



FAMILY NEWS

April 19, 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: Apr 26-Transforming Grace

The grace of God does far more than merely save us from sin. God's grace transforms our lives so that as we are born again, we can be redeemed from every lawless deed and become a person zealous for good works.

Daily Bible Reading

Sunday

Joshua 22-24 & Matthew 13:1-30

Monday

Judges 1-3 & Matthew 13:31-58

Tuesday

Judges 4-6 & Matthew 14:1-21

Wednesday

Judges 7-8 & Matthew 14:22-36

Thursday

Judges 9-10 & Matthew 15:1-20

Friday

Judges 11-12 & Matthew 15:21-39

Saturday

Judges 13-15 & Matthew 16

Sometimes....
you may feel like you aren't
enough.

But the apostles thought 2 fish
and 5 loaves of bread weren't
enough to feed thousands of
people....
and look what God did with
that.

Trust in your creator and His
plan for you.

*"Surely God is my salvation; I will trust
and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord, is my
strength and my song; he has become my
salvation."*

Isaiah 12:2 (NIV)

*I've seen God work too many
times to doubt Him now.*

In Our Hearts:

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall. Psalm 55:22 (NIV)

Jess Ford has requested prayers for her friend, Daniel Alvarez. Daniel had a scope done to check on his heart following the mini stroke he suffered recently.

Sara Shelton, daughter of Andy Scott, Clancy Phillis, Beverly Ramsey, Larry Waddell, Lee Daniels, mother of Arpoika Daniels, LaRohnda Jones, niece of Johna Myers, Kenny Brewer, Sue Alexander, Talhia Vanlandingham, Steve Lashley, Alvis Campbell, Ted Criswell

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

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to Sue and Paul Alexander in the loss of Sue's sister, Pat Joslin. Pat passed away on Thursday, April 9th.

Potluck Luncheon: Next Sunday, April 26th, will be our end-of-the-month potluck luncheon after our morning worship service. Brothers Keeper Group 3 will be in charge of set-up and clean-up. A brief devotional will follow our meal and there will be no 5:00 Bible study.

Vacation Bible School: There will be a work day next Sunday after the potluck luncheon for those wishing to help out with Vacation Bible School preparations.

A heavy heart has nowhere to go other than to its Creator.

...and then I realized, the season I wanted to skip became the soil God used to grow me.

AN ENCOURAGING WORD

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John 1:1 and Philipians 2:6-9

Jesus Christ Himself BEFORE his birth as a human was called "**The Word**", in John 1. Then John said the Word (Jesus) was **with** God and was He **was** God. Many times, we associate the Father in the Holy Trinity as being described as God and Jesus as His Beloved Son. Both of these statements are true. However, the term God is synonymous with Deity and applies equally to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Apostle Paul wrote about Jesus in **Philipians 2:6** (KJV) "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be **equal with God**." The Message translation expresses **2:6-8** like this, "*He (Jesus) had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. ⁷Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! ⁸Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death — and the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion.*"

The scripture (NASU) continues in verse 9 and says, "*For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*" That truly is AN ENCOURAGING WORD.

For the Master's Cause,
Andy Scott

Elders

Just as shepherds were known throughout the ancient world as leaders, men known as elders were also considered to be leaders of the people. This term stresses a different aspect of leadership. While it is natural to think of these men as older in age, and this certainly plays a role in who elders are, the two signature concepts associated with elders are wisdom and maturity. In the ancient world, elders naturally arose from within family systems. These men governed the family, taking care of needs and making sure order was maintained while making what should have been wise decisions that impacted the family and greater society.

When Moses and Aaron went to Egypt to bring the Israelites out, they called together the elders of the people with the implication that these men, as leaders of their families or clans, distributed the information to the rest of the people and made sure they were following instructions. The result was that “the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped” (Exod 4:31). The elders essentially became a council of men who could help make major decisions, receive instruction, and provide the needed information to their respective tribes. We can see significant moments in the Old Testament when the elders acted, performing “tasks of local government and justice” (Harper’s Bible Dictionary). For example, elders were chosen to help judge important matters, keep the people informed of God’s expectations, and serve as a special council on behalf of the people (e.g., Exod 18:13-17; 24:1-11; Num 11:16-30; Judges 21:16-24; 1 Sam 8:1-9). “All down through the history of the Jews we find mention made of the elders as exercising authority among the people. They appear as governors (Deut. 31:28), as local magistrates (16:18), administering justice (19:12). They were men of extensive influence (1 Sam. 30:26-31).” (Illustrated Bible Dictionary, 217)

In the gospel accounts, elders were often identified with chief priests and scribes, sometimes in opposition to Jesus (cf. Matt 16:21; 21:23; 26:3, 47, 57; 27:1). People by this time had become concerned with the “tradition of the elders” (Matt 15:2), and some accused the disciples of violating this. The people generally would see the elders as having some authority, but Jesus shows that the traditions of the elders could not override the inspired Scriptures.

The elders in the Old Testament serve as the backdrop for understanding elders in the Lord’s congregations. While the term can refer simply to an older person (1 Tim 5:1), in given contexts it refers to men chosen to

serve in a special capacity as shepherds and overseers of local churches. When Paul called the elders of the church of Ephesus together, he told them, “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood” (Acts 20:28). Elders as leaders were appointed in the churches to oversee and care for the souls under their charge (Acts 14:23; Heb 13:17; Titus 1:5). They serve a noble task (1 Tim 3:1).

While elders maintain a level of delegated authority, as was seen with shepherds (who are the same men in the Lord’s churches), they are always under God’s authority. They exercise oversight of the flock among them willingly, and not domineering over those in their charge (1 Pet 5:1-3). This means there are areas of judgment in which they will operate, and those under their charge ought to listen willingly (Heb 13:17).

Not just anyone who is older is to be considered an elder in a church. Paul lays out various qualities and expectations of those who would be chosen to serve (1 Tim 3; Titus 1). These show a kind of character God wants that would serve as examples to the rest of the group. They demonstrate life experiences (husband, father), but also that in these experiences he has shown himself to be consistent and godly (i.e., what kind of husband and father has he been?). They show an ability and aptness to be hospitable and willing to teach. An elder is sober, non-violent, not quarrelsome, not greedy. He is a good manager, as seen in how he raised his children. He is able to refute error and courageously stand for what is right. He is well-grounded in Scripture, not a recent convert. He is humble, teachable, and a man who will lead others by example to bear the fruit of God’s Spirit (Gal 5:22-24).

While the qualities given to Titus and Timothy are not quite identical (though very close), they both would yield the same men. When chosen, these men are to be considered as examples for others as they oversee a grand work. They are committed to the Lord above all, carefully following His word, and watching out for those under their charge. A congregation who have such men serving them is blessed indeed. Let us pray that this will continue according to God’s will right here where we are.

- Doy Moyer

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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

April 19

In Charge: Steve Johnson (405-380-5013)

Welcome AM: Syd Morgan

Song Leader: Steve Johnson

Opening Prayer: Gil Turpin

Closing Prayer: Steve Johnson

Lord's Supper & Offering AM: Bob Swearingen

Lord's Supper & Offering PM: Nuben Barton

Scripture Reading: Bill Coley

Heritage House

Thursday, April 23

Norman & Joyce
Boggs

April Nursery Attendants

April 5 - Debbie Crane

April 12 - Ginger Posey

April 19 - Ashley Noey

April 26 - Kay Lashley

April Worship & Bible Class Greeters

North Doors: Paul & Sue Alexander

South Doors: Bob Griggs & Alan Morgan