

## Working Together

When I was young, I used to love to watch the television show Gilligan's Island. On one of the episodes, Gilligan had done something silly and had made the other castaways mad. This upset Gilligan so, he decided he would just move into a cave on the other side of the island all by himself. It didn't take long before Gilligan noticed this was not such a good idea and he became lonely. Meanwhile, the other castaways began to miss Gilligan and feel guilty about how they had treated him and began to miss him. The Skipper missed his "little buddy" so much he decided to leave the camp and go and live with Gilligan so he would not be alone. Then another person did the same. Then another. Until finally, all seven of the castaways were together again on the other side of the island in Gilligan's cave.

That episode taught me a little bit about what it means to be a part of something. Here's a fun exercise for you to do when you have time. Use your concordance and find all of the scriptures from Acts to Revelation in which you find the word "together" and see what early Christians did together. Here's a sampling: Meeting together. Praying together. Sharing material things with one another. Eating together. Consulting with and advising one another. Planning and strategizing together. Working together. Standing together when under attack.

Jesus Christ never intended for any of His followers to follow Him in isolation from other believers. Wherever it's possible, Christ intends for all of us to be in this together, not just for one hour on Sunday mornings — not just during "official" church meetings, but through the day to day course of life. Yes, God can use us individually, but His intention is for us to work together, as a body, as a living breathing organism, as His Church. Challenge yourself to do more things together with the body of Christ.

~ Matt Heupel & Jay Mitchell; *The Book Nearer*

### MINISTERS

**Pulpit Minister**  
Paul Mowrer

**Campus Minister**  
Brad Tolbert

**Youth Minister**  
Jason Meier

**Secretary**  
Cathy Mowrer

### ELDERS

Mike Beard  
Larry Fisackerly  
Joe Moore

### Deacons

Marty Baker  
Chris Bryant  
Ray Linder  
Jason Meier  
Jeff Newton  
Josh Pettigrew  
Kerry Rice  
Jeremy Wilson

### Assemblies

**SUNDAY**  
Bible Study 9:30 AM  
Assembly 10:30 AM  
Assembly 5:00 PM

**WEDNESDAY**  
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

# CHURCH OF CHRIST

"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15

January 3, 2021

## BEGINNING OF A NEW YEAR

I suppose we could sum up the entire year with one word—COVID! But if we do that, we miss a great deal of good things that have happened to the congregation during this year. We have had two births and several grandbabies and great-grandbabies born to families. Sadly, we have also had four deaths in the immediate church family and many have lost family members or loved ones. We did have one baptism and several families have traveled in to worship with us. Unfortunately, due to the concerns of COVID, it seems we have been more suspended than together. We learned to be flexible, using recordings and livestreaming to be sure all members could participate in worship while homebound. Those efforts will continue even after we begin to meet again (whenever that may be!). Yes, 2020 will be a year to remember. And hopefully, we will choose to remember the good things that took place and not the bad. And to remember that through it all, God is always good, still in control and watching over us.

As we begin a new year, I want to draw our attention to the goals we set for last year:

- 1) Worshipping the Lord in reverence and in awe.
- 2) Growing in maturity as children of God.
- 3) Evangelizing the community of Monticello.

So how did you do? Even though we weren't together, there was still opportunity to achieve in each of those areas. In fact, to some extent, you may have even had more opportunity. It can sure be hard to focus more on worship to the Lord when apart, but the challenge of worshipping at home may bring us closer to the Lord with a renewed spirit of putting Him first. Worshipping in smaller groups can bring us closer, not only to the Lord, but with each other.

As we begin a new year, I pray that we may all double our efforts in those areas listed above. Be sure to reach out to current members. We know that it may take a bit before we are back together for worship, but we are still linked together through the blood of Jesus Christ. Be sure to spend time in God's Word each and every day. Spend time in prayer, seeking the things of God and being thankful to Him for another day to praise Him! And even though we may be concerned about the affects of the virus, let us be more concerned for those who are lost in sin and need to hear the "good news" of salvation through Jesus Christ! ~P. Mowrer

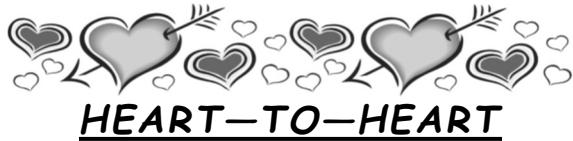


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Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Monty Meier** on the passing of his sister, **Rebecca Jo Meier Hammock**. Services were held this past Wednesday in Monticello.

A memorial service is scheduled for **Clara Cooper**, Saturday, January 9, at Stephenson Dearman Funeral Home. The time will be announced later.

Congratulations to **Jerry & Laura Smith** on celebrating their **60th** wedding anniversary, Thursday, December 31!

**Reagan Robinson**, granddaughter of **Barbara Dyson**, is home following gall bladder surgery this past week.

**Grace Coburn**, mother of **Cathy Mowrer**, is in the hospital in Evansville, IL with heart problems.

**Tony Beard** is scheduled to see a specialist in Little Rock Wednesday, Jan. 6.

**Kay Crook** remains at home following rehab on her knee.

**Mike Frost**, son-in-law of **Winnie Roberts** has been moved to MD Anderson for experimental treatment on his cancer. Cards of encouragement can be sent to **Debbie Frost** at the following address:

**Mrs. Debbie Frost**  
**7500 Kirby Place, Apt. 326**  
**Houston, TX 77030**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 3 - *Worship live streamed at 9:30*

### REMEMBER IN PRAYER

#### Members:

Lyndell Baker... Tony & Judy Beard... Kay Crook...Rita Stiles... Brad Tolbert... Donnie & Janice Wright

#### Shut-ins:

Betty Henry...Betty McGuire...Bob & Pat Turner.. Marie Wooten

#### Serving in the Military:

Corey Bryant... Donnie Collins...Braydn Curtis... Noah Draper...Tucker Koonce...Matthew May... Neil Rampy...Christian Stepanovich...Matthew Tannehill... Curtis Walker

### SPECIAL PRAYER LIST

Butch Baker...Rusty Blanks..Candice Carter...Hazel Duggar...Eddie Eubanks...Alpheia Evans...Diane Forest...Dorothy Foster..Mike Frost...Terry Gibson... Kevin Hicks...Joyce Hildebrand...Shirley Majors... Rita McBroom...Percy & Dana Morris...George Nickolson...Joe Owens...Howie, Christy, & Anna Rice...David & Loyce Ray...John & Christine Riddle...Kelsy Robinson (a boy due in Apr.)... Joe Rogers...Eddie Don Russell...Homer Shirey... Tess Smith...Mary Jane Speer...Marvin Spencer... Harold Stuart...Sharon Sullivan...Joe Thompson... Joel Thompson...Cherree Webb...Sue Woodward

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



- Jan. 2 Rita Stiles
- 3 Josh Baker
- 14 Colton & Jennifer Knight
- 15 Barbara Newton
- Sarah Pennington
- John Mark Perry
- 16 Roger & Margaret Harris
- 18 Daniel Tolbert
- Jennifer Knight
- Michele Bailey

### January Daily Bible Reading Schedule

- 4 Genesis 10-12
- 5 Genesis 13-15
- 6 Genesis 16-18
- 7 Genesis 19-21
- 8 Genesis 22-24
- 9 Genesis 25-27
- 10 Genesis 28-30

## HEART-TO-HEART cont.

*Communion supplies and bulletins* are available on the table in the foyer of the building. Contributions may be dropped off at the building or mailed to P.O. Box 485.

### Card of Thanks

Church Family,

A lovely arrangement of flowers were delivered early this morning. Even on a cloudy cold morning the flowers sent me so much warmth and love.

There are no words that I could use to adequately convey my appreciation for your love of Linda and the care you gave her!

Again, thanks for your love and care!

*Janie Fuller*

*The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never ceases, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, "says my soul, "Therefore I have hope in Him" ~ Lamentations 3:22-24*

### Church Mice

Karl Zorowski



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### Attendance

Bible Class  
 Sunday AM Worship  
 Sunday PM Worship  
 Wed. Evening  
 Contribution

### Schedule of Volunteers for Communion to Shut-in

### MISSIONS

Truth for Today  
 In Search of the Lords' Way  
 Ghana Radio

### NURSERY

### Communion Preparation

### Ladies January Duties

**Cards:** Linda Bates  
**Food:** Anna Koonce & Rachel Wilson

**Pens & Cards:**