



# FAMILY NEWS

## March 8, 2026

### Classes

Auditorium Class: Andy Scott  
Teens: Arpoika Daniels  
4th - 6th Grade: Lani Renner  
1st - 3rd Grade: Ginger Posey

3yr - K: Lynn Grimes  
Nursery: Miranda Hays

### Sermons

AM: Arpoika Daniels  
PM: Evening Bible Study



IN **SEARCH**  
OF THE LORD'S WAY®

### Next Sunday on Search: Mar 15-Conversion

Would you like to change your life and start over again? Many speak about the concept of being born again, but they may not know how people are converted to Christ and have newness of life.

### Daily Bible Reading

#### Sunday

Numbers 7-8 & Acts 13:13-41

#### Monday

Numbers 9-11 & Acts 13:42-52

#### Tuesday

Numbers 12-14 & Acts 14

#### Wednesday

Numbers 15-16 & Acts 15:1-21

#### Thursday

Numbers 17-19 & Acts 15:22-41

#### Friday

Numbers 20-22 & Acts 16:1-15

#### Saturday

Numbers 23-25 & Acts 16:16-40

IN THE BIBLE, WHEN JOB  
HAD EVERYTHING,  
HE PRAYED.  
WHEN HE HAD NOTHING,  
HE STILL PRAYED.  
PRAYER ISN'T ABOUT  
YOUR CIRCUMSTANCE,  
IT'S ABOUT WHO GOD IS.

*But I pray to you, O Lord, in the time of your favor;  
in your great love, O God, answer me with your  
sure salvation.*

*Psalm 69:13 (NIV)*



God is the best listener.  
You don't need to shout  
nor cry out loud.  
He hears even the very  
silent prayer of a  
sincere heart.

# In Our Hearts:

*The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust him. Nahum 1:7 (NIV)*

Please continue to remember those on our long term prayer list.

Clancy Phillis, Beverly Ramsey, Larry Waddell, Lee Daniels, mother of Arpoika Daniels, Pat Joslin, sister of Sue Alexander, LaRohnda Jones & Mary Ray, nieces of Johna Myers, Kenny Brewer, Sue Alexander, Talhia Vanlandingham, Steve Lashley, Alvis Campbell, Ted Criswell

**Let's remember our shut-ins:** *Peggy Malone*

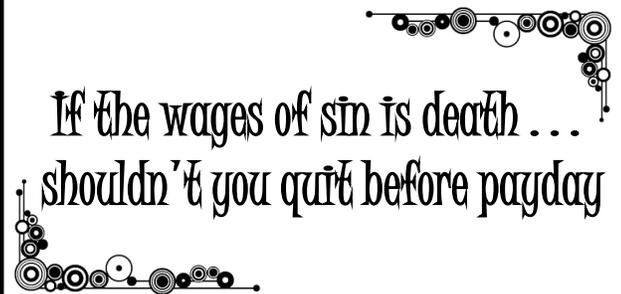
**Leader's Banquet:** The Northridge Church of Christ will be hosting the annual Leader's Banquet on Friday, March 27th, at 6:30 pm. All elders, deacons, staff and their spouses are invited. The cost will be \$10 per person. If you plan to attend please let the office know; we must rsvp with a count by Monday, March 23rd. For more information see the flyer posted in the office window.

**Area-Wide Singing:** The Church of Christ at Little will be hosting a Fifth Sunday Area-Wide Singing on Sunday, March 29th at 5:00 pm. Light refreshments will be served after the service.

Welcome to Justin Strickland! Justin placed membership with our congregation on Sunday, February 22nd! Please introduce yourself to Justin and let him know how happy we are that he will be working and worshipping with us!



Justin Strickland  
12161 NS 3600  
Seminole, OK  
405-746-4156



## Time With Tim

### Trusting God with the Outcome

**“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.”**

*Proverbs 3:5-6*

Doing the right thing and choosing faithfulness often lead us to an uncomfortable place—**waiting**. We may obey God, stand firm in our convictions, and act with integrity, yet still wonder how things will turn out. Scripture reminds us that obedience does not guarantee immediate ease, but it does guarantee God's presence.

Throughout the Bible, God's people were called to trust Him not only in their decisions, but in the results. Joseph did the right thing and remained faithful, yet spent years in prison before God's plan was revealed. Esther stepped forward in faith, trusting God with consequences she could not control. Even Jesus, in perfect obedience, entrusted the outcome of His sacrifice to the Father.

Trusting God with the outcome means releasing our desire to control results. It means believing that God sees what we cannot see and is working beyond what we can measure. Faith is not proven when life goes as planned, but when we continue to walk with God when it does not.

When we trust God, we learn that success is not defined by visible victories but by faithful obedience. God's timing, wisdom, and purposes are always greater than ours.

**“And let us not grow weary in doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”**

*Galatians 6:9*

# Is God in Control?

We often hear that “God is in control” when things in this world aren’t going well. With all the violence and evil, we wonder, how can God be in control? Are we saying that God makes bad people do bad things? Are we saying that God creates the violence and evil? It may seem counterproductive to say that God is in control while, at the same time, seeing the world fall apart around us. How can God be in control?

By the dictionary, control means to “exercise restraint or direction,” to “hold in check” or have power over. I believe God is in control, in charge, even with all the evil in the world. He is sovereign and has all authority in heaven and earth (cf. Matt 28:18). What I don’t believe is that God is micromanaging and coercing every decision, negating free will, pulling everyone’s strings like a puppet master and making all the bad things happen. That is not what is meant by affirming that God is in control. He doesn’t force everything, nor is He to be blamed for the evil.

What is the alternative? If God is not in control, then what is? Are we to accept that chaos or even the devil reigns and that God is taking a hands off approach (i.e., a form of deism)? Are we to think that our exercise of free will has more power to control outcomes than God? We need to think about what we are accepting if we deny God’s control.

We are affirming that God sits on His throne with all authority and maintains boundaries even while allowing free will to operate and bear consequences. We are saying that God “does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, ‘What have you done?’” (Dan 4:35). “Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases” (Psa 115:3). When statements like these were made, people were evil then, too. Being in control is not forced coercion. Indeed, the fact that God allows people to make such choices and do bad things shows self-controlled patience and longsuffering on His part as He desires that none perish, but all come to repentance (2 Pet 3:9). God is in control when He gives people up to the consequences of their sinful choices (Rom 1:24-32). Sometimes He does give people what they are asking for (negatively). Do not, for a moment, think that God is not in control just because we see terrible consequences from terrible behavior.

Consider the book of Job. Was God in control? The first two chapters show that He maintained control throughout, though He allowed bad things to happen to

Job. It may be difficult to understand why, but our lack of understanding is not a case for God not being in control. He set the limits of what Satan could do. The line was drawn by God, Satan acted freely within those boundaries, and the resolution at the end was of God’s making (a marked proof that the Satan was wrong in his charges and pursuits).

When Daniel interpreted the “writing on the wall,” he referenced what happened to Nebuchadnezzar, stating that “the Most High God rules the kingdom of mankind and sets over it whom he will” (Dan 5:21). When Jehoshaphat sought help from God, his prayer began, “O LORD, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you” (2 Chron 20:6). This is what we mean when we say that God is in control.

During all of these times, evil and sin were in the world. Yet God maintained control and brought about resolutions according to His will. He allows free will. He allows evil to bear its consequences. He also brings an end to these things, set limits, and uses such events to serve greater purposes (e.g., using Babylon to bring judgment upon Judah; see Habakkuk).

God can corral events to bring about good, as well. This is one reason we pray, for what can prayer do if God is not in control? We think of God’s providence and His use of what appears to be coincidences to cross paths and create positive outcomes (e.g., Esther, Joseph). The truth is that we just don’t know or understand what all is going on behind the scenes. This is why it is upon us to trust Him. We don’t know what He knows, understand what He understands, or have the wisdom that He has.

God also controls the timing of the Day of Judgment, a day in which “He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead” (Acts 17:31). We can’t afford to think God isn’t in control. We just need to see that His control is also what allows us the freedom to make choices and provides for us the solution to sin by His grace through Jesus Christ.

- Doy Moyer

**Minister:**

Arpoika Daniels  
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**Associate Minister:**

Tim Smith  
(cell) 405-481-6931

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Lynn Grimes  
(office) 405-382-0548

**Elders:**

Jack Mattingly , Sr.  
(cell) 405-380-2510

Syd Morgan  
(cell) 405-380-7406  
(Home) 405-382-3404

Andy Scott  
(cell) 405-287-8580

**Deacons:**

Ken Crane  
Jim Grimes  
Steve Johnson  
Jerry Renner  
Bob Swearingen

**Worship & Bible Study  
Schedule**

AM

Sunday 9:30 - Bible Class

Sunday 10:30 - Worship

PM

Sunday 5:00 - Bible Study

Wednesday 6:00 - Bible Study

**Worship Workers**

**March 8**

**In Charge:** Andy Scott (405-287-8580)

**Welcome AM:** Jack Mattingly

**Song Leader:** Steve Johnson

**Opening Prayer:** Andy Scott

**Closing Prayer:** Bob Swearingen

**Lord's Supper & Offering AM:** Arpoika Daniels

**Lord's Supper & Offering PM:** Jim Hardin

**Scripture Reading:** Paul Alexander

**Heritage House**

**Thursday, March 12**

Betty Smith &  
Beverly Ramsey

**March Nursery Attendants**

March 1 - Kay Lashley

March 8 - Debbie Crane

March 15 - Ginger Posey

March 22 - Ashley Noey

March 29 - Kay Lashley

**March Worship & Bible Class Greeters**

**North Doors:** Betty Smith & Beverly Ramsey

**South Doors:** Bob Griggs & Alan Morgan