

# Church of Christ Deer Park

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

December 10, 2023... Vol 56... Issue 44

### The Church is Important

I wonder if the church is as important to us today as it was to the Christians in the first century? There's an old saying that states something like: "Don't let the urgent overtake the important." There are a lot of urgent matters in the world today, but we must not let them crowd out the importance of the church. Let's use the book of Ephesians to prove this point.

The Church is Important Because of the Father's Purpose (Eph. 3:8- 11). In this section we can clearly see that God had the church in mind all along! The church is not an afterthought, a plan B, or a substitute as some claim. It is not by the will of man or by some accident that the church exists. God had the church planned from eternity. He is the mastermind behind the true and wonderful church (Eph. 3:14- 15). That makes it very important indeed.

The Church is Important Because of the Son's Purchase (Eph. 5:25-27). Christ's sacrifice shows the value God places on the church. Would you be willing to give your life for something of unimportance? Of course not, and neither was Jesus! It is sad to hear some people say, "Give me Christ, but not the church." That's like saying, "Give me the head, but not the body." The church is the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22-23). You can't separate Christ and the church. The church cost Jesus His blood. Because of that, it should be extremely important to us.

The Church is Important Because of the Spirit's Presence (Eph. 2:19-22). The church is the temple of God. In Old Testament times, God's Spirit dwelt in the tabernacle and later the temple. But now the church is the temple of God and the Spirit still dwells in it. Like the temple of old, in the church, where the Spirit lives, God is worshiped and given glory (Eph. 3:21). This makes the church a matter of great importance.

Without a doubt, the church is important to God. If the church really is that important to Him, then that would make proper association and involvement within it important, as well. And, without a doubt, it is. Is the church important to you? Are you an active member of it?

With Devo, prayers & pillows

*Edd Sterchi*

*Broadway church of Christ  
Campbellsville, KY*



**Serenity Gardens 15  
Christmas Pillows**

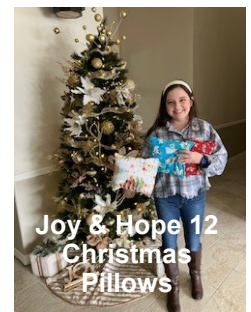


**Sodalis 30  
Christmas Pillows**



**Parsons House 15  
Christmas Pillows**

**PILLOW MINISTRY UPDATE**  
Our Ladies meet Tuesday  
mornings from 9:00 to 11:00 for  
Devo, Prayers & Pillows  
Come Join!



**Joy & Hope 12  
Christmas  
Pillows**



**The Bridge 20  
Christmas Pillows**



# Please be Praying for...

Our Country & Our National Leaders look to & be guided by God; The people of Israel; The people of Ukraine; Wil & Harley Imel miscarried 12/5-Harley will have to undergo surgery some time in the future; Bob Gordon (Sonoma's cousin) diagnosed with blood cancer. His sister is a match they will undergo stem cell transplant after the first of the year, presently he is very sick with an infection; Eileen Adair went to get set up for her Autoimmune Therapy 12/6, the first session will be 12/8 & surgery on other lung in March 2024; was good to see Susan Williams in worship Sunday following surgery 11/7; Karl Vinson-the trip to Little Rock for his father's funeral really wore him out & is still dealing with a lingering cough from his surgery; Tammy Adair is having severe back issues & seeing doctors; Edna Earl Goodman is getting stronger after straining her back pinching a nerve; Cheryl McKinney (Tammy Imel sister-in-law) who has 4 autoimmune diseases has been diagnosed with serious nerve problem in her face; Jess Williams (Nancy Barton son-in-law) was taken to the hospital with internal bleeding; Deanna & Norman Cox (Carole Broyles sister & brother-in-law) Norman has been diagnosed with Lewy body dementia; The Family of Gerald Starns; The Family of Erin Burke; Bruce Bramlett (Jimmy Burke associate) seriously injured away from home; George & Karen Reyez (Dale Guillory friends); Mrs. Farris (friend of Gina Branstetter) had a family tragedy; Inmates of our Prison Ministry. We have responded to **539** inmate requests for Bibles & Study Material. Many are very grateful, participate in Bible Study Groups and ask for our prayers; Let Your Light Shine; FEAR GOD! Practice your Christianity Daily; Be THANKFUL for our MANY BLESSINGS; You must hear The Word to be saved—DEVOUR THE WORD; Hunger for God's Word & read it Daily; Keep Your Eyes on Heaven; Love Our Neighbor; Be rich toward God; Actions Speak Louder; Jesus said, "Do you love me?"; Earnestly seek our God!; Come, great is the Lord and most worthy of our praise; Share the Gospel of Jesus; Remember God is in Control; Pray Without Ceasing for Each Other

**CONTINUAL PRAYER:** Adair Family; Gene Barton; Diane Bowman (Tammy Imel friend); Donna Bomfalk (Erin Burke friend); Gina Branstetter; Carole Broyles; Jimmy Burke; Sandra Burke (Jimmy & Peggy sister-in-law); David & Patsy Camp; Debbie Clark (Sonoma O'Bannon's cousin); Dennis & Mary Gray; Louise Friday; Pat & Hugh Fletcher; Lisa Fowler (Gerald Starns niece); Edna Earl Goodman; Deavyn Gordon; Robert Gordon (Sonoma's cousin); Dale Guillory; Nalin Hayter; Myra Higgins and her granddaughters-Alysa & Samantha Higgins; Leslie Hoffman; Pat Jackson & Norma McBride (Peggy Burke friends); Ann McKinney (Tammy Imel mother); Sherri Moody PALS Teacher & friend of many; Glenda Peters; Bernice Reed; Brandon Reed; Kenny Reed; Robert Reed; Mike Reed; Mike Ritter; Bobby Rowan; Cindy Russell (Gina Branstetter friend); Johnny Salas; Joe Skinner, (Gerald Starns friend); Carolyn Sparks & Marion Hood (Shannon Burke's mother & aunt); Stephen & Mary Ann Smith; Jim & Linda Thomason; Lara Tucker (Nancy Barton niece), Sheri & Bruce Williams (Dale Guillory's sister); Susan Williams

## PLEASE REMEMBER THESE WHO HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER:

Eileen Adair; Lori Bailey; Richard Cardenas (Bernice Reed son-in-law); Lisa Cunningham (Erin Burke friend); Bob Gordon (Sonoma's cousin); Tom McCulley (Bradley Burke's great grandfather); Mother of Mrs. Farris (Gina Branstetter friend); Brenda Rowan (Peggy Burke sister-in-law); Jess Williams (Nancy Barton son-in-law).



Rosa Reeves & Jerry Goucher in the loss of their Aunt in Oklahoma. Rosa & Jerry will be traveling to Oklahoma for the funeral this weekend so please keep them your prayers.

Family & Friends of Jared Robertson who has been on our prayer list for a long time (Scott Burke friend) who passed away this week. Jared had a returning brain tumor & was just 40 yrs old.



Kevin & Michelle Koctar 8th



Carolyn Carpenter	5
Mary Miller	6
Gloria O'Bannon	11
Kristen Adair	16
Jake Riggs	17
Gene Barton	18
Jeff Riggs	18
Louise Friday	21
Adalyn Cable	28
CJ Campbell	28
Briana Adair	31



# Are We Reading Our Bible Every Day?

## Daily Bible Reading

Dec 10—Dec 16

Sun 10	am	Hosea 5-8
	pm	Rev. 1
Mon 11	am	Hosea 9-11
	pm	Rev. 2
Tues 12	am	Hosea 12-14
	pm	Rev. 3
Wed 13	am	Joel
	pm	Rev. 4
Thurs 14	pm	Amos 1-3
	pm	Rev. 5
Fri 15	am	Amos 4-6
	pm	Rev. 6
Sat 16	am	Amos 7-9
	pm	Rev. 7



Through the Bible in a year

## Every Man's Book

The Bible is every man's book. To know the Bible and to handle it correctly is one of the greatest accomplishments within the reach of any person.

One may know English, astronomy, literature, music, sociology, and philosophy, but if one does not know the Bible, one has failed in the only subject that brings all things into the proper relationship and enables one to know life at its best. The best evidence of the inspiration of the Bible is found between its covers. No one will ever be a useful Christian without being a student of the Bible. Matthew Henry said, "The Scriptures were not written to make us astronomers, but to make us saints."

The Bible is not intended solely for some special group. It is every man's book; it was written for the average person. Scholars may study it, but it is not written for scholars. No one ever outgrows the Scriptures. The more one studies them, the wider and deeper they become. The Bible enables every reader to look into eternity.

It is no wonder that Paul urged Timothy to study the Scripture, "*rightly dividing [handling aright] the word of truth,*" so he might be an approved workman before God ([2 Timothy 2:15](#)).

The Bible acknowledges man's faults; it is patient with man's weaknesses; it is honest with his virtues and his hopes. To own the Bible is to be rich. To study, to know, and to trust the Bible is to find life. To study the Bible is to be wise; to obey it, to be strong.

—Franklin Camp - HTH HTH

*Happy Holidays!*

Holiday Gathering 12/13, 6:30pm  
See details on flyer at end of Newsletter.

*Oh What Fun!*

## PRISON MINISTRY Join in the Work!



We now have **539** Inmate Students. The World Bible School Bibles with all the lessons included have gone up from \$5.00 to \$7.95. We have a few that only speak/read Spanish. There are specific guidelines we have to utilize in corresponding with the inmates. Let David Camp know if you want to help buy Bibles.

## How do I become a Christian?

**Hear the Word:** Matt 7:24-28, Luke 6:47-49, John 6:45, John 14:15, Romans 10:13-17

**Believe the Word:** Mark 16:16, John 3:16, 20:31, Acts 16:31, Hebrews 11:6, James 2:24

**Repent of your sins:** Luke 13:3-5, 15:7, Acts 2:37-38, 17:30, 26:20

**Confess Jesus to others:** Matt 10:32-33, Romans 10:9-10, 1 Timothy 6:12  
**Be Baptized in the name of Jesus for salvation (immersed in water as a believer):** Mark 16:16, Acts 2:37-38, Romans 6:3-5, 1 Peter 3:21

**Why do you delay?** Acts 22:16

**Live Faithfully:** Romans 12:1-2, 1 Corinthians 10:12, Titus 2:11-14, 2 Peter 1:5-11, 1 John 1:7, Revelation 2:10



CHRISTMAS for the Orphans at Arms of Hope



Pick your Stars off the Giving Tree and fill out.

Have Star & Gift Cards to Church Office

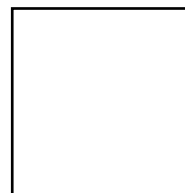
**by Sunday, 12/10th**  
**Wal Mart, Belk, Academy,**  
**Visa, etc.**

(Please hand Gift Cards to Peggy or use Drop Box in Office)





**Church of Christ Deer Park**  
**617 Avon Street**  
**Deer Park, TX 77536**



## *Church Of Christ Deer Park*

*Invites you to join us in Worship!*

We are located at:  
617 Avon  
Deer Park, TX

Phone: 281-479-1010  
E-mail: [dpchurch.office@  
sbcglobal.net](mailto:dpchurch.office@sbcglobal.net)

Web Site: [www.dpcofc.org](http://www.dpcofc.org)  
Facebook Page: Church of  
Christ Deer Park, Texas

### *Meet With Us*

#### Sunday Morning

Coffee & Donut Fellowship	9:00am
Bible Class	9:30am
Morning Worship	10:30am

Children's Bible Hour offered for  
3yrs to 3rd grade during Morning Worship.

#### Wednesday Evening

Bible Class	6:30pm
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## **Service this Week:**

December 10, 2023

**Donut Fellowship 9:00am**  
**Bible Class 9:30am**  
**Worship 10:30am**

*Song Leader:* **Dennis Gray**

*Scripture Reading & Prayer:*  
**Luke 2:8-14**

*Prayers & Thoughts for the Lord's Supper:*

*Sermon: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*  
**Dr. Justin Imel**

*Closing Payer:*  
**Jimmy Burke**

*Greeter* **Tammy Adair**  
*Communion Prep:* **Patsy Camp**  
*Livestreaming:* **R.J. Imel**

Stay tuned to our One Call Now Messages,  
Email Messages, Everything happening on  
Facebook Page:  
Church of Christ Deer Park, Texas  
& our Web Site: [dpcofc.org](http://dpcofc.org)



REMEMBER WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: I am blessed to be with brethren. I am blessed to serve. I am blessed to learn from others. I am blessed to hear the Word of Life. I am blessed to remember what's important. I am blessed to recharge my spirit. I am blessed to correct my life. We look forward to seeing you Wednesday!



# HOLIDAY GATHERING

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Devo & Dinner

6:30 pm

Christmas Carols

# Oh What Fun!

JOIN US FOR A  
HOLIDAY PARTY



## DINNER SIGN UP

Sliders/Wassail	Peggy Burke
Chip & Dip	Sonoma O'Bannon
Brownies & Dip	Mary Miller
Cho Covered Peanuts	Betty O'Bannon
Cake	David & Patsy Camp
Sausage Balls & Peanut Butter Fudge	Tammy Imel

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**WHITE ELEPHANT  
GIFT EXCHANGE**  
\$10 Limit  
(Something You Would Like - Not Gag)



CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS FOR SIX OF OUR FOLKS  
THAT HAVE BEEN ILL

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE BRING SMALL ITEMS FOR  
CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS,  
i.e., We have Chap Sticks, Note Pads, Peanut Butter & Crackers, Cocoa, Gold Fish,  
Protein Bars, etc., etc., etc.