

Family & Friends..... May 22nd, 2018

It was a beautiful Lord's Day! We have four of our High School Seniors graduating: Abby McCain, Lance Bowman, Hannah Dunlap, and Caliopy Taylor. They are talented young people we have been blessed with. We had a celebration and recognition of them after evening services on Sunday. We wish them well on their journey through life. We need to give them our full support. Many of us have watched them grow up from small children into adulthood. How special is that! It says a lot for the parents and the grandparents who have brought them up in the church. We hope their love for God and Bible training will help them in the difficult and challenging times we often face. We want to thank our teachers also whom we appreciate so much, and probably don't tell them enough. We thank you Lord, for our young people. Help us encourage and reach out to them always, and may they take the good moral Bible values they have been taught, and use them in their daily lives. In Jesus name we pray. God is good! To God Be The Glory!

*Train up a child in the way he should go,
even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

Proverbs 22:6 NASB

We're happy to have our visitors: Duwain, Carole & Cason Houston (Abilene, TX), Tillman Houston (Hobe Sound, FL), Dan & Becky McCartney (N Venice, FL), Bill & Mary Jane Hunter (Searcy), Laura Beth James (Garfield), Debra Lewis (Rogers), Jim, John, & Georgine Taylor, Abby Rogers, Brenda, Reese, and Caliopy Taylor (Bentonville), Conner Evans, Stephen & Bernice Hunt, Chris, Samantha, and Karrie O'Neal, and John Shepard (Bella Vista), Abigail Butcher, and Raven Helms.

Those on our prayer list this week: Our deepest sympathies go to Kent Marcum and the family in the loss of his father last week. Keep the family in your prayers. Chuck Pippin is at home after his hospitalization for kidney stones. Caliopy Taylor will have her surgery Thursday in Little Rock. Tracy Douthit will have surgery on May 23rd. Mollye Gonzales fell and fractured her hip and neck. Continue to remember and pray for Mary Green, David Bradly, Tim Short, Dolores McBride, Ava Sailors, Mattlee Grace, Susan Duffy, Mike Lacey, Barbara Bell, our missionaries, our military and police force, our country and president.

We welcome our new family who placed membership with us Sunday. They are Jack & Lacy Langley and their children Katie & Rowan. Be sure and get acquainted with them! Mary Louise would like to thank the Sunday Lunch Bunch and the Fun Food & Fellowship groups for their participation that just finished. She would especially like to thank Jennifer Royer for doing a great job with the Sunday Lunch Bunch! These groups are great for good fellowship and getting to know one another!

Items needed for Fair Haven Children's Home: Juice, peaches, refried beans, trash bags, and yellow hominy.

*What you put into your children's hearts today
influences their character for tomorrow.*

Love you, see you next Lord's Day.

Karen

**Bella Vista
Church of Christ**

Highway 71 and County Road 40
989 NW McNelly Road
Bentonville, AR 72712

Return Service Requested

LORD'S DAY		9:30 AM
Bible Class	Worship	10:30 AM
Evening Worship		6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY		9:45 AM
Ladies' Class	Bible Class	6:45 PM

Phone: 479/273-2434

www.bellavistachurchofchrist.com

ELDERS

Tracy Bowman.....899-3089
Don Butcher.....855-1636
Dallas Dobbs271-8609

DEACONS

Mark Bagwell John Bowman Woody Barker Bryan Busbee Joe Hott
Robert Horton Perry Johnson Harold Phillips Terry Roberts Aaron Sloan Mitchell Whittington

MINISTERS

Randall Caselman 855-4447
Jeff Grisham 531-9135
Selwin Nel Cape Town, South Africa
Javier & Helmer Rosero..... Bogota, Colombia

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Bella Vista

MEMBERS

Hannah Dunlap
Gravette High School
Awarded
Pinner Scholarship
Harding University



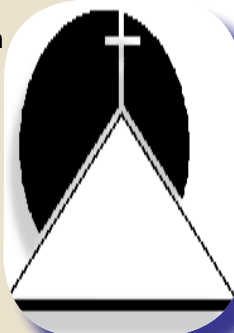
Caliopy Taylor
Bentonville High School
Pursuing
a Caren in Law
Enforcement



Abby McCain
Bentonville West High School
Awarded Pinner
Scholarship to
Freed Hardeman
University



Lance Bowman
Rogers Heritage High School
Awarded Pinner
Scholarship to
Harding University



Ambassadors of the King

I think we can easily agree on the fact that we have been given a mission. When we read the Great Commission in Matthew 28.16-20, we hear Jesus telling us to “Go and make disciples.” Paul in Romans 10.14-16 writes about the importance of that mission. How will they call on him in whom they have not believed? How are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? How are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” He would tell the church in Ephesus in Ephesians 3 that it is through the church that the manifold wisdom of God is to be declared, and that this is according to God’s eternal purpose (Ephesians 3.10-12). So we can see that God has given us a job to do, and it is God’s plan that we are to work.

The question that always seems to come us is “How?” I think we can find out how by looking at something else we read in Luke chapter ten, where Luke records the sending out of the 72.

We are to be totally reliant on God. Listen to what Jesus tells the 72 in Luke 10.3-4: “Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.”

“Lambs in the midst of wolves”, speaks of our defenselessness and vulnerability. Taking nothing (money, knapsack, or sandals), is a demonstration of our faith in the fact that God can take care of us. When we read the gospel accounts of Jesus calling his followers, we hear him say things like, “Come and see” or “Come follow me”. He didn’t lay out the 3-year plan for these guys. He asked them to trust him to lead. We may not always know what the future holds, but we need to know and trust in the One who does. Faith in the provision of God is a vital part of our mission.

Next we see that we are to have faith that God is already at work before we get there. “Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you” (Luke 10.5-6).

This “person of peace” of whom Jesus speaks, I believe, is the person or persons on which God is already at work. It is someone who is receptive to the messenger as well as the message. We need to believe that God is still alive, still active, still at work in his creation. We are called to work in the kingdom; but we are also called to be fellow workers with God.

I can do
all things
through
CHRIST
who strengthens me

We are also to be a part of the culture, a part of the people to whom we are sent. “And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you” (Luke 10.7-8).

Going to another culture is not all that easy. There are different customs to learn. Often there is a language barrier, but that is ok. Even in spreading the gospel here at home, we will encounter people who have very different sets of values and beliefs. There is a temptation to cloister off to ourselves and be with people who talk and act like we do, but if we do that we miss a tremendous blessing as well as a tremendous opportunity.

We are to carry one thing, and that is the message of the Kingdom of God. *Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’*

We are to love and serve the people to whom we are sent, and to carry the only message we have to carry, and that is the message of peace and reconciliation that the Gospel brings. We need to be careful that we are not allowing the consumer mindset of our culture to change the way we present the Gospel. We are ambassadors, not salespeople. We have been entrusted with the message of the greatest gift of all, the gift that can take care of our greatest need. We dare not cheapen it.

—JEFF GRISHAM

TREASURES IN HEAVEN

In the evenings Gina and I often enjoy a brisk walk around our neighborhood. It is good exercise, it is a companionable activity, and it gives us the opportunity to greet and meet our neighbors. Recently we met a neighbor on our block for the first time. What happened next was so striking, I wrote it down as soon as we arrived home.

After we introduced ourselves, our neighbor immediately launched into a non-stop monologue. Over the following seven minutes we learned that she and her husband were retired; that they had upgraded to their current house; that they had just purchased the expensive travel trailer we saw sitting in their driveway, but they had not used it; that they had spent a lot of money installing a new swimming pool in their back yard for their two little granddaughters to use, which the children had only used once; that they were now paying a pricey pool service to keep it clean; that they had just completed an addition to their already large house; that she was refinishing all the cabinets in her kitchen; that she had purchased new furniture and was in the process of purchasing more; that she enjoyed shopping at a nearby mall; and on and on.

Jesus said

“Out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45).

In other words, if you want to know a person’s priority in life, listen

to what they talk about. Everything our neighbor said revolved around shopping, purchasing, and owning. Her “overflow” revealed one of the most materialistic mindsets I have ever encountered.

Jesus warns in Luke 12:15,

“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

We should never build our life around possessions, because all the things of this world are impermanent (1 Timothy 6:6-10) and can never truly satisfy our soul. Use your possessions wisely, and even enjoy them when possible, but never put your hope in them (1 Timothy 6:17). After the initial thrill of the purchase subsides, the “shiny” wears off and your things will become just that – things. Things that have to be cleaned, maintained, stored, guarded, insured, fixed, and ultimately, disposed of – if not by you, then by your heirs.

What is your life all about? Just between us, the longer I live the more I realize the emptiness of possessions and the more I want to invest in something that can outlive me. That means I need to take seriously the command of Jesus in Matthew 6:20-21 “Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Remember the old poem by C.T. Studd: “Only one life, twill soon be past; Only what’s done for Christ will last.”

—DAN WILLIAMS
Harding University

Do not love the world
or the things in the world.
If anyone loves the world,
the love of the Father is not in him.

FOR THE RECORD: 5/19/19

Sunday Class.....	178	Sunday AM Worship.....	258	Sunday PM.....	153
Wednesday.....	137	Offering.....	\$9,766.00	Budget.....	\$11,400

SUNDAY SERVANTS: 5/26/19

Welcome & Elder’s Prayer.....	Don Butcher	AM Song Leader.....	Anthony Christiano
Communion Scripture & Prayer.....	Jeff Oxford	AM Closing Prayer.....	Woody Barker
Greeters.....	Harold Phillips and Kory Goodwin	PM Song Leader.....	David Reeves
Ladies Encouragement..	Doris Rhodes & Barbara Roberts	PM Closing Prayer.....	Malcolm Winters
Server.....	Andrew Albers	Server.....	Jim Branstetter
Server.....	Don Cope, Marquis Elliott	Server.....	Greg Fulgham, Keith Hubanks
Server.....	Frank James, Gary McCool	Server.....	Ray Reiss, Jerry Schimming
Nursery.....	Robin Kinder & Shannon Hubanks	Van Driver.....	Michael Hale
Worship Coordinator.....	Mike Lunsford	Video Operator.....	Aaron Bagwell

WEDNESDAY SERVANTS: 5/29/19

Song Leader.....	Mark Bagwell	Speaker.....	Mitchell Whittington	Announcements/Prayer.....	Roger Arnold
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