

one family

hope Lord Spirit body
faith baptism hope

December 22, 2013

12932 S. Elwood Ave. • Glenpool OK, 74033

ELDERS

Carl Burrus
Jesse Byers
Bobby Hill
Bill Path

MINISTER

Benjamin Williams

PRISON MINISTER

Bill Hamrick

DEACONS

Matt Caldwell,
ASSOCIATE MINISTER,
YOUTH & EDUCATION
Robert Hill,
WORSHIP
Keith Riggs,
OUTREACH
Bruce Rothell,
MISSIONS

SECRETARY

Karen Brown

'Tis the Season to Attack the Gospels?

Every year at Christmastime, like clockwork, you can expect the media to come out with some sort of “fresh” perspective on Jesus. We see this on TV specials and in magazines and reports.

The basic questions are these: Can we trust the Bible? Can we trust the Gospels? If they were put on trial, as in a court case, how would they hold up?

One man who contributed significantly to Christian apologetics was one of America's great legal leaders. Simon Greenleaf (1783-1853) was a professor at Harvard Law School (1833-1848). He contributed a great deal to the school, expanding it, including its library. Greenleaf wrote a major textbook used widely, *A Treatise on the Law of Evidence*.

Contrary to some accounts (even found extensively on the Internet, to this day), Greenleaf was not an atheist or agnostic converted to Christianity by the evidence for the resurrection. He was a lifelong, active member of the Episcopal Church. In 1847, Greenleaf applied his expertise as a pioneer in the area of trial evidence to the Gospels in a landmark book.

Greenleaf wrote *The Testimony of the Evangelists: The Gospel Examined by the Rules of Evidence*. The evangelists, of course, are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. As he applied the rules of evidence to the Gospels, he found them reliable.

Greenleaf says, “The foundation of our religion is a basis of fact — the fact of the birth, ministry, miracles, death, resurrection by the Evangelists as having actually occurred, within their own personal knowledge. Our religion, then, rests on the credit due to these witnesses. Are they worthy of implicit belief, in the matters which they relate? This is the question, in all human tribunals, in regard to persons testifying before them; and we propose to test the veracity of these witnesses, by the same rules and means which are there employed ...” He answers, Yes.

Greenleaf notes a great unfairness shown the Evangelists in modern scholarship: They are somehow guilty until proven innocent. They are viewed as untrustworthy for no cause, until they can somehow be corroborated by some outside secular source. (If it was true in Greenleaf's day, how much more is it true in ours—despite the wealth we have of additional archaeological and manuscript evidence in favor of the Gospels' veracity.)

Says Greenleaf: “But the Christian writer seems, by the usual course of the argument, to have been deprived of the common presumption of charity in his favor; and reversing the ordinary rule of administering justice in human tribunals, his testimony is unjustly presumed to be false, until it is proved to be true.”

SUNDAY

Bible Classes for All Ages	9:30 am
Morning Worship Assembly	10:30 am
Evening Worship & Classes	5:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes for All Ages	7:00 pm
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Continued...

Greenleaf adds, "It is time that this injustice should cease; that the testimony of the Evangelists should be admitted to be true, until it can be disproved by those who would impugn it; that the silence of one sacred writer on any point, should no more detract from his own veracity or that of the other historians, than the like circumstance is permitted to do among profane writers; and that the Four Evangelists should be admitted in corroboration of each other, as readily as Josephus and Tacitus, or Polybius and Livy."

So, be prepared, when you see the TV specials coming up about "the true story of Christmas" or the like, when they attack the Gospels. The Gospels have been put on trial, and they have passed the test. Don't take my word for it -- take that of the legendary professor at Harvard Law School.

adapted from an article by Jerry Newcombe



LOCK IN 2013

The youth are invited to a 'Lock in' here at the building after midweek services on Tuesday, Dec 31st starting at 8:00 pm and parents can pick up their children at 7:00 am. Below is a list of items to bring. If you have any questions contact Matt Caldwell (email) mfd38@tds.net or 918-284-0257.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| * Nerf guns | * Coat, hat & gloves (midnight volleyball) |
| * 2 liter of favorite pop | * Pillow, blanket or sleeping bag |
| * Favorite snack food | |
| * Board games, cards, etc | |

PARKING



The business next door (to our south) contacted the office and requested that we no longer use their parking lot on Sundays and Wednesdays. There is parking available behind the garage on the west side of our building (please leave a space open for cars to get back in that area) and down the sides of the alley (please don't block the alley way). Possibly one of our ushers will be able to direct you to an opening. We may need to become creative in finding an area to park in. Please be patient, better times are coming! Thank You!

Wednesday, December 25th

Services are cancelled; have a Merry Christmas!

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24th & 25th

The church office will be closed

Wednesday, January 1st

Wednesday services moved to Tuesday at 7 pm - our young men will conduct our services; Lock-in 8 pm - 7 am

Wednesday, January 1st

The office will be closed

Sunday, January 12th

Chili Cook-off after evening services



IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- Sherri Carr continues to struggle after her stroke. Her family is doing all they can to help her. She could have been released from the Bernsen Rehab center this past Friday. If so the family will be looking for a place where Sherri can get the 24 hour a day care that she needs. She doesn't understand what is going on and that makes it very hard on the family. Please keep all in your prayers.
- Jesse Byer's father, James Byers, has started his chemo treatments for his leukemia.
- Jesse & Becky's sister-in-law, Shelia Byers, has finally completed her year long chemo, she is very weak at this time.
- Henry Lack, as he deals with health issues.
- Dolores Scherman had surgery Thursday to remove a rod that was put in during her back surgery. The incision in her back never healed over and the rod is sticking out. She is in room 5311 at St Francis. Christie also reports that Dolores is down to 99 lbs, she just doesn't want to eat and has become malnourished.
- Barbara Vaughan as she struggles with health problems.
- **Our friends and family:** Dan & Edna Jones; Shelia Byers (cancer); Suzanne Stamps; Sue Gilbert (Leasa's mother); Linda Patterson (stroke); Dolores Scherman; Temper & Megan Parker (CMT neuropathy); Karn Madding (cerebral palsy & infection); Jeannene Thomas (cancer); John Griffith; many others.
- **Service men and women:** Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear; Josh Triay (Becky's nephew)
- All those traveling.



UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Lenora Hamrick, Dec 22	Tammy Rothell, Dec 27	Wes Wadkins, Jr, Jan 1
Eddie & Deb Whitchurch, Dec 22	James & Paula Hamilton, Dec 29	Dorothy Ennis, Jan 1
Kaci Martinez, Dec 23	Sandy Rucquoy, Dec 29	Johnny Riggs, Jan 1
Susan Yeager, Dec 25	Matt & Autumn Caldwell, Dec 31	Taylor Morgan, Jan 2
Topper Causby, Dec 26	Jerrad & Katrina Treat, Dec 31	

DEC 25th MID-WEEK SERVICE

Our Mid-Week service has been canceled.
Be careful while traveling and have a Merry Christmas!

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Please notice the insert in your bulletin. The Fellowship Groups have been shuffled around this year. Take note what new group you are in for 2014. This will be posted on the bulletin board for future reference.

CLOSED

The church office will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24th & 25th and also on Wednesday, January 1st.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Dalton Path! He just graduated from OSU-Tulsa with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. Great Job! He may continue on and get his Masters degree at a school in Missouri. We wish you the best.

DISHES

Are you missing two rubber maid containers with red lids? They are in the refrigerator waiting for their owners.



GLENPOOL church of Christ

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www.glenpoolchurchofchrist.com

Attendance: Last Week

Sunday Bible Classes
Sunday AM Worship
Sunday PM Worship
Wednesday Bible Classes

108
137
82
75

Contribution

Sunday Contribution \$5,348.50
Budget \$4,041.00
Over Budget \$4,748.31
Building Fund \$213,732.56

Men To Serve

Sunday Morning

Song Leader Bobby Hill
Opening Prayer Dalton Path
Closing Prayer Doyle Tuggle
Scripture Reading Hayden Bullinger
Lord's Table Jeff Bullinger
Keith Riggs
Bobby Hill
Dennis Robinson

Ushers

Jack Lierly
Bob Simmons

Greeter

Dennis Robinson

Lock Building

Jim Yeager; Bob Simmons

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Matt Caldwell
Opening Prayer Ryan McCafferty
Closing Prayer Chris Patterson
Lord's Table Jeff Bullinger
Keith Riggs

Wednesday Evening

Opening Prayer No services
Closing Prayer
Song Leader

Communion Preparation

12/1 Selene Williams
12/8 Lilia Rothell
12/15 Bayla Burrus
12/22 Becky Byers
12/29 Debbie Whitchurch
1/5 Rosalie O'Neal
1/12 Rothell Ladies
1/19 Susan Yeager
1/26 Kay Robinson

Next Quarterly Ladies Meeting

Sunday, March 9th
3:30 pm

EAT THIS BOOK READINGS

12/22 Obad; Jonah; Ps 142; Rev 1
12/23 Mic 1-3; Ps 143; Rev 2-3
12/24 Mic 4-7; Ps 144; Rev 4-6
12/25 Nah 1-3; Ps 145:1-13; Rev 7-9
12/26 Hab ; Ps 145:14-21; Rev 10-12
12/27 Zeph1-3; Hag; Ps 146; Rev 13-15
12/28 Zec 1-5; Ps 147; Rev 16-17



**IN
SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY**®

"These were more noble... they searched the scriptures daily..." (Acts 17:11)

Sundays at 7:30 a.m. KWHB
TV47 or Cable Channel 7

Search Programs:

Dec 22 - Because of Jesus
Dec 29 - Hope
Jan 5 - Stand Strong
Jan 12 - Never Alone
Jan 19 - Keeping My Zeal

Sunday Morning Sermon

Introducing Jesus
John 21:25

Sunday Evening Class

America's Christian Heritage
Bruce Rothell