



GRAHAM STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rooted - Growing - Reaching

July 19, 2020 Sunday

Bulletin Announcements and Updates

Friends Forever

In Michael W. Smith's well-known song, "Friends," are the words:

*Friends are friends forever, if the Lord's the Lord of them,
And a friend will not say never, 'cause the welcome will not end,
Though it's hard to let you go, in the Father's hands we know,
That a lifetime's not too long, to live as friends.*

Let me say it plain and simple, I love and hate this song! I love the thought and heart of this song. I love the music and hearing Michael W. Smith sing it. I love the way it reminds us of the value of Christian friendships and the special relationship we have in the Lord. But I hate that it seems every time I hear it, it is because someone I dearly love is saying goodbye and moving away, or I am moving away from them. As you have probably heard by now, Gabe and Juanette Davis, and Carl and Terry Smith are moving. If we were not dealing with COVID-19, we would be having a big reception for them and probably playing "Friends" with lots of tears. Juanette started Basic Needs with Lupe Stephens back in 2008. She has handled the paperwork and record keeping for the food pantry the whole time, and Gabe has been her muscle, and transport with his truck and trailer. Terry Smith is their daughter, and Carl is Terry's husband. Carl was one of our Youth Ministers for almost 10 years, and one of our Elders until retiring for health reasons last year. Carl has been a special education teacher, and Terry has literally saved lives as a wound care specialist. Together they have been involved in our small group ministry from its beginning and they have been marriage mentors for several couples in our church family. If you want to learn more about Carl and Terry Smith, tune in to the Graham Street Facebook and catch "The Grill" live Monday night, July 20, at 7:00. The Davis and Smith families are moving the end of this month, to 1600 CR 314, Cleburne, Texas 76031. I know they would love to hear from us about how they have touched our lives; so send them a card and stay in touch.

There are a couple of lines in the song "Friends" by Michael W. Smith that bother me. Not being critical, and remember I love the song. It's because I love the people so much that we sing it to – like Gabe, Juanette, Carl and Terry. One is, "But we'll keep you close as always, It won't even seem you've gone, 'Cause our hearts in big and small ways, We'll keep the love that keeps us strong." We will miss these two families in huge ways, and it will seem they are gone! The other is, while it is so true that "in the Father's hands we know that a lifetime's not too long to live as friends," with Christian friends, it is a forever lifetime.

David Bearden



▶ OPPORTUNITIES TO BE TOGETHER IN STUDY AND PRAYER

Sunday Morning Worship: 9:00 or 10:45 a.m. at the building.

Audio with Slides Recording on website (<https://grahamstreetchurch.com/sermons/>)

Family Resources: <https://www.grahamstreetchurch.com/house-church>

Video Recording on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/grahamstreetchurch/>)

Graham Street Grill: (Live Question & Answer Bible Study and Church Information 7:00 pm on Monday - <https://www.facebook.com/grahamstreetchurch/>)

GPS participants — Be on the lookout for a survey coming your way!

“First Things First Bible Study” Video for Small Groups and Bible Classes is on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/grahamstreetchurch/>

Study materials on website: <https://www.grahamstreetchurch.com/house-church>

▶ Chronological Bible Reading: <https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html>

▶ Texans for Christ College Ministry Announcement: College students can stay up to date with what our college ministry has going on through our website <https://texansforchrist.org>

▶ Youth Group Announcement: Young people, 7th –12th grade can stay up to date with what our Youth Group has going on through our website <https://www.grahamstreetyouth.org>

▶ NEWS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Night of 100 Casseroles, Thursday, 7/23/2020. Drop off your casserole at the Family Center between 4:00 and 5:00 . Casseroles are given away from 5:00 to 7:00 or until they are all given away!



Charles Williams; Ronnie Moring; Doug Gassett (who is home now); Jerry Lindley; Ronnie Oliver, Larry Knowles, Denise Powell, Kenneth Gaines, Paula Busby, Paula Oliver, Micaela Moore, Karen Bills, Cynthia Price, Jody Caudle, Mike DeMott, Tabitha McClellan, James Young, Kimberly Richardson O’Dea; Kenneth Gaines; Patty Jones; Debbie, Joel & Bethany Kitchens

Sarah Schmitt will soon undergo treatment for a very aggressive cancer (for more details see her Facebook Fundraiser page: **Surgery and Radiation, Bills, Food, Travel to Parkland Oncology** <https://www.facebook.com/donate/721568288627658/721583781959442/> .) We want to help through Basic Needs. Sarah began her relationship with the Graham Street Church family a few years when she and her family were helped by Sandy and Basic Needs. From there, Sarah began to serve in Basic Needs, Celebrate Recovery, Redeemer’s Reach, and Diamonds in the Rough. She needs our support and encouragement, prayers, and money. You can give to help her through Basic Needs.



➤ Promise Keepers Virtual Event —July 31 & August 1

Sign up to attend: <https://promisekeepers.brushfire.com/virtual-2020/466931>

➤ Giving Update:

Contribution 07/12/2020 \$12,339 YTD Contribution \$274,737 YTD Budget \$324,800

Zimbabwe Hunger Relief Fund Total = \$14,307 (+\$3,000 from the mission committee)

Building Fund \$264,401 (this is the total amount given since start of Phase 2— the funds given to date have been used for the new roof and new A/C units.)

➤ Faith Communities Census Weekend Of Action is Happening Soon!

Make your voice heard. Respond now at 2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020.

The #2020Census affects your voice in government, the funding your community receives, and how your community plans for the future. #BeHeard #BePrepared #GetCounted at 2020census.gov.