthday. I really appreciate them all. **Jerry Young**

News & Activities

- **Keep Bill in your prayers as he is in a gospel meeting in Lebanon today through Wednesday.** (See flyer on bulletin board)
- **Golden Agers meet today at 4 p.m.**
- **Quilters meet Tuesday at 10 am**
- **Elders meet December 13 at 2 p.m.**



January 29 will be our next 5th Sunday. In addition to our 5th Sunday contribution and Potluck Lunch, the Deacons will host a **Ministry Fair** to show you the areas of work in which they are involved and give you an opportunity to decide which area of work you would like to be a part of. We hope you will make an extra effort to be present that day.

Ladies . . .

The planning committee would like to get your feedback on the Fall Retreat as well as the Spring Tea. If you attended one or both of these events this year, please fill out a survey to offer your opinions and give us suggestions for next year. The surveys are located on the desk by the east entrance to the building. We will have a box set up for you to return them to on the same desk. Thank you!!



Ladies Bible Class meets

Thursday, December 8 at 10:30; child care will be provided. Angela Morton will be giving the lesson on "The Gift of the Day." Several of the young ladies will be helping with the presentation. It will be about using each day wisely. Please bring your favorite holiday food for potluck lunch. We hope you will make plans to attend.



Birthdays Next Week

- 11 Miller Hansen
- Pat Harris
- Dennis Smith
- 12 Charlyn Lines
- Wanda Wilkinson
- Logan Winters
- 13 Debbie Meinsen
- Seth Sekulic
- 15 Maddie Lands
- Nicole Stockdale
- 16 Adam Stipp

Contribution envelopes for 2012 are available in the office. If you currently are using the envelopes, your name has been put on that same number for 2012 and they are arranged alphabetically.



Water Mill Youth Holiday SNAC

This evening after worship we will be having a gift exchange for the youngsters and teens. The teens will again be doing a "white elephant" exchange. The younger children will do a regular gift exchange (boys please bring a toy for a boy and girls bring one for a girl). Please try to keep all gifts under \$5. We will also need sandwiches, chips, desserts, and drinks.



Assistance Needed

Debbie Crawford has been in contact with the 26th & Connecticut church in Joplin and they need our assistance in collecting items for boxes to give to the tornado victims. These are the items they need: Powdered sugar, flour, regular sugar, oats, peanut butter, vanilla, pecans, Hershey kisses. Please put your items in the east end of the foyer at the Giving Tree. Debbie will take the items to Joplin Tuesday.



THE UN-ANSWERED PRAYER OF JESUS

By Dennis R. Smith

In the noted prayer of Jesus from John 17 he prayed for the church to be ONE. He said, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be ONE as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be ONE in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." The picture of the church as can be seen in the New Testament, is a far cry from many's concept of what the church is today. There are so many religious organizations in the world that it would be difficult to count them. This was not the desire of Christ as is evidenced by the prayer above. If we would but think for a moment, we could understand that this would not be a working situation. The prophet of old asked the question, "Can two walk together except they be agreed (Amos 3:3)?" The answer to that question is NO! In like fashion our common sense should tell us that where there is a difference of opinion the purpose of God's church on earth could not be successful. With this in mind, I wonder if Jesus would approve of a number of religious organizations with different pleas, different plans of salvation and different names? That the ONENESS of the church was approved of by God we cannot deny, but it is a sad, sad day when we see the great division which exists today and even more so when we have to admit that the prayer of Jesus - up to this day - has gone unanswered!

Schedule of Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study9:00 AM
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 AM
 Sunday Evening Worship...5:00 PM
 Wednesday Night Bible Class....7:00 PM

WORKS WE SUPPORT

CHINESE AGAPE Foundation

Joey & Tammy Treat, Northern Mariana Islands

Voice of Truth International

Charles Renfro, Latin American Missions

World Christian Broadcasting

Churches of Christ Disaster Relief

Lincoln Church of Christ

Fair Haven Children's Home

"In Search Of
 The Lord's Way"
 7:00 A.M. Sundays
 KOLR TV 10

"Know Your Bible"
 10:30 A.M. Sundays
 Springfield 33
 KSPR-TV



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Office Hours:

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday - Friday

Service Rosters

THIS MORNING

AM Nursery: Donna Jordan/Michelle Hulett
Greeters: Jon & Coyeatte Ewing
Van Driver: James Simons/732-5641
KYB Phone: Adam & Sara Stipp
Serve George Downing/Jeff Fisher
Communion: John Dutton/Jackie Freeze
 Verl Duncan/Mark Friend
 Jon Ewing/Ryan Friend
 Briley Ewing/Blanton Glenn

THIS EVENING

Song Leader: John Mahon
Opening Prayer: Isaac Tovar
Lesson: "A Lesson In Song"
Closing Prayer: Larry Baggett
Communion: George/William Downing
Nursery: Lisa Stayton/Emily Simons

NEXT WEEK, December 11

	MORNING	EVENING
Song Leader:	Jon Ewing	John Mahon
Opening Prayer:	George Downing	Van Barnes
Communion:	Matt Keener	George/W. Downing
Closing Prayer:	Daniel Tovar	Adam Barton
AM Nursery:	Pat Malanowski/Orvella Blackburn	
PM Nursery:	Alice Buckner/Jenny Carroll	
Greeters:	Mark & Cheryl Friend	
Van Driver:	Russell Lilly/839-4048	

MONTH OF December

Ushers: Jerry Stockdale/
James Simons
AV Room: Scott Barton/
Jeremy Thurlkill
Secure Paul Lines/
Building: Tim Buckner

Wednesday, December 7

Devotional: Brian York
Song Leader: Isaac Tovar
Opening Prayer: Brendan Carroll
Closing Prayer: Kerry Cole
Van Driver: Jason Luna