

Dean Road church of Christ

WELCOME GUESTS!

We are honored that you are with us this morning! Please fill out a white or green card and place it in the collection plate when it is passed around. We invite you to stick around after the assembly, so we can get a chance to know you!

REMINDER: Please silence or turn off any electronic device the may disturb the Assembly!

Announcements

● Prayer Requests/Updates:

- We rejoice with *Donna Ray (Michael Ray's sister) who put on Christ in baptism this past Thursday night! Please keep Donna in your prayers as she begins her Christian life.
- Please continue to keep *Connie Kersey in your prayers as she recovers from a stroke she suffered on September 18th.
- The Hirt Family requests prayers for *Tony Layman who has been battling bladder cancer. He underwent surgery last week but the cancer is still in several lymph nodes and he will likely have to go through chemo.
- Frequent visitor Larry Waite requests prayers for his 8 month old granddaughter, *Kaileigh Foster, who is admitted into Wolfson Hospital.
- CONTINUED PRAYERS: *Barbara Abbandola; *Steve Berg (Myasthenia gravis); *Belinda Bryant (recovery from procedure to remove mass from the back of her neck April 30); *Louise Cauthen (rehab); *Dutch Dekker (breathing issues); *Nancy Godwin (medical issues); *Joyce Maier; *Lamar Marjenhoff (rehab); *Charles Oliver; *Marion & Elsie Pylant; *Sharon Salisbury (cancer treatments); *Athel Webb; *Our Elders.
- Others to keep in prayers: Theron Golleher's friend, *David Benedict (cancer); frequent visitor *Bobbye Donaroma; Reata Dunlavy's husband, *George Dunlavy (recent stroke & leukemia treatments); Nancy Godwin's son, *Brandon Godwin (personal issues); Theron Golleher's friend, *Stephanie Hinson (brain swelling); Belinda Bryant's son and his wife, *Caleb & Heather Kitchings (expecting, December); *Terry Lewis (Stage 2 bone cancer); Steve & Nancy Berg's daughter's mother-in-law, *Linda Nichols (re-diagnosed with cancer); DeeAnna Durden's niece, *Lori Potter (cancer).

● General Announcements:

- A reminder that a draft copy of our new member directory has been placed on the back table in the lobby for review. If you have not reviewed your page, please do so **TODAY** to ensure everything is correct! *Justin Hirt is available to take new directory pictures for anyone who is interested in updating their picture.
- We exceeded our *Pantry Item of the Month* goal of collecting 500 bottles of water! We are still collecting bottles through the end of the month for anyone who would still like to contribute! A BIG THANK YOU to all those who helped as reach our goal this month!
- The Sister to Sister Lectureship-Retreat Planning Committee invites the ladies to their next activity, a Paint Night, on **Friday, November 30th** from 7-9PM here at our building. Those attending are asking to bring your favorite finger food to share.

****WELCOME DAMIEN & FAMILY!****

We welcome *Damien Barber and his family this morning as Damien presents our Adult Bible Study and AM Assembly lesson! Damien is in consideration for our new Evangelist/Minister. Everyone is invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall following the AM Assembly, for a period of fellowship and an opportunity to meet Damien and his family!

2018 Theme

Bind Us Together

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

~Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)

This Quarter's Focus:

Salvation Together

Memory Passage for the Quarter

Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

~I Thessalonians 4:17 (ESV)

Who Created God?

One of the most asked questions about God is "Who created God?" No one should think of God as just another person like the man down the street or some "man in the sky" whose judgments are merely opinions. By asking "Who created God?", a person needs to first comprehend the definition of God.

According to the Bible, God is personal, eternal, and the Creator of the universe. The Bible declares, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen 1:1). The statement "In the beginning, God" claims that God is eternal and exists without cause. The Bible depicted God revealing His identity for Moses, "I AM WHO I AM" (Exod 3:14). How can God exist without a cause? Why does God's existence exclude God from having a cause?

The universe must have a first cause to begin. Without a first cause, infinite time would need to exist in the past. Infinite time in the past is an absurdity that scholars know as an "infinite regress." An infinite past is impossible, because infinite time would require that the present now would never come to exist. The present now shows the necessity for "the beginning" and the first cause is reasonably God who "created the heavens and the earth." While infinite time in the universe is absurd, eternity beyond the universe is necessary for God as the first cause.

As far as humanity can observe, everything within the universe had a beginning, and everything that begins has a cause. Whatever has a beginning has a cause. The universe began. Therefore, the universe has a cause. Cosmologists observe the decrease of usable energy in the universe and the spreading out of galaxies in an expanding universe as demonstrating that the universe began. When one rewinds these events in time, the conclusion is that the universe had a beginning. As Moses recorded in Genesis 1:1; time, energy, space, and matter has a first cause — God.

The first cause of the universe must exist beyond the universe and explain the constant balance of the laws of the universe. One may consider possible causes of the universe such as a mindless multiverse generator or a flux in a timeless void (i.e. changes in nothingness). However, inventing possibilities is limitless and is thus faulty reasoning. For example, one may suppose that a computer fell down some stairs and the impacts upon the computer wrote this article. That is possible but not probable. Many possibilities exist, few options are plausible, and one option has the greatest explanatory power.

The universe had a beginning and must have a first cause that is uncaused. The Bible revealed, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." From where did God come? God declared, "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god" (Isa 44:6b). God is eternal, uncaused, and has no creator.

~Scott Shifferd

Last Weeks Stats - 11/11: DBR ~ 22; Classes ~ 53/51; Assembly ~ 73/70; Contribution ~ \$1,444.11

Calendar of Events

December

- 2 - Services at Taylor Care Center, 2:00PM
- 6 - Holiday Dinner
- 9 - Birthday & Anniversary Celebration following PM Assembly
- 15 - Going Away Fellowship for Shifferds, 11AM to 2PM
- 29 - Area Wide Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 30 - "Friends & Family Day" with Fellowship following AM Assembly

January

- 6 - Services at Taylor Care Center, 2:00PM

November Birthdays

- 4 - Phillip Bailey
- 14 - Patrick Bailey
- 17 - Charles Oliver
- 21 - Piper Hirt
- 30 - Jennifer Salisbury

November Anniversaries

- 26 - Ken & Shan Li Adams

Schedule of Services

Sunday

- Morning Bible Study.....9:30 AM
- AM Assembly10:30 AM
- PM Assembly6:00 PM

Wednesday

- Bible Study.....7:00 PM

*Have an item or information that needs to go into next week's bulletin? Let *Justin Hirt know by 5:00 PM Thursday!*