



SOUTHWEST

Church of Christ

The Gathering

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord"

April 5, 2020

As We Seek Your Face

Prayer

Listen to Our Hearts
Shout Hallelujah
You are Worthy of My Praise

Reading – Darren Janssen

Only King Forever

Prayer

Lord, I Need You

Communion – Kyle Wade

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

"Repentance"—Brian Mashburn

PRAYER CONCERNS

NWTH:

Pauline Bavousett, Rm. B404
Larry Collier, Rm. A500

Prayer List:

Leon and Jo Allen, Keeley Bahn, Terry Bavousett, Sam
Bell, David Brown, Tim Croft, Tillie Duran, Katie Hol-
loway, Brenda Laird, Robert Moody, Barbara
Moore, Joe Norman, Bonnie Thompson, Ed Watkins,
Wade Wells, Carl Williams

ANNIVERSARIES 25+

April 9 John and Joan Sikes 66 yrs.
April 10 Landon and Angie Thornton 28 yrs.

2020 BIBLE PROJECT: All are invited to our year-long Bible reading plan! We'll be reading through most of the Bible and watching videos from The Bible Project to enhance our experience. Please go to www.southwest.org/2020bibleproject today so you can see the plan and sign up for a weekly reminder.

- Apr 6: Watch Video; Read 1 Samuel 1
- Apr 7: Read 1 Samuel 2 & 3
- Apr 8: Read 1 Samuel 4-6
- Apr 9: Read 1 Samuel 7 & 8
- Apr 10: Read 1 Samuel 9 & 10

Showers:

- **Virtual Baby Shower:** You are invited to a "Virtual Baby Shower" for Selah Grace Brown, baby daughter of Landon and Morgan Brown and granddaughter of David and Vanessa Brown, on Saturday, April 18 from 10am--11am. No guests will be able to be there in person but Facebook friends please RSVP to the Facebook invitation to watch the Virtual Baby Shower live!! If you would like to send them a gift, they are registered at Target and Amazon. **Please have your gifts delivered to the home of Vanessa Brown, 3613 Montague, by Friday, April 17.**
- **Wedding Shower:** Join us for a Wedding Shower in honor of Madison Moore, bride elect of Brenden Pearson on April 26 from 2pm-3:30pm at the home of Debbie Rhodes (7413 Bayswater Rd.). Madison is the daughter of Brian and Pam Moore and the granddaughter of Dick and Jane Rice. Selections are at Bed Bath & Beyond and Target. Please join us as we shower them with our love.

- **Baby Shower:** Join us for a Baby Shower honoring Erin and baby boy Sprague from 2-3:30pm at the home of Pamela Harris (678-4629) 15070 Henry Aven. (Southeast corner of Soncy/VFW and FM 2219. Subdivision is Village at 4 Corners). Registered at babylist.com.

40 for 40 Challenge:

- **40 for 40 Challenge:** If you are participating in the 40 for 40 Challenge, please save your donations and when the church office is open again, we will be glad to receive the donations.



Small Groups

We want to strongly urge you to stay connected during this season of quarantine by using virtual meeting options. We have compiled a list of options (with some instructions) on our website: www.southwest.org. Click on our Corona Virus Update page, then click Small Group Resources. Call me (Ryan) if you need any technological assistance. We need to combat the isolation by remaining connected—our Small Groups are more important than ever right now!



SOUTHWEST STUDENT MINISTRY

Check your email to see updates and information on how the Student Ministry will be ministering to the students and families during these challenging times.



Childrens Ministry

We love you and miss you! We are still emailing children's ministry families the planned Bible lessons for class each week. These will include the lesson verses, key points, and discussion questions. Let us know if you have any questions, need some help, or need some different resources while you are at home!

Our Kids Village Growing Together class begins next Wednesday, April 8! If you didn't get registered and would like to join us, please contact Rachael or Melissa ASAP.

We have two Facebook options to connect with you. Our Facebook page @SWChildren, is open to anyone that 'likes' it and it will have postings and resources. The second Facebook opportunity is a private group named Southwest Children's Ministry Parents. In this group we can share ideas, struggles, prayers, pictures, and encouragement. Please email us if we can add you to this private group on Facebook.

Call or text us if you need anything. We are here!!

Melissa Shaver mshaver@southwest.org 806-290-2222
Rachael Patterson rpatterson@southwest.org



Intensive Care

Family Service Center Work Schedule:

Food and clothing groups will not be meeting until further notice. Thank you for all your help.

Repentance

This past week, my (cyber-) small group meeting centered on the subject of being "stuck." The whole conversation revolved around our desire to *stop* doing something that we know is wrong. And to replace it with something that we know is right and good.

But we sat there baffled as the pathway to doing so eluded us. It reminded me of the time when the Apostle Paul said, "*what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.*" (Romans 7:15)

What does it take?

The book of Judges – that you just finished reading this last week if you are current on our Southwest 2020 Bible Project – tells the story of Israel (the people of God) stuck in a cycle that began with them sinning, followed by God issuing forth consequences, resulting in Israel repenting, moving God to then deliver them, resulting in a time of relief and peace.

Not *that* is a story with a happy ending. Unfortunately, the story doesn't stop there. Instead it starts all over. They sin again, the same sin. This cycle is recorded as happening seven times in the book of Judges (ever see the old movie "Groundhog Day"?). Tragically, this deadly cycle of on-again/off-again relationship with God, and regular return to the sin that they can not seem to escape, fuels a devastating downward spiral that deteriorated and destroyed everything that really mattered to Israel. Judges ends with a phrase that describes the sad state of affairs that resulted: "*In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*" (Judges 21:25)

Everyone did right in his own eyes. That sounds an awful lot like the value system of the world I live in.

I think the book of Judges is trying to tell us that everyone needs a King. Now, it needs to be the right King, a good King, a worthy King, but everyone needs that King.

We weren't made to do whatever is right in our own estimations and succeed, at least not in every way that really matters.

Today, let us consider the role of repentance. It is only thing in Judges that the people did right, and it triggered the only part of the cycle that is desirable.

And besides, "Repent!" is the first word Jesus said when he came from Heaven to Earth and began preaching. It must be pretty important.

Brian Mashburn