



Family News

March 18, 2012

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 18 — Afternoon Singing at Pioneer Nursing Home

March 25 — Fellowship Meal after evening services

We have 4 Important Events

1. **“Made in Oklahoma Festival”** We will have a tent available for a rest area where we will give out gift bags with information about the church. We will also give out free water bottles! We need 8 or 10 volunteers who will work the booth for a few hours. This way no one has to be there all day! What a great way to share your Christian love!
2. **“Men’s Prayer Breakfast”** is scheduled for April 14th at 8:00 am. The men from the Little congregation will join us!
3. **“DivoreCare Series”** will begin on April 18 and continue through July 11th. This is a thirteen week series. Palmer and Judy need volunteers to watch the nursery from 6:15 to 7:00 pm and from 8:00–8:30 pm for those weeks. They will have a sign-up sheet posted in the foyer on next week. Please help if you can.
4. **“Friends and Family Day”** will be April 29th. Mardee O’Donnell has handed out a sheet for us to fill out with friends and family addresses. Please fill one out as soon as possible and turn it in to the office or put it on the kiosk in the foyer for Mardee to pick up.

OUR LEADERS

ELDERS

Stacy Kinsey
Syd Morgan
Lee Stilwell
James Vanlandingham

DEACONS

Jon Cloud
Ken Crane
Ed Hardin
Jim Hardin
Clint Jackson
Steve Johnson
Steve Lashley
Wayne Maxwell
Mardee O’Donnell
Dan Reynolds
Vic Richardson
Palmer Smith
Bob Swearingen
Mike Vanlandingham

Minister

Chris Stinnett
chris@churchofchristatseminole.org

Seniors Minister

Palmer Smith
palmer@churchofchristatseminole.org

Youth Minister

Arpoika Daniels
arpoika@rsib.net

Secretary

Roberta Bender
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Church of Christ at Seminole

“One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I shall seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord and to meditate in His temple” (Psalm 27:4 NASB).

Requesting Prayers

Ken and Debbie Crane's immediate family members are having tests and surgeries: Grandson, Becket, had tests on March 16th; Debbie's mother, Velma Baxter, is to have a knee replacement on March 26th, at McBride Bone and Joint. Their daughter, Courtney Waugh, is to have outpatient surgery on March 28th, at Mercy Hospital.

Walter Strickland was declared cancer free! He will not have to go back for 4 months for another CT scan.

Jennifer North of the Little congregation has requested prayers for her mother, Debbie Hull.

James Vanlandingham, Toby Aldridge, Leon McDonald, nephew of Bill McDonald, Myrtle Martin, Connie Ramsey, Walter Strickland, Howard Rankin, Betty Craig, Jo and Bill Marquis, Sarah Walker, Fred and Velma Baxter, brother and mother of Debbie Crane, Joseph and Nicole Ernst, nephew and niece of Larry and Debbie Ernst, William McDonald and Betty Boggs, son and daughter of Bill McDonald, Ola Davis and her son Doyle Davis, Roseman Smiddy and Shirley Carson, cousin and sister of Wayne and Jeanie Maxwell.

Let's remember the shut-ins: *Phyllis Collings, Daisy Davis, Thurman Edwards, Sr., Bonnie Lee Parks, and Marion Pippin.*

Servicemen: *Tony Eka, Steve Bender.*

OCWA

Oklahoma Christian Women's Association will have a tasting party at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall on April 2nd. All ladies are invited.

THE FAMILY NEWS

Friends and Family Day

"According to George Barna, half of adults are annoyed when a *stranger* tries to share his or her faith with them, but this same group is not annoyed when close friends, loving neighbors, or trusted associates have a spiritual conversation with them."—William Peel and Walt Larimore, *Going Public With Your Faith*, page 57.

Prime Timers' News

Over the years, older adults experience many types of losses. It is helpful to be aware of these losses: the loss of significant loved ones; the loss of physical abilities; the loss of ability to drive an automobile; the loss of time (fewer years left to accomplish dreams and goals); the loss of independence (due to a lack of physical mobility, therefore becoming more dependent on other people); the loss of purpose and self-worth; the loss of a dream.

While losses are very much a part of life, many older adults desire to come to terms with their losses. They want to make sense out of life and find true meaning and purpose in living and being useful. They often struggle to find a deeper acceptance of themselves. They want to be needed and loved and often seek out opportunities to be in service to others and God.

Quite often as the years keep marching on and old age creeps in, dreams and hopes may diminish because of the losses that accompany the "golden years." But this is where attitude is so important. A negative, despondent, destructive attitude toward life is not so much imposed by our circumstances as by our reactions to those circumstances. This is where Christian attitude is so vitally important. When life seems to be confusing and difficult, let us constantly be reminded of those encouraging words of the inspired writer, "Wherefore we faint not; but though our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction, which is for the moment, worketh for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory" (2 Corinthians 4:16, 17 KJV).

Fellowship Meal

Is scheduled for next Sunday evening after worship services. Please bring sandwiches or desserts along with chips or dip. Come have a great time visiting with our members!

Arpoika's Up-Coming News:

PRAYER

Twenty-three of us are in Colorado on a ski-retreat this week. We would be very grateful for each of your prayers on our behalf.

Several families along with some teens will be staying in Silverthorne and skiing at the Loveland Ski Resort.

Each evening we will spend time singing praises to God and talking about our duties as the Family of God towards one another and how we might become more and more the people He created us to be.

SUMMER CAMP

Camp applications have been mailed out to everyone who attended camp last year. If you didn't get an application and would like to go, please ask me or print one off the QMCC website. Parents, remember to give applications to ME; do **NOT** mail them to the camp.

AWTG

Our next Area-Wide will be held by the Holdenville Congregation on Sunday, April 1st.

Who's In Charge?

—by *Chris Stinnett*

One of the wonderful things about living in the United States is the constitutional protections of the rights we possess. For instance, we have the natural right to free speech and our government is required to uphold that right.

Most countries do not recognize the right to free speech. Some nations now twist their own laws to deny some people the ability to express themselves. For example, in Great Britain, a Moslem can wear a headscarf and it's free speech. A Sikh can wear a turban and it's free speech. But the British government argues that Christians may not wear a cross openly at work. And a worker fired for doing so has no right to appeal.

Even here, although the government must support the right to free speech, people may still pay a price for their views. David Coppedge claims he was demoted, reassigned and fired from NASA because he believes Darwinian evolution is wrong and that intelligent design explains life on earth and its diversity. He filed a lawsuit, claiming he was discriminated against because of his religious views. And when Dr. Richard Sternberg authorized publication of an article about intelligent design in a professional journal, he was promptly locked out of his office at Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History, where he worked as an unpaid researcher. Apparently, examining intelligent design is considered evidence of religious views that should be suppressed.

Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:18-20 NIV).

From the beginning of the gospel message, a conflict has been seen. Jesus commanded His followers to keep telling the message about salvation through Him; authorities keep demanding that Christians abandon their faith or, at the very least, keep silent about it.

When Christians choose obedience to Jesus over obedience to the authorities, the conflict heats up. After all, if people are free to disobey, the authorities are shown to have no actual authority at all! Suddenly, the conflict is not about truth or faith or reality. The conflict is about who's in charge.

The conflicts we see today—public religious displays, tax and zoning issues, scientific inquiry—are not really about those issues at all. They are really about who is in command of this world and this society. Who will be obeyed?

In the normal course of things, the interests of the society are the same as the interests of the people: safety, fairness, and freedom. Once in a while, society clashes with Christ's commands. For followers of Jesus, there is no hesitation. We must obey Him. And then accept the consequences.

The conflict is about who's in charge.

CHURCH OF CHRIST AT SEMINOLE

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Schedule:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
 Worship 10:30 am
 Evening Worship 5:00 pm
Wednesday Ladies' Class 9:45 am
 Devotional 7:00 pm
Minister Chris Stinnett
 (office) 382-1152 (cell) 220-2088
Senior Minister Palmer Smith
 (office) 382-1152 (cell) 250-1758
Youth Minister Arpoika Daniels
 (office) 382-1152 (cell) 625-2323
Secretary Roberta Bender
 (office) 382-0548 (cell) 584-2283

«Courtesy Title»

«First Name» «Last Name»

«Business»

«Street Address»

«City», «State» «Zip+4+2»

«Encoded 65-character String»

March 18th In Charge: Lee Stilwell (405-382-1713)
Greeters: AM Stacy Kinsey
 PM Jack Mattingly, Sr.
Song Leader: Mardee O'Donnell
Scripture Reader: Jon Cloud
Prayers: AM Opening Gil Turpin
Closing Jack Cadenhead
PM Opening Idus England
Closing Steve Johnson

March 11th

Class: 142
 AM: 206
 PM: 111

March 4th

Class: 145
 AM: 192
 PM: 77
 Wednesday: 89

Last Year

Class: 116
 AM: 185
 PM: 86
 Wednesday: 94

Lord's Table

South Alan Eck (Bread) Don Posey Dan Reynolds Dillon Smith Paul Smith	North (Cup) Don Martin (Offering) Clint Jackson Brent Mercer Palmer Smith Will Stafford
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Evening Lord's Table

Weekly Budgeted Contribution:

	\$7,116.44
Contribution:	\$6,226.55
Last Week's:	\$6,832.65
Last Year:	\$6,321.91
Budget/ 2012:	\$79,753.76
Contribution/ 2012:	\$77,898.46
Net Contribution/Budget:	(-\$1,855.30)

Greeters: please remember the **Bulletins** and **Welcome Packets**
Bible Class: South Alan and Elaine Eck
North Leon and Shelby Hughes
Worship Service: South Janet Waddell and Jerry Sullivan.
North Walter and Carol Strickland

Nursery Attendants
Sunday AM: Heather Gilmore and Shelly Mercer
PM: Auttis Johnson
Wednesday: Jeanie Maxwell

Heritage House Delivery
 March 22: Lee and Diana Stilwell
 If there is anyone available to help with this program please
 contact Joyce Boggs at 405-382-4411.