



## WHAT UNITES US

In multiple places throughout the New Testament, there is a tension that exists between the Jewish converts to Christianity and the Gentiles who became Christians.

- In Acts 13-14, Paul preaches the gospel to both groups causing the Jewish audience, who previously responded favorably to the message, to riot (Acts 13:42-52).
- In Galatians, Paul addresses those who are “troubling” the Galatian Christians sense of security in the gospel message (Galatians 1:6-9). We later find out that the trouble is being caused by Jewish teachers telling the Gentile Christians that they need to continue the practice of circumcision and other commands of the Law in order to truly be Christians (Galatians 5:1-12).
- In Ephesians, we read of the various religious and social reasons the Jews and Gentiles were fragmented (Ephesians 2:11-12).

As we read our New Testament, there is a temptation to take for granted the work that was done to unite these very divided groups. The early church did not have an easy task ahead of them.

What ultimately united these groups? Paul answers it best in Ephesians 2.

The death of Christ (Ephesians 2:13-16). Paul begins addressing the division with the phrase “*but now in Christ*” (2:13). The old covenant formed a barrier between the two groups, creating “*hostility*” (2:14,16), but the death of Jesus has moved that barrier out of the way and allowed for the creation of something “*new*” (2:15).

The message of the gospel (Ephesians 2:17-18). Paul uses the word “*access*” in talking about our new relationship with God. Christians are all able to equally approach God.

The organization of the church (Ephesians 2:19-22). Finally, Paul describes the formation and growth of the church, the body of Christ (see Ephesians 1:22-23). Jesus unites us into one new family where God dwells among us.

The death of Jesus, the teaching of His gospel, and the organization of His body, the church, make it possible for us to be united as one. I say “able”, because, at the end of the day, it remains a choice. May we walk down the path Jesus has made possible, and be united as one.

-Jack Dodgen

## Order of Worship March 8, 2026

Come, We That Love The Lord .....111  
**Greeting / Opening Prayer**  
 On Zion’s Glorious Summit .....515  
 Highly Exalted .....Screen  
**Table Talk**  
**Matthew 27:32-38 (pg. 1070) / Lord’s Supper**  
 Abide With Me .....7  
**Prayer**  
 How Sweet, How Heavenly .....250  
**Psalm 118:17 (pg. 653)**  
**Sermon: Aubrey Johnson**



Hark! The Gentle Voice .....207  
 A Common Love .....842  
**Offering**  
**Announcements**  
 Your Kingdom Until Then .....Screen  
**Closing Prayer**  
**Song Leader: Tim King**

### LAST WEEK

**Sunday Morning Bible Classes .....115**  
**Sunday Morning Worship.....176**  
**Sunday Evening Worship.....75**  
**Wednesday .....81**  
**Budget .....\$9,615**  
**Contribution .....\$12,018**  
**YTD Budget .....\$76,902**  
**YTD Contribution .....\$69,560**  
**Faith Fund .....\$46,386**

## Watch Online

[eastsidechurchofchrist.org](http://eastsidechurchofchrist.org)  
[ecoc.church](http://ecoc.church)

### Sunday:

Bible Class - 9:00 AM  
 Worship - 10:00 AM & 5:00 PM

### Wednesday Bible Class:

7:00 PM

### Church Office:

Call: 405-732-0393  
 Text: 405-458-5860  
[eastsidemwc@gmail.com](mailto:eastsidemwc@gmail.com)  
 916 S Douglas Blvd  
 Midwest City, OK 73130

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday  
 9 AM - 5 PM

### OPTIONS FOR GIVING

- 1 - Collection Plate
- 2 - On website click “Give”
- 3 - Download the Eastside app
- 4 - Text 405-337-9319

### ELDERS

Sam Brandon  
 Ricky Bugher  
 Michael Graham  
 David Holt  
 Ryan McDonald  
 David Walton  
 OPEN DOOR: Wednesdays 6PM

### MINISTERS

Jack Dodgen  
 Kyle Humphrey  
 Tracy Mussett

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### NEW REQUESTS AND UPDATES

- **Sympathy to Carla Dame & Family** on the passing of Carla's mother, Betty Stevens.
- **Joann Farley** will have heart surgery on March 12th.
- **BJ Hartsburg** is in room 4052 at St. Anthony's downtown, awaiting heart surgery.

### CONTINUE TO REMEMBER:

Patsy Ausburn, Connie Barney, Cheryl Bellah, Stephanie Brewer, Larry Broudrick, Chuck Bryant, Ron Cannefax, James & Karen Davis, Jamie Davis, Phil Dawkins, Joann Farley, Don Hufschmid, Tammy Johnson, Michele Kuroki, Lynn May, Pat Patterson, Dale Pence, Czerny Phillips, & June Rard

### OUR MISSIONARIES:

Harold Shank & Students, Global Christian Studies; Dustin Archer, Prison Correspondence Ministry; Hiwatthia Jones, Byron & Snezana Benitez, Guatemala; Kent Marcum, Operation Ecuador; Ben Begay, Many Farms, Arizona; Jim Christian, Manuelito Navajo Children's Home; Search TV; BibleTalk; Truth for Today; Tipton Children's Home; Michael Fordjour, Ghana; Feliz Martinez & Jesus Cervantes, Spanish Ministry in OKC; World Bible School; World English Institute

**BEAR VALLEY STUDENT:** Levi Saylor

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FUNERAL FOR BETTY STEVENS

The funeral for Carla Dame's mother, Betty Stevens, will be Monday, March 9th, 10 AM, at the Central Church of Christ in Shawnee, with burial at the Resthaven Cemetery. The Family Visitation is Sunday afternoon from 2-4 PM at Cooper Funeral Home in Tecumseh.

### SOUND BOOTH TRAINING

Sunday, March 8th, 1 PM or Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1 PM  
If you are interested in learning and serving in the sound booth, running the sound or producing the live stream, let Tracy Mussett know and attend one of the trainings.

### YOUNG MEN LED WORSHIP

Sunday, March 8th, 6 PM  
Our young men will lead our worship service this evening in the Fellowship Hall. Join as we worship our Mighty God and encourage our youth as they grow in Him.

### COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

Saturday, March 21, 1-3 PM  
Thank you to all who have provided baby item donations and donations of monetary value. Due to your generosity we have the donations covered for the Community Baby Shower. However, if you have something already ordered to donate please feel free to bring it.  
A volunteer sign-up sheet is now on the Family Matters table in the foyer.

### LADIES DAY AT HARRAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

Saturday, March 21, 9:00 AM  
See Family Matters Board for more information

### ANNUAL EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 29th. 2 PM  
It's time to gather candy for the plastic eggs. Please bring your donations of individually wrapped candies.  
1. MUST FIT in a plastic egg  
2. NO chocolate  
3. NO nuts  
We will stuff eggs after evening service on March 22nd.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**BABY SHOWER PREP**  
Sunday, March 8th, 6 PM  
Diaper organizing, in the Family Center.



**CLOTHING ROOM WORKDAY**  
Monday, March 9th, 9 AM to Noon  
Volunteers sort clothing, assist referrals, and prepare the clothing room for the monthly giveaway, each Monday morning.



**CLOTHING GIVEAWAY**  
Tuesday, March 10th, 1-3 PM  
Our Clothing Room is open to the public on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, through November.



**LADIES CLASS**  
Wednesday, March 11th, 10 AM  
"God's People and Their Calling". The class meets each Wednesday morning through April 22nd.



**EMPTY NESTERS GAME NIGHT**  
Friday, March 13th, 6 PM  
Empty Nesters meet in the Fellowship Hall each month on the 2nd Friday evening.



**BABY SHOWER**  
Sunday, March 15th, 2 PM  
For Chance & Anna Pickett, in the Family Center. See registry at <https://tinyurl.com/pickett-baby>



**COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER**  
Saturday, March 21st, 1-3 PM  
Gifts and Resource Fair for community families in the Family Center.



- ▶ **LTC Practices**  
Join the LTC group in the app for details on schedule.
- ▶ **Sunday Night Out**  
Sunday, March 15th  
At Slick City
- ▶ **Spring Break**  
March 16-21  
Events To Be Announced
- ▶ **Church Game Night**  
Sunday, March 29th  
6 PM in the Fellowship Hall
- ▶ **LTC**  
April 3rd - 4th  
Embassy Suites in Norman



- ▶ **Area Wide**  
Sunday, April 19th  
Highland Church of Christ  
in Tecumseh.