



The HARVESTER Newsletter

A Publication of Southwest Church of Christ

February 2023

Dear Southwest Family,

I heard that a preacher in Redrock, Mississippi once prayed this specific prayer:

“Oh Lord, give Thy servant this mornin’ the eyes of the eagle and the wisdom of the owl; connect his soul with the gospel telephone in the central skies; ‘luminare his brow with the Son of heaven; possess his mind with love for the people; turpentine his imagination, grease his lips with ‘possum oil, loosen his tongue with the sledge hammer of Thy power; ‘lectrify his brain with the lightnin’ of the Word; put ‘petual motion on his arms; fill him plum full of the dynamite of Thy glory; ‘noint him all over with the kerosene oil of Thy salvation and SET HIM ON FIRE! Amen!”

We’ve all heard of people being on fire for Jesus, but that’s a whole ‘nother level!

I heard a great analogy the other day. It began with the question; how do you extinguish a single stick in a fire? Seems problematic, doesn’t it? Maybe impossible? But it’s actually easy – you remove it from the fire. But when the sticks are together, they work collectively to make the fire burn bright.

It’s a tough time of the year. The holiday season is over and done. Those new year’s resolutions have been abandoned, or they have lost their luster. The weather outside is less than desirable. And it can be tempting to skip church or “remove yourself from the fire”. Yet the gospel writer reminds us:

“¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”
(Hebrews 10:19-25 ESV)

I’d like to just take a moment to encourage you to stay in the fire! Take every opportunity to meet together with the Body that is Southwest. Being around other believers puts wind in our sails. It stirs us up to love and good works. Studying the Word together and praying together reminds us that God intends for us to live in community. Not to mention, if you haven’t met Eli or myself yet, we’d love to see you face to face.

Brothers and sisters, let’s encourage one another all the more as we see the Day drawing near. Come and burn bright with us!

Keep up the good work, Southwest!

Mike Hawkins

Events & Information

Monthly Figures

In- Service Attendance:

1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22
92	92	85	91

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42). Thank you for your faithfulness church! We continue to have several folks watching online each week. Please continue to pray for our church family – both those in corporate worship and those being reached by our online ministry.

Deacon's List:

Chair: Open
Audio/Visual: Jared Friedrichsen
Secretary: Mike Bunn
Parsonage: Open
Maintenance: Lynn Hounshel
Special Projects: TBD, Lynn, and Phil Friedrichsen
Benevolence: Tony Stora
Church (Building): Lynn Hounshel

We are continually blessed by the generosity of God's people. Thank you for your continued financial support so that we may meet the needs of our ministry staff, missionaries, benevolence ministry, and the general ministry of the church. For your convenience, we would like to remind you that online giving is available through our secure internet portal at <https://swccbarberton.com/giving>.

Thank you, church family, for your ongoing support of Southwest Church of Christ!

Weekly Need: **Weekly Need:**
General: \$3,600 Missions: \$442

LAST CALL for the 2023 Church Directory: Stop by the main table in the foyer today and double check your family's info. Please include a Yes or No next to your name, if you wish to include your photo in the new directory. **If you need to have your photo taken,** see Ron Browning ASAP. Questions? Please call Cindy, 330-825-7263

B.A.C.M. Food Pantry item: Macaroni and Cheese, or Spaghetti Sauce. Place items in the BACM box in the kitchen.

Scrapbooking & Crafters: Saturday, 2/25 from 9am to 10pm. Open to anyone who would like to scrapbook, or work on their craft projects. Please bring a snack and drink to share. Questions? Call the church office.

Chili /Soup Cook-Off: Sunday, 2/26 from 4-6 PM at Lakeview Christian Church. Food theme is chili and cornbread. See Caroline or Jared to purchase your ticket(s). Funds raised will help benefit the Brazil Mission Team.

Brazil Mission Trip: The mission's team is collecting medications to take on their trip. Full list is in the Sunday bulletin. If you are not able to purchase medications on your own, monetary donations are being accepted.

“Senior Moment” Group Outing: On Tuesday, 2/21 at noon at the Village Inn. Please let Karen Rummer know by 2/19 if you will be joining us.

Soup Kitchen: Southwest members will be helping on Tuesday, 2/7. Thank you for your willingness to serve for Christ's kingdom! Any questions, see Terry Trump.

Bible Discussion Group: Wednesday evenings join the group, open to both men and women, for a deep dive into God's Word. Light refreshments at 6pm, study begins at 6:30pm. Youth activities will also be going on during this time.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Study at 10am: We are using Jean E. Syswerda's book, “Women of the Bible”. All women are welcome. If you need a book, call Karen at 330-671-7463.

Rahab Ministries: They are a faith-based ministry devoted to rescuing and restoring victims of human trafficking. Please consider supporting this ministry financially. Checks may be sent to: Rahab Ministries, One Center for Leadership, 901 Tuscarawas Street, E. Canton, OH 44707

Looking for support? Elders are available after every Sunday worship service, or by contacting the church office, to speak with you regarding prayer requests or offer spiritual guidance for your concerns.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them." 1 John 4:16</i></p>			<p>1 Bible Discussion & Youth Groups</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Women's Bible Study Soup Kitchen</p>	<p>8 Bible Discussion & Youth Groups</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Girls' Galentine's Sleepover</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>15 Bible Discussion & Youth Groups</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Women's Bible Study "Senior Moment"</p>	<p>22 Bible Discussion & Youth Groups</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Scrapbooking</p>
<p>26 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><i>"Be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32</i></p>			

BIRTHDAYS:	
2/3	Jim Rummer
2/4	Wauneta Richey
2/11	Paige Wilson
2/14	Chris Hodge
2/14	Hannah Weinsheimer
2/15	Jennifer Kirkhart
2/22	Lynett Caplinger
2/22	Kevin Sapper
2/25	Sue Durst
2/25	Mandi Wilson
2/27	Silvia Phy
2/28	Clara Kirkhart

ANNIVERSARIES:	
2/5	Barb & Dan Hughey
2/20	Matt & Jennifer Kirkhart
2/25	Dan & Jackie Washburn

Did you have a birthday or anniversary this month that we missed? Would you like to have your special day added to our calendar? Write your name, the occasion, and the date on the prayer tab in the bulletin. Place the tab in the offering plate on any Sunday. Or you may send an email to: kdbusch15@gmail.com, and I will gladly include your information.

Do you know someone who would positively benefit from reading The HARVESTER? Our newsletter is now available on the Southwest Church of Christ webpage under the Ministries tab.

Growing Your Faith

“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.”
Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 NIV

The bible readings for the new year of 2020 are to focus on studying the bible in chronological order. As you read each day, meditate on God’s words and His promises to us.

- FEB 1:** Exodus 7-9
- FEB 2:** Exodus 10-12
- FEB 3:** Exodus 13-15
- FEB 4:** Exodus 16-18
- FEB 5:** Exodus 19-21
- FEB 6:** Exodus 22-24
- FEB 7:** Exodus 25-27
- FEB 8:** Exodus 28-29
- FEB 9:** Exodus 30-32
- FEB 10:** Exodus 33-35

- FEB 11:** Exodus 36-38
- FEB 12:** Exodus 39-40
- FEB 13:** Leviticus 1-4
- FEB 14:** Leviticus 5-7
- FEB 15:** Leviticus 8-10
- FEB 16:** Leviticus 11-13
- FEB 17:** Leviticus 14-15
- FEB 18:** Leviticus 16-18
- FEB 19:** Leviticus 19-21
- FEB 20:** Leviticus 22-23

- FEB 21:** Leviticus 24-25
- FEB 22:** Leviticus 26-27
- FEB 23:** Numbers 1-2
- FEB 24:** Numbers 3-4
- FEB 25:** Numbers 5-6
- FEB 26:** Numbers 7
- FEB 27:** Numbers 8-10
- FEB 28:** Numbers 11-13

Scripture list courtesy of
[www.biblestudytools.com/
 bible-reading-plan/chronological.html](http://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html)

Kids Korner

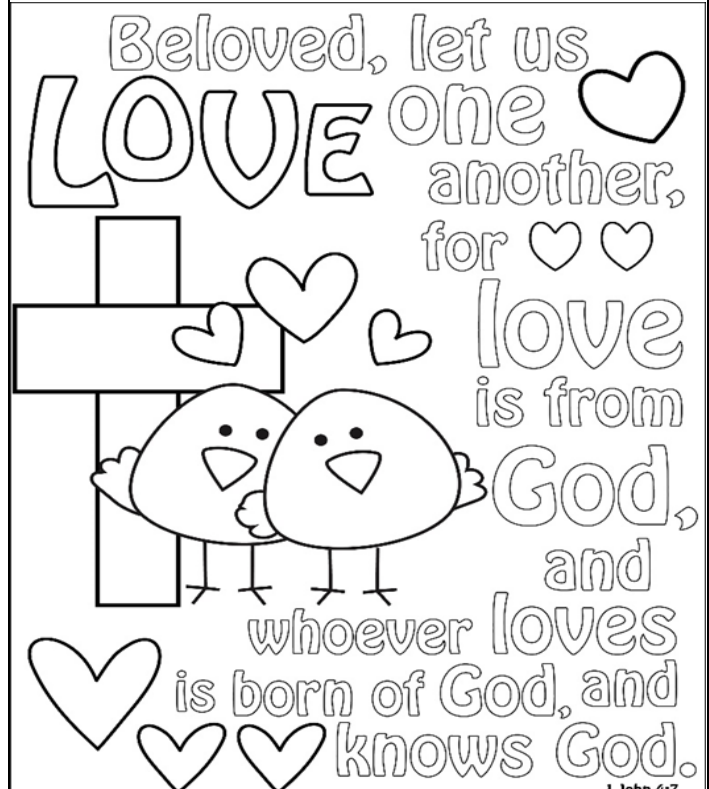


“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.” 1 John 4:7 NIV

Find the underlined words from the verse above in the word-search below.

C	E	G	H	A	S	I	K	L	F	O	R
M	N	V	P	Q	T	V	W	Y	R	A	C
L	O	V	E	S	D	F	H	G	I	J	B
E	S	K	M	R	Q	C	O	M	E	S	E
T	W	R	T	U	Y	W	Y	A	N	B	E
D	O	C	R	I	N	O	E	C	D	L	N
A	N	O	T	H	E	R	N	D	S	V	A
B	K	N	E	I	L	O	V	E	J	L	M
I	T	E	R	G	O	D	H	A	N	D	K
B	O	R	N	T	E	P	F	R	O	M	B

For you to color:



Connect with Us



Love God Love People Lead People to Jesus

Michael Hawkins, Senior Minister
Eli Blackford, Youth Minister
Jared Friedrichsen, Worship Minister
Cindy Weaver, Secretary
(330) 825-7263
www.swccbarberton.com
www.facebook.com/swccbarberton

WEEKLY WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday Morning:

Sunday School 9:30am

Morning Worship 10:30am

Tuesday Women's Bible Study: 10am

Youth Ministry

Message from Eli:

Hi all!

Well, so far it has been really great being a part of this body! I am excited for what the Lord has been doing, and it gives me great excitement for the future of Southwest!

This month, I wanted to share what is on my heart for the Teen Ministry (next month I will share the same for the Kids Ministry). First of all, I believe that the purpose of the Teen Ministry should be to cultivate an environment where teens can grow in their discipleship to Jesus; that is to be with Jesus, to become like Jesus, and to learn to do what Jesus did.

We strive to do this through relationships. Relationships are both the *means* and the *end* of discipleship. In the gospels, we see that Jesus was intentionally relational as he guided his own disciples through their personal journeys of growth. Not only that, but also the end goal of their discipleship was that they would be able to love God and love other people well. In other words, *be really good at relationships with God and people!*

There are several important relationships that we will focus on. First and foremost, we want to grow in our connection with Christ – to love him, abide with him, and serve him. Second, we want to champion the relationships within the home between teens and their parents. This is the primary environment that God designed for discipleship to occur. Third, we want our teens to grow in their relationship to the local church, with both the adults and their peers here at Southwest, and also with Christ's body throughout the world. Everything that we will do, will seek to accomplish these objectives by God's blessing!

With that being said, here are a few Teen Ministry events coming up:

- **Galantines Day Sleepover (Girls only!)** – February 10th at the Blackford residence. Please RSVP by February 3rd if you plan to attend. Contact Kaylah Blackford for more information.
- **Ohio Teens For Christ** – April 7th-8th. Contact Eli, or Caroline Friedrichsen for information.
- **Round Lake Connect Conference (Jr and Sr High together)** – June 25th- 30th. Contact Eli or visit <https://roundlake.org/camp-events> for information.

Blessed to serve with you!