

one family

hope Lord Spirit body
faith baptism hope

12932 S. Elwood Ave. • Glenpool OK, 74033

April 6, 2014

People Will Listen to Stories

Everyone loves to hear a good story, which is why stories are such a good communication tool. Sporting events are often framed as David vs. Goliath, a story first told in the Bible. Political campaigns are built around compelling storylines. Media builds their programming around stories. For centuries, storytellers were valued as an essential part of the tribe, the family, and the village. Great communicators are great storytellers. This is true for the message of Jesus. Remember Matthew said, “Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable” (Matthew 13:34). Parables are just stories. Jesus taught using stories from the Old Testament, stories from agriculture, stories from nature, stories from everyday life, and stories from the culture around him. It is still true today. Great preachers are great storytellers.

Our story is personal. For a person who knows nothing—or very little—about Jesus, quoting Scripture has very little appeal. Facts and figures are not inspiring or inviting. It is the difference between saying that Jesus was born in a manger to a virgin and telling the story of the young Mary. She has to explain to her fiancé that she is pregnant, so you can imagine the emotional roller coaster they must have endured. You can almost feel the stress they shared of not being able to find a place to stay, and ending up delivering a baby in a stable surrounded by animals. One of those methods is interesting. One is exciting and inviting. And when we tell the stories of our Jesus, it is personal. When we tell our story as part of the Jesus story, it is compelling because it is clear that it is the core story of our life.

Our story is communal. When we share our stories, it is clear that we believe we are not alone in this story. It is why we must learn the stories of those in our church families. Their stories *are* our stories. We learn that we are not alone, that we are not the only one to feel the way we feel. I am continually amazed at the people who hear a story from the Bible and see themselves in the story. Many of us have seen our story in Scripture. For me, it is the story of King David. his story of faith, courage, lust, struggle, exile, redemption, and leadership is my story. You have seen your story in the Bible. It is our shared story.

Our story is bigger than any one of us. People hunger to be a part of something bigger than themselves. That is why our story is so compelling. We are part of changing the world. We are part of the greatest war the world has ever seen: the battle of good vs. evil. And we are part of the winning side. When we tell the story of God leading His people out of Egypt, parting the Red Sea, and destroying the army pursuing His people ... that is our story. Those are our people. That story is part of our DNA. So even today, the story is so much bigger than any of us. We are part of a kingdom that transcends political and geograph-

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

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

ic boundaries. We are a kingdom, a chosen people, found everywhere you go in this world.

The story is what connects. God has acted in this world to redeem His people from evil. From Moses and the Red Sea, through David and Goliath, Jesus versus Satan in the wilderness and at the cross, Stephen's death and Paul's conversion, and in a group of seven persecuted churches in Asia. Those are our stories. As are the stories of those through the centuries who gave their lives to God's call. People such as Polycarp and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, men who lived centuries apart, but who were martyred because they lived out their faith in a world of evil.

Our story is never-ending. We are part of a story that started long before any of us were born and that will continue forever. There is something incredibly attractive about being part of something that lasts forever. To be part of the story impacts people forever. So we tell the stories of Adam, Moses, and Mary. We see our stories reflected in their stories. In our church and in our family we tell the stories. We have told them for generations. We will tell them for generations to come. Our story will never end.

Our story is still being written. Our story – the story of God and His people – is not just ancient history. That story is still being written today. Lives are being changed every day. Alcoholics become sober. Sexually immoral become pure. Angry people become sweet. Greedy people become givers. Captives are set free. Lost are found. Blind see and the lame walk. Sinners are saved. Individual stories continue to be written into God's story. Victories. Struggles. Pain. Joy. Growth. Family. Love. Temptation. Grace. Our stories are still being written. This lets others know that their life story does not have to stay like it is. They have the opportunity to re-write the ending. Just like we are doing.

Our story invites others to enter. Our story is not just about someone else. It is not just about us. It is a story that invites others into the narrative. They actually can become part of a living story. The whole reason for sharing our story is so that others have the opportunity to let their story become part of our story. It is not just for us. It is a story for everyone. And that is why you must share our story ... so that others have the same opportunity you have had.

by Steve Ridgell

GOSPEL MEETINGS

- ◆ The Cleveland congregation will host a meeting on April 6-9, with an area wide singing on Saturday, April 5.
- ◆ The Sapulpa congregation will host a meeting April 6-9 with Bob Patterson.
- ◆ Flyers are posted on the bulletin board with more information.

Sunday, April 6th

Youth Devo - see Matt Caldwell for details

Sunday, April 13th

Elder's and Deacon's meeting at 3:30

Sunday, April 13th

VBS planning meeting at 3:30

Saturday, April 19th

Work day at Frog Road Camp (will be doing yard/outdoor work)

Sunday, April 27th

Fellowship meal after evening service, group Path

Friday, May 2nd thru Sunday, May 4th

The Truth About Origins Seminar by Brad Harrub at Oologah High Sch.

The youth will attend on May 3rd -- see Matt for questions

Saturday, May 10th

VBS work Day at 10 am

Sunday, June 8th thru Saturday, June 14th

Frog Road Camp session

upcoming
work dinners
events fellowship
retreats picnics games parties meetings

IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- Our sympathy is extended to Bob and Betty Simmons after the passing of Bob's sister, Mary Lou Sullivan.
- Mike and Susie O'Neal's daughter, Danni Archie, will have surgery on her right foot on Thursday, April 10th. Approximately 6 weeks later she will have surgery on her left foot.
- Little Lainey Eichler has been diagnosed with Scleroderma disease. It is an auto-immune connective tissue disease in the rheumatoid family. In other words, it is a bad thing to have. She will be seeing a specialist in OKC.
- Oleta Exendine will have a spot of Melanoma removed Wednesday, April 9th.
- Debbie Whitchurch's mother-in-law, Marcella Whitchurch, was diagnosed with breast cancer. They will be meeting with doctors for testing and to see what their next step is.
- Jennifer McCafferty's sister and brother-in-law, Bobbie and Scott Keeter, had bone graft surgeries. We hope this went well.
- **Service men and women:** Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear; Josh Triay (Becky's nephew)

MEETING

Elders and Deacons meeting Sunday, April 13th at 3:30.

Who Ate the Cookies?

A little boy had just polished off all the cookies in the kitchen. His mother came in, and seeing the empty jar and the crumbs, said to the wee lad, "Son, who ate the cookies?"

The little fellow replied, "An animal did."

"What kind of animal?" his mother asked.

The young lad was thoughtful for a moment. Then he smiled, "One of Jesus' little lambs."

YOUTH

Youth Devo Sunday, April 6th. You will be going to Andy B's to bowl and then to the Glenpool park. Check with Matt Caldwell if you have any questions.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

We were able to add \$4,029.50 to our building fund after the special collection last Sunday.

RESPONSE

Mike and Susie O'Neal came forward last week asking for prayers on their behalf.

GRADUATES

Do you have a graduate in your family that you would like everyone to know about? If so, please give the information to the office.

WORK DAY

A work day is being planned for Saturday, April 19th at Frog Road Camp. Bring items to help with outdoor work. For questions see Ben.

VBS

Sunday, April 13th there will be a meeting to make plans for our upcoming VBS. Come and help make this a great Vacation Bible School. If you have questions see Selene.

DIRECTORY CHANGE

Please remove the home phone number for the Patterson family, they will be using their cell phones as their primary number.

- **Our friends and family:** Dan Jones; Shelia Byers (cancer); Suzanne Stamps; Sue Gilbert (Leasa's mother); Linda Patterson (stroke); Dolores Scherman (at home now); Jeannene Thomas (cancer); Barbara Vaughan; Barbara Pinkston (cancer); & others.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Ian Hill, Apr 7
Coleman "CR" McVay, Apr 8
Debbie Whitchurch, Apr 11
Nola Buller, Apr 19
Temper Jenkins, Apr 20

Harry & Mary Reeve, Apr 20
Colton Treat, Apr 21
Barbara Girod, Apr 21
Nyla Nunley, Apr 23
Stephanie Bullinger, Apr 25

Susan Kress, Apr 25
Jake Yeager, Apr 30
Paula Hamilton, Apr 30

GLENPOOL church of Christ

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Attendance: Last Week

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

130
184
Na
68

Contribution

Sunday Contribution \$3,779.73
Budget \$4,185.00
Under Budget <\$1,805.11>
Building Fund \$30,829.48

Men To Serve

Sunday Morning

Song Leader Bobby Hill
Opening Prayer Larry Growns
Scripture Reading Ian Hill
Closing Prayer Larry Potter
Lord's Table Bruce Rothell
Steve Rucquoy
Cameron Hill
Bob Simmons

Ushers

Scott Lack
Chris Patterson

Greeter

Dennis Robinson

Lock Building

Bob Simmons; Jim Yeager

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Bobby Hill
Opening Prayer Keith Riggs
Closing Prayer James Hamilton
Lord's Table Bruce Rothell
Steve Rucquoy

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader Jerry Buller
Opening Prayer Randy Brown
Closing Prayer Doyle Tuggle

Communion Preparation

4/6 Steph Bullinger
4/13 Nola Buller
4/20 Janice O'Shields
4/27 Shirley Hill
5/4 Angela Growns
5/11 Renee Whitchurch
5/18 Mickey Hecht
5/25 Barbara Girod

Next Quarterly Ladies Meeting

Sunday, June 1st
3:30 pm



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:

April 6 - Loving God
April 13 - Loving God Totally
April 20 - Love and Law
April 27 - Do You Love Me?

Sunday Morning Sermon

Luke's Five Necessities:

"It Is Necessary to Celebrate"

Luke 15:32

Sunday Evening Adult Class

Pauline Perspectives: Galatians