

OCTOBER 19, 2025

9:00 AM ORDER OF WORSHIP

Song Leader
Todd Miller

To God Be the Glory
Send The Light
Behold Our God
All to Us

**Sparrow's Promise Video,
Scripture & Prayer**
Luke Morris

O Praise the Name

Communion & Contribution
(second contribution for GCS)
Chris Mitchell

Come Thou Fount of Every
Blessing

Awesome God
Children's Worship Dismissed

Mighty to Save

**"God of the Least &
Greatest of These"**
Jordan Guy

What the Lord Has Done In
Me

Announcements
Kenneth Mills

Shepherd's Prayer
Tom Ritchie

THE CONNECTION.

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

BEOWULF'S CHRISTIAN MESSAGE ABOUT STRENGTH

When my students encounter Beowulf, the 9th-century Anglo-Saxon poem about a medieval warrior fighting monsters in Demark, they are often swept up in the physical struggle of the hero against his grotesque opponents.

Beowulf is the quintessential hero—capable, witty, and strong (“the strength of thirty men in his grip”). The world traditionally finds heroes like Beowulf impressive, and he plays his role well, bragging about the deeds he intends to accomplish.

But during the fight against Grendel's mother, the hero is shockingly overpowered. Unexpected failures—of his sword and his own physical prowess—leave him pinned under the monster's knife. Our hero is on the brink of a humiliating defeat.

At this moment, I often point out to students that the poet is allegorically communicating a spiritual truth here: He tells us the monsters (Grendel and his mother) are descendants of Cain. They are the poem's metaphorical embodiment of the wages of sin stalking the darkness and waiting to devour anyone unprepared (an echo of God's warning to Cain in Genesis 4:7).

The lesson? If we put our faith in our own strength to free us from sin, we are doomed to failure. While we might initially trust our own power to escape retribution for sinfulness, we cannot escape sin's wages any more than Beowulf can free himself from Grendel's mother.

The poet confirms that Beowulf “would have surely perished” in this moment were he alone. This assessment recalls Matthew 19:26 where Jesus explains that “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” Human strength alone, the poem demonstrates, is not capable of overcoming sin.

Fortunately, the poem offers Beowulf an escape from his desperate situation: God's intervention. A divine light illuminates the dark cave where the hero is fighting for his life; he is pointed toward a sword that will not fail, and he is finally able to get back on his feet. The poet writes, “It was easy for the Lord, the Ruler of Heaven, to redress the balance once Beowulf got back up.”

Just as Beowulf's unearned victory is the direct result of God's unmerited favor, we should recognize that the grip of sin can be escaped only through the grace of Christ Jesus, whose intercession on our behalf also frees us from our own death.

Greg Laing

Second in a series on teaching literature as discipling. Upcoming: **Larry Hunt** and **Kathy Dillion**.



PHOTOGRAPHY AROUND THE BUILDING

On October 19th and 26th, **Jeff Montgomery** will be taking photos in the auditorium and around the building, including in Bible classes. These pictures will help capture the life of our church family and may be used in future publications or online. We just wanted you to know why you will see Jeff with his camera throughout both Sunday mornings.

NEW PARKING

We're excited to let you know that additional parking is now available just off the north parking lot, at the site formerly known as 505 N. Turner Street. The area is currently a gravel lot, and spaces are marked with parking bumpers. Please feel free to use this new space when you come to church!

SHEPHERDING GROUPS

Mike Justus' Shepherding Group (All About Ewe) will meet for s'mores at 17 Hillcreek Circle, THIS Sunday, October 19, 6:00 p.m., following evening worship.

Richard Duke's Shepherding Group will meet for lunch at the home of **Dee & Evelyn Spann**, 122 Club Creek Drive, THIS Sunday, October 19, following Bible class.

Tom Ritchie's Shepherding Group will meet for a potluck in Room 121, THIS Sunday, October 19, following Bible class.

Jim Gowen's Shepherding Group will meet for a potluck in Room 121, on Sunday, October 26, following Bible class.

Jim Gurchiek's Shepherding Group will meet for a potluck in Room 121, on Sunday, November 2, following Bible class.

PRAYERS, SYMPATHY & PRAISE

Cleve Brooks, The Springs; **George Brown**; **Joe Carson**; **Kent Giboney**, home; **Martha Hodges**, UH 1418; **Louise Jackson**; **Kim Lancaster**; **Edna Nichols**; **Glen Olree**, home on hospice; **Edwina Pace**; **Laveda Perdue**; **Harriett Raley**; **Leah Walton**; **Danny R. Wood**; **Dennis Yecke**.

Brian Harrington, husband of **Ann** and father of **Delaney**, **Kacey** and **Jack**, passed away October 15. There will be a visitation THIS Sunday, October 19, at 1:00 p.m., in the College Church Family Room, followed by a memorial at 2:00 p.m. Brian was in **Charles Ganus's** Shepherding Group.

Jean Kelly would like to announce the arrival of her first great-grand child, Olivia Quinn Kirby: "The name Quinn is Irish and can refer to being a queen. I think Olivia will be the Queen of her home. I am excited, and I hope you will share the excitement with me."

FALL ON THE FARM

Everyone is invited to join us Sunday, October 26, 3:00-5:30 p.m., at the home of **Matthew & Chloe Martin**, 1546 Highway 167 North, in Bradford. We will have a chili cook-off, hot dogs, hayrides, corn hole tournament, inflatables, animals, Posh Potty and more. Bring your lawn chairs and best pot of chili to share! There will also be a devo and singing. Everyone is invited, and all small groups are encouraged to attend. There will be a bus for seniors that will start loading from the Welcome Center at 1:45 p.m. [Click here to RSVP](#). A 5:00 p.m. service will be held at the building that evening.

GREAT COMMISSION SUNDAY

Children of all ages are invited to bring loose change or bills to the front of the stage during worship, just before being dismissed to Children's Worship. This weekly collection will continue through THIS Sunday, October 19 as part of our Great Commission Sunday effort. All children are encouraged to participate, even if they don't attend Children's Worship. Funds raised will support scholarships for Camp Tahkodah and help care for kids at the Jochebed Children's Home.

ATTENTION SENIORS

There will be an ESP Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 23, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 236. **Andrew Baker** will be speaking on "Grandparenting in the Age of AI." An email will be sent with more details the first of next week.

SINGING & PRAYING CLASS

Join us this Wednesday night and next in Room 100 at 6:30 p.m. with your song and prayer requests as we worship together to close out the month of October.

ELDER SELECTION PROCESS

The following men are being put forward for consideration as elders of the College congregation: **Greg Brooks, Keith Cronk, Alan Hardison, Don Hood, John Reese, John Stone, and Charles Underwood.**

The following men currently serve as elders for the College congregation: **Jim Adams, Tom Alexander, Steve Baber, David Bangs, Roy Barnes, Sherrill Bennett, Sam Billingsley, Bryan Burks, David Burks, Jim Carr, Eddie Cloer, David Cole, Richard Duke, Brad Francis, Charles Ganus, Jim Gowen, Jim Gurchiek, Rick Harper, Byron Howell, Mike Justus, Larry Long, Darren Mathews, Glen Metheny, Jeff Montgomery, Dan Newsom, Bob Reely, Tom Ritchie, and Norm Stone.**

Paul Pollard has agreed to step back into his role as an elder.

If you believe that any of the men presented are not qualified to serve as a shepherd, please send a signed and dated letter detailing your scriptural objection/s to the church office, ATTN: Elder Selection, no later than TODAY. For consideration, all letters must be signed and dated, but your name will be held in confidence by the Elder Selection Committee.

CCYG

Hayride & Cookout, **Jones/Burchfield's Farm**, THIS Sunday, October 19, 5:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m., we'll join other youth groups at Downtown Church for a night of worship. We've done this before, and it's one of our favorite ways to connect with our youth group friends.

Please note: There will be no Huddle or Small Group next week.

HARDING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Harding School of Theology's spring audit courses are now open! Classes begin the week of January 12. The last day to register, is January 5. [Click here to see course offerings](#) and [click here to register](#) or contact the HST office at 501-279-4747.

FAMILY CONCERNS

Briarwood: **Ellen Brown** 104

Providence: **Harold Norwood** 316 Providence Memory Care: **Beverly Blickenstaff**; Maydean Jones, mother of **Rhonda Landis**

The Crossing: **Rick Boutell** 308; **Maxine Morton** 204A; **Eloise Muncy** 115B

The Springs: **Alice Bell**

Ongoing Prayer Requests: **Brian Altmiller; Fannie Amy; Gary Smith;** Amy Qualls, daughter of **Cheryl Riggs; Shannon Spears;** David Mathews, grandson of **Darren & Kim Mathews**, return of cancer; Jason Roberson, son of **Gary & Shauna Vodehnal**

THANK YOU

From **Ronald Johnson**

I want to thank the church for all the encouragement and support **Alison** received during her hospitalization and that I have received then and since her death. This has been the most difficult time of my life, but it would have been twice as bad without your support. As I said in my memorial speech, I thank God every day that I am a member of College Church.

VISITING MISSIONARIES

Kathi Merritt and son Jason will be visiting with us October 25-November 1. **Roy & Kathi Merritt** are our supported missionaries in Zambia, Africa.

BABY SHOWER

You are invited to a baby shower honoring Cami & Timothy Weaver on Saturday, November 8, 2:30-4:00 p.m., at Wild Sweet William's. Cami is the daughter of **Reid & Cheryl Simmons**, granddaughter of **David & Dixie Brooker** and the niece of **Blair & Lynette Brooker**. They are registered at Baby List. It's a boy!

AREA SHOWER

You are invited to a baby shower honoring Northside Church of Christ members Karleigh & Harley Halliburton on Saturday, October 18, 10:00 a.m., at the Beebe Northside Church of Christ. Karleigh is the daughter of **Richard & Cyndi Denney** and the granddaughter of **Billie Boustead**. They are registered on Amazon. It's a boy!

5:00 PM WORSHIP

Song Leader
Brandon Lowe

Welcome
Chris Mitchell

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High
My Hope is Built on Nothing
Less

I Stand In Awe

Prayer
Mike Caldwell

On Bended Knee
There's Not a Friend
Living Hope

Scripture Reading
Gale Hanna

"The Process Behind the Problem"

Demario Rollins
Just As I Am

Victory In Jesus
Lord's Supper in Room 100

Closing Prayer
Daniel Bennett



HIS HOUSE

Donation Requests:

Plastic bags
Sauce pans
Small children's clothes

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 Intergeneration Study | 8 Franklin Circle
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 23:6ers | Room 102
6:30 PM Singing & Prayer | Room 100
6:30 PM SH and JH Meeting
6:30 PM Study of David | Harry Riggs | Harding Place
7:15 PM Chinese Church in Heritage | Room 210

Thursday

5:00 PM Discipleship Bible Study in Room 100

FINANCES FOR 10/12/25

Budget for 10/12/2025 - \$52,194.00
Giving for 10/12/2025 - \$54,080.45
Budget - Week 6 - \$324,765.00
Giving - Week 6 - \$312,501.29

ATTENDANCE 10/12/25

9:00 AM Worship - 881
Bible Class - 697
Children's Worship - 53
5:00 PM Worship - 222
Sunday Small Groups - 165

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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COLLEGE
CHURCH of CHRIST

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