

them of the mercy of God that so powerfully worked to bring them to reconciliation with Him. Through sin, grief, oppression and despair, God guided them home.

The concept of Ebenezer speaks powerfully of the need for a positive, backward consideration upon what God has done to bless us and bring us to the point where we are now. Ebenezer acknowledges the hand of God in the personal history of each Christian. Without the scourging consequences for our own sins balanced against the patience of God's mercy, none of us would be right with God, or even alive to try. Without God's gift of family, friends and the church, we would have few to love and even fewer to be loved by. Without the grace of God, our world would be dark and despairing. "Hither by Thy help I've come!"

Ebenezer also announces our optimism for tomorrow. No matter how sinful the world may be, no matter how besieged the church becomes, since God has directed us in our past, as we are faithful, He will guide us all the way home. "I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home." -Floyd



- 1 JD's Class 5:30
- 2 College Devo Pults'
- 3 Father/son Breakfast
- 4 College Trip Tecumseh
- 5 Youth Devo
- 6 Wedding Shower Davis - Sumpter
- 7 Ladies Class 10:00 AM
- 9 College Devo
- 12 Elders Deacons Meeting 3:30 Fellowship Group
- 12 MNFM
- 13 Ladies Class 10:00 AM
- 14 Golden Doers Breakfast
- 14 4-6 Grade Devo 5:30
- 16 College Devo
- 19 College Trip to Wayne
- 20 Yellow House
- 21 Ladies Class 10:00 AM
- 22 Youth Led Service
- 23 College Devo
- 25 Lauren Myers/Jayson Bucy Wedding
- 26 Family Devo
- 27 MNFM
- 28 Ladies Class

**Stringtown:
Preaching Assignment:
Sunday, February 5th**
Jim Begin
Bobby Johns
Sunday, February 12th
Ken Roper
Wade Sumpter, Sr.

**February
Contribution Counters:**
Brent Lowe, Greg Hatton,
Kelley Benson, Kurt Gilliam

Sunday AM	February 5th	February 12th
Opening Prayer	Jim Begin	James Anderson
Scripture Reading	Dylan Hendricks	Tad McGalliard
Prayer - Bread	C.J. Vires	Alan Simpson
North 2	Gene Albright	Kurt Gilliam
North 3	Clint Bowker	Dylan Hendricks
North 4	Don Blankenship	Garett Hatton
Prayer - Fruit	Kelley Benson	Bart Conley
South 2	James Byers	John Lee
South 3	Jimmy Davis	Wayne King
South 4	Caleb Estes	Daniel Jonka
Alternate 1	Elmo Fulton	Roy Long
Alternate 2	Terry Fulton	Bill Morgan
Balcony 1	Paul Ballard	Don Kite
Balcony 2	Cody Frye	Jack Long
Closing Prayer	Ron Ingram	Raymond Johnson
Song Leader	Scott Estes	Johnie Fredman
Bus Driver	Kyle Wilson	Billy Palmer
Attendance Count	Don Byrd	Don Blankenship
Usher - North	Chase Bowker	Devin Cranford
Usher - Center	Dakota Blackwell	Trey Denson
Usher - South	Derek Cranford	Hunter Fulton
Nursing Home	Greg Chilcoat	Caleb Estes
Nursing Home	Darrell Geiger	Darrell Nemecek
Nursery Attend	Debbie Bynum	Jade Benson
Sunday Night	February 5th	February 12th
Scripture Reading	Bradley Butler	Clint Bowker
Bread	Tommy Vass	Jim Vercelli
Fruit	Kyle Wilson	David Rodriguez
Contribution	Charles Yahola	Josh Nail
Opening Prayer	Clint Bowker	James Byers
Closing Prayer	John Bynum	Bart Conley
Song Leader	C.J. Vires	Caleb Estes
Bus Driver	Keith Ailey	David Hendricks
Wednesday	February 8th	February 15th
Bus Driver	Greg Chilcoat	Cody Frye
Announcements	Jeff Butler	W.B. Borders
Song Leader	Brent Lowe	Russell Neil
Invitation	James Anderson	Jeff Butler
Closing Prayer	Wade Sumpter, Jr.	Wade Sumpter

Southwest church of Christ

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Ada, OK 74820

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The Southwesterner



Sunday

Bible Classes: 9 a.m.
Morning Assembly: 10 a.m.
Evening Assembly: 5 p.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class: 10 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

Office

332-3430
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Fax: 332-0775
swcocada@cableone.net

Elders

Jim Begin 421-9079
Daryl Pults 436-1345
Jack Frye 332-8744

Deacons

Jeff Butler 436-4810
Dusty Dennis 439-0808
Scott Estes 436-3357
Greg Hatton 320-5571
David Hendricks 332-2453
Richard Howard 436-4081
John Lee 436-1579
Brent Lowe 265-4228
Butch Platt 332-0122
Scott Roberson 320-3758
Alan Simpson 436-0405
Tommy Vass 332-9985
C.J. Vires 332-8213
Wade Sumpter, Jr. 436-6658

Ministers

Floyd Kaiser 580-265-4526
Johnie Fredman 332-8630
David Rodriguez 399-2468
Ron Ingram 436-5516

Secretaries

Paula Hatton
Denise Platt

Missionaries

Ron Cyphers Haiti

Raising An Ebenezer

How often have we sung the beautiful hymn, "O Thou Fount of Every Blessing" and have not considered the meaning of the second verse? "Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I've come; and I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home..."

Well, here's the story behind it.

When Samuel took lead of Israel as their prophet and judge, this nation of supposedly "divine" people had departed a considerable distance from Jehovah. Their worship was corrupted by the evil practices of the worthless sons of Eli, who stole sacrifices (see 1 Samuel 2:12ff) and committed immorality with women who served in the tabernacle (see 2:22). Furthermore, instead of being driven nearer to God by their enemies, the Philistines, Israel proudly thought that the mere possession of the ark of the covenant would insure their security (see 4:4ff). Israel was arrogant and all too willing to turn a blind eye to the sins in their midst.

The turning point for them is described in 1 Samuel 4:1, where it's written, "Thus the word of Samuel came to all Israel." Don't mistake this: the word of Samuel was also the word of the Lord (see 1 Samuel 3:21). When this prophet spoke, he spoke for God.

By Samuel's preaching, change came, but it was not instant and the suffering for sin was not erased the first time they heard the truth. But, it was a start. [The Word takes time to do its work.]

Finally, change came when Israel suffered a horrendous defeat at the hands of the Philistines. The Bible says that the "slaughter was very great." At this historic battle, the ark of God was taken and the good-for-nothing sons of Eli were killed. The pride of Israel was finally broken. They were crushed and ready to accept the mercy of God.



The time for revival came. Through the providence of God, including some miraculous expressions of His wrath, the ark was literally delivered to Israel by the Philistines. Then, Samuel called for an assembly. He announced, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah and I will pray to the Lord for you" (1 Samuel 7:5). It was there, at Mizpah, that the words that the Lord longed to hear from His children were spoken, "We have sinned!" (7:6).

With Samuel interceding for them and with a new commitment to the Lord, Israel subdued the Philistines until they would never again come within Israel's borders.

It was about this time, that Samuel erected a stone monument and called it Ebenezer, which translated means, "Thus far the Lord has helped us" (1 Samuel 7:12). To the Israelites who would henceforth pass by this stone, its name reminded

Continued on back page

Equipping the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the Body of Christ. Eph. 4:12

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
AT:
WWW.SWCOCADA.COM



Sunday on:

KTEN Channel 10, 6:30 a.m.
KOCO Channel 5, 8:00 a.m.

Gospel of Christ

Channel 35 (Cable One Channel 21)
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Power For Today

KADA Radio 99.3 FM
7 a.m. Monday thru Friday

Minister's File

God is good!

Harold Walker does a great job keeping our sound system and recording equipment working well. His job is one we rarely think about, but would be greatly missed if left unattended.

The elders are working on the exact procedure for the selection and appointment of additional elders. Within the next couple of weeks we will receive names of those you feel meet the qualifications.

To emphasize again what I said Sunday night, appointment to the eldership is not a means of simply honoring someone we like or that we think is a good Christian. Being an elder is more than being a faithful Christian. It demands that a man and his family meet specific qualifications that will make him an example to the rest of us. Please pray about this!

Those of us who work on publishing a bulletin each week are encouraged by the positive responses we've received from a number outside this fellowship who want to remain on the mailing list. We currently mail 582 bulletins each week with 189 of these going to persons who are not members here. Unless you've been there, it's not likely you realize how much time goes into this and how much pressure there is to get the bulletin out on time. The secretaries especially feel the stress to include all the news and updates pertaining to a fellowship of 400+. Please, let's appreciate them for the work they do.

BREAD GROUPS

February 5th
Group #1

Jack & Jill Frye, David & Darla Hendricks, Greg & Diana Hatton, Jim & Tina Vercelli, Richard & Camille Howard, Kyle & Shenny Wilson, Keith & Gayle Ailey, Don & Ima Jean Blankenship, Raymond & Jane Johnson



February 12th
Group #2

Jim & Martha Begin, George & Malinda Patterson, Robert & Mary Jo Whitwell, Brent & Diana Lowe, C.J. & Linda Vires, Bart & Mary Conley, Eric & Contessa Scism, Helen Priest, Wade & Ardith Sumpter, Ken & Wanda Roper, Donna Gibson

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 4 James Myers, Leona Strong
- 7 Ashley Dansby
- 9 (A) Coleman & Helen Pennington
- 8 Clay Barrett
- 10 Maddie Dansby

Sunday Sermons:

AM Sermon: What Makes a Great Fellowship?

One only has to read 1 Thessalonians 1 to hear the deep affection and pride Paul had for the fellowship of the saved in that city. Was his high regard for this church warranted or was Paul simply swept away by a short-lived longing for his friends? By a careful examination of the chapter, it is apparent that this fellowship had EARNED the apostle's high marks. As we examine this text Sunday morning, we will be able to recognize clear aims for the fellowship of the saved at Southwest. What made them such a great fellowship will also make us one.

Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

PM Sermon: Christian Leadership in the Church

PRAYERS & UPDATES

- Jade Benson had a miscarriage last week and is doing well.
- Steve Iorga had an accident and had to have stitches in his leg.
- Jan Hudson, daughter of Jimmie Chiles, is undergoing chemotherapy treatments.
- Sandra Skaggs is in rehab at Valley View at this time.
- Cody Hall, nephew of J.T. Underwood is suffering from a return of Lupus.
- Mable Tate, great aunt of Shelley Meaders, is in Valley View Hospital with pneumonia and a broken hip. She is 100 years old and a member at Allen church of Christ.
- Tyler Hill, grandson of Patsy Hill and nephew of Denise Platt, is in constant pain and will have a new procedure done on his neck. It is a delicate procedure and they are asking for your prayers.
- Sympathy goes to Conna Nemecek and her family on the death of her grandmother.
- Continue to remember Becky Myers, Mildred Clark, Mary Brecheen, Coni Turner and Joe & Tandy Hudson, Susan Smith, Lynn Harbin, Gary Littleton, Ima Jean Blankenship, Annetta Gibson, Janis McNutt, Lillie Ingram, Travis Wingard, Don Simpson and Fisey Jarrett as they

Monday Night for the Master will meet Monday, February 13th in the fellowship building at 6:00 p.m. Menu will be Mexican food, salads and desserts. Golden Doers will meet for breakfast Wednesday, February 15th at 7:30 a.m. at the Aldridge Cafe.

New Life Behavior classes will be taught every Friday at 7:00 p.m. Anyone dealing with struggles and problems of everyday life, addictions, family hardships, uncontrollable bad habits, marriage failures, money problems, or just searching for a purpose in life, should sit in and get involved in this life changing course. Learn why and how to use the power of God to overcome your struggles in life and find peace and happiness. Class will be taught by Ron Ingram in the old kitchen.

YOUTH & COLLEGE NEWS

Father/Son Breakfast will be February 3rd in the fellowship building from 6:30 a.m.—9:00 a.m.

4th—6th Grade Devo will be in the Junior High class room at 5:30 February 15th.

Area Wide Teen Gathering: There will be an Area Wide Teen Gathering at Norman Sunday, February 12th.

College Trip: The college group will be conducting evening services at Tecumseh this Sunday. We will leave the church building at 5:00.

College devotional will be at the Bible Center Thursday night at 8:00.

College devotional at the Pults' has been moved to next Thursday, February 9th.

College Sunday night meal for February 12th & 26th will be provided by Renee Nail, Tonya Lillard, and Joni Vass.

College Appreciation Banquet: Mark your calendars now for the appreciation banquet on March 25th. All who have helped with the campus ministry are invited. You won't want to miss this

Attention Readers

We are updating our bulletin list. If you are not a member at Southwest and would like to continue getting the bulletin, please call the office at 1-877-332-3430 or you can send your mailing label on the front of the bulletin to Southwest church of Christ, 505 West 17th, Ada, Ok 74820 and we would be glad to continue mailing you the bulletin.

For The Record

Bible Study	294	Wednesday PM	313
AM Assembly	421	Contribution	\$ 7,806
PM Assembly	296	Budget	\$8,700

Remember Our Shut-Ins

Emma Jones, Lois Shaw, Novella Blake, Lena Hunt, Randy Wilson, Bonnie Medlock, Lorene Lull, Jennifer Lillard, Anna B. McCoy, Floretta Cockrell, Austin Blackwell, Loretta Broadway, Bessie Bryant, Esther Davis, Jerry Hatton, Pauline Henderson, Delma Jones, Ellis Julian, Ruby Low, Ruby McFarland, Mary Pennington, Bernice Rogers, Darrell Tarron, Nadine Vogt, Charles Whittington