

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:**

- Please continue to remember former member *Shirley Peck in your prayers after she was diagnosed with liver cancer in September. She is currently undergoing treatments at the Mayo Clinic and may need to have a liver transplant.
- 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); *Connie Kersey (stroke suffered September 18th); *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); Hirt Family friend, *Tony Layman (bladder cancer); *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:**

- Following service **TONIGHT** we will be holding our monthly fellowship celebrating those with birthdays and anniversaries this month. We invite everyone to bring their favorite finger food to share and help us celebrate!
- **THIS Saturday, December 15th** we will be holding a "Going Away" Fellowship (an Italian luncheon) for the Shifferd Family from 11:00AM to 2:00PM here at the church building. If you are planning on attending, please RSVP with *Nancy Berg or *Teresa Golleher.
- Our *Pantry Item of the Month* for the month of December is rolls of toilet paper! Our goal is to collect 125 rolls by the end of the month!
- **SUNDAY, December 30th**, we will be holding our end of the quarter "Friends & Family Day"! We encourage all of our members to invite a family member, friend, neighbor, or co-worker to our AM Assembly and to stay for a special fellowship lunch in the Fellowship Hall! Our members are asked to bring a dish to share for the fellowship meal.

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)

Easier Ways to Start Sharing Your Faith in Christ

Most people do not feel comfortable with others challenging their worldview. However, those who do challenge the perceptions of others have the greatest influence. Christians face this dilemma with the Great Commission for sharing the gospel with others. Paul expressed,

“At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison — that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person” (Col 4:3–6 ESV).

As Christians, we want the gospel to challenge people to change their view of God, life, and the world. We want them to believe that Jesus resurrected, repent of their sins, be baptized, and live a faithful life. The apostles were great examples of Christ changing their lives. Likewise, Christians can open discussions about how life has changed, talk about how your personal life was broken and saved by Christ, or initiate conversations by asking others if they pray. These are lighter and easier ways to open doors for sharing the gospel. Little discomfort comes from speaking merely of God who is unknown to most of the world and then opening the door for the gospel.

In some settings, we can bring up America’s unknown God — the Creator who has endowed every person with unalienable rights (Acts 17:22–31). Within the Bible, the apostles evangelized to two types of audiences — the Jews and the Gentiles. Depending upon their view of God, the apostles would speak with skeptical Gentiles concerning their perception of God and then share the gospel, or they would speak to Jews and Jewish converts by sharing the evidence of Jesus’s resurrection upon scriptures and eyewitnesses (Acts 2; 13; 17; 1 Cor 15).

Christians should be wise and pray that they may know how to answer each person. We should consider the settings where we can best talk with others and talk about the gospel. For instance, if your waiter approaches while you are praying, ask him or her if they pray and for what. In any conversation about values in parenting to politics, ask about their standard for right and wrong. In a sports setting, talk about the motivations for playing sports and the significance of sports to life. These conversations openly easy to talking about God. Christians should think with wisdom to advance small talk about their children, their pets, the community, or the weather toward God and then the gospel.

~Scott Shifferd

Last Weeks Stats - 12/2: DBR ~ 20; Classes ~ 43/45; Assembly ~ 65/51; Contribution ~ \$2,241.76

Calendar of Events

December

- 9 - Birthday & Anniversary Celebration following PM Assembly
- 15 - Going Away Fellowship for Shifferds, 11AM to 2PM
- 23 - Guest Preacher: Ronnie Powell (AM & PM)
- 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
- 13 - Birthday & Anniversary Celebration following PM Assembly

December Birthdays

- 4 - Theron Golleher
- 6 - Georgana Dekker
- 10 - Emmett Shifferd
- 12 - Marissa Rhodes
- 15 - Lamar Marjenhoff
- 16 - Ken Adams
- 17 - Craig Kelly
- 20 - Anna Mashburn
- 20 - Devon Mashburn
- 24 - Samira Mashburn

December Anniversaries

- 29 - Justin & Ashley Hirt

Schedule of Services

Sunday

- Morning Bible Study9:30 AM
- AM Assembly10:30 AM
- PM Assembly6:00 PM

Wednesday

- Bible Study7:00 PM

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