



GRAHAM STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rooted - Growing - Reaching

November 7, 2021 Sunday

DB's Dabblings: A Great Season for Church and Family

I have always loved this season. As a boy, it was the time for football, hunting, basketball, Thanksgiving, Christmas; what's not to love about the fall season? The air turns cool and crisp, the leaves turn colors and fall, and family seems to get together more than ever. I loved our trips to visit grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins. I loved the great meals with foods different from what we would ordinarily have, especially the desserts! I loved going with my dad and brother to cut down a tree, bring it home and decorate it as a family. Thanksgiving and Christmas were both days of thanks and joy. It was a great time of the year!

But the church I grew up in struggled with the season. While every family in the church seemed to be like ours and loved celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas, it was not celebrated as a church. I write this with respect for my heritage, which if you grew up in the Church of Christ, where some would say the first "c" should not be capitalized, you may have had the same experience. To a large extent, the reason for this absence of church celebration was our sense of loyalty to a "thus saith the Lord" application of Scripture. "Speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where the Bible is silent." If there is no "command, example, or necessary inference" that we should observe Thanksgiving or Christmas as a church, then to do so would be adding to the Word of God, and therefore forbidden. Added to that conviction was that there was not evidence in the Bible that we were to observe December 25 as the Lord's birthday, and for that matter we don't even know that there were exactly 3 wisemen.

While this respectful attitude toward God and His Word is to be admired, the hermeneutic can be questioned. My boyhood church's approach to the season caused me to feel a bit conflicted. You may recall, this was the church where my dad was an Elder for 46 years! To my dad's credit, he would tell our family that we were celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas as a family in the way we felt best for us, but there were families that did not celebrate so as a church we don't celebrate out of respect for their feelings. (Continued on Page 2)



A Great Season for Church and Family (continued)

But one might easily ask, why would you discourage a church from joining in the celebration of giving thanks to God for his wonderful blessings including the gift of His Son? Why would we insist on making the silence of Scripture be a prohibition rather than a freedom? Why not instead of forbidding the church from joining in the celebration for the sake of those who thought it forbidden, encourage all of the church who wished to celebrate with praise to God to do so while showing understanding for those who chose to not participate for conscience reasons?

I am grateful to be a part of a church family that encourages participation in the spiritual opportunities of this season. While trying to be respectful of those who may choose to opt out, our church family provides opportunities for participation as a church in a “Tree of Thankfulness” and a “Community Christmas Dinner” for the good of both our members and nonmembers alike. We encourage members to be engaged in the culture of the season to best use both religious and secular opportunities to “put in a good word for Jesus” and show his love to those in need. And I am proud to be a part of a church family that emphasizes being a family for those who miss having a family most at this time of the year.

David Bearden

If you are New or Visiting? Connect with Us! Use your phone camera to scan this QR Code and fill out a Connection form online! **If you started attending here sometime since January 2020, please fill out the form so we can update our information.**



QR Code to access
Connection Form.



NEWS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- ➡ November 6, 2021: **Men's Prayer Breakfast**; 8:00 a.m. at the Tri-C (corner of Ollie & Tarleton)
- ➡ November 7, 2021: **Children's Bible Class—The Story**: From Shepherd To King
- ➡ November 7, 2021: **Children's Church** continues
- ➡ November 7, 2021: **GPS Class Continues—"Better Parenting Through Better Marriages"**
- ➡ November 7, 2021: **First Day without Daylight Savings Time** (turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday, November 6)
- ➡ November 7, 2021: **Cross Connect (Youth Group—But EVERYONE is invited!)**
4:15— Auditorium: Games 5:15 Auditorium: Devotional
5:45 - Family Center: Supper 6:30 Family Center: Service Project
- ➡ November 7—10: **Basic Needs Garage Sale Preparation**
- ➡ November 9, 2021: **The Duracells** are inviting our college students to their Thanksgiving Celebration, at Bob & Darla Doty's home, 5:30 p.m. (Those that regularly attend Duracells functions are requested to bring a side dish and/or dessert—bring extra for the guests!)
- ➡ November 10, 2021: **No Evening Meal (due to Garage Sale)** Devotional at 6:30 and classes for all ages at 6:45—Revive will meet in the Youth Room (main building)
- ➡ November 11—13: **Basic Needs Garage Sale is live** (November 11 is 1:00 to 7:00)
(November 12 is 8:00 to 5:00) (November 13 is 8:00 to 2:30)
- ➡ November 21, 2021: **Guest Preaching**: Doug Young, President/CEO at Foster's Home

The following list provides ways you can serve during the Garage Sale:

1. **ATTEND THE SALE**
2. **Security**
3. **Prior to Sale:**
4. **Set tables**
5. **Price merchandise**
6. **Separate merchandise on tables**
7. **During the week, provide a light lunch for workers**
8. **Help with packaging on sales days**
9. **Help clean up on final day**



➡ SUNDAY OPPORTUNITIES TO BE TOGETHER IN STUDY AND PRAYER

Bible Class for all ages at 9:00 a.m.

Children's Class: The Story: Messages from God

GPS Class continues—Better Parenting Through Better Marriages

Adult Class: Landon Kribbs is Guest Speaker in Auditorium

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

➡ NIGHT OF 100 CASSEROLES TOTALS FOR THURSDAY October 28:

At least 25 volunteers handed out 181 casseroles in less than 90 minutes.

Plus \$495 was donated to help pay for next month's Night of Casseroles.

The next Night of Casseroles is November 18, 2021.

➡ 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: For details and updates for 6th-12th grade students and their parents, go to <https://www.grahamstreetyouth.org>

➡ December 3—5th: Youth Group Families, Winter Retreat at Camp Bandina—You can sign up online—Deadline for sign up is next Sunday, November 14, 2021.

➡ Giving Update

Contribution 10/31/2021 \$9,854 Budget: \$9,700

YTD Contribution \$412,627 (96.67%) YTD Budget: \$ 426,800

Building Fund **\$357,499 - Our goal is \$350,000—We have arrived, but let's keep going!**



Charles Williams; Rusty Rose; Courtney Clayton; Bill Hodgson; Ronnie Moring; Paula Busby; Micaela Moore; Jody Caudle; Peggy Glover; Mildred Buchanan; Billy Powell; Chuck & Kathy Gruenwald; Bill Scott; Chuck Arpe; Ricky Caudle; Charlie Hart; Brenda Caraway; Vincent Lopez; Patty Jones; Tim Childers; Sherri Carraway; Hartley Hearne, great-niece of Ronnie & Darlene Hearne, cancer reoccurrence; Judy Vaughn; Lynn Anne Hughes; Tommy Wilson, father of Wes Wilson; Paul Schulze; Thurman Goleman; Billy Powell; Fred Alvord; Bobby Tate

➡ ONLINE RESOURCES

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

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

Small Group Lessons and Study Materials are on the website:

<https://grahamstreetchurch.com/small-group-materials>

Chronological Bible Reading:

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/bible-reading-plan/chronological.html>

GPS Resources:

[GPS | Graham Street Church of Christ](#)

➡ **To enhance our on-line Church Directory, we are updating the information. We need your new phone numbers, address. **We especially need any current photos of your family that you would like to be used.** Please send to: office@grahamstreetchurch.com**

➡ Graham Street has raised money to provide Shona language Bibles for distribution throughout Zimbabwe. World Bible School is partnering with us in this effort and has challenged their supporters to match the funds that we raise. Graham Street has surpassed our goal of \$20,000. \$10,000 of the total came Mary Batchelor's gift to the congregation. Each Bible cost \$8.50. We were able to raise **\$21,345.56**, and with matching funds it will be possible to purchase at least 4,700 Bibles!



"Family Connection"

2nd Sunday Emphasis

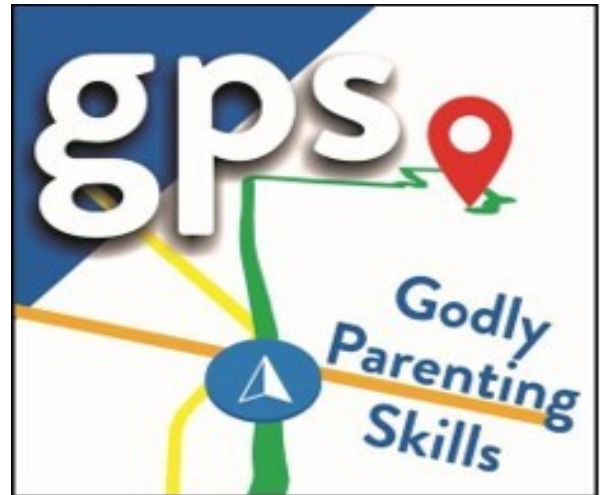
Recommitting to Small Groups

Your Family Connection
To Our Church Family
Starting September

Some Family Discussion Questions:

1. Who outside our family do we know in the church? How could we make that a stronger connection?
2. Who is someone outside our family that we don't know that we could make a connection with?
3. Who is outside our family who needs a stronger connection to our church family that we could help become better connected?

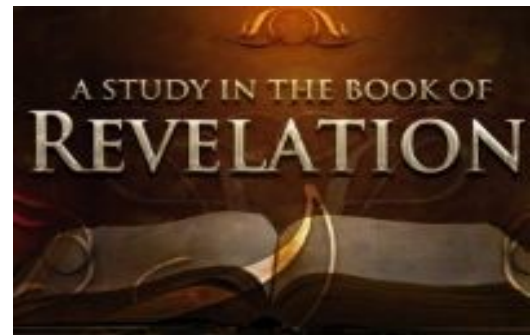
Take Steps as a Family to Make Connections to Our Church Family.



Sun., Nov. 7, 9:00am GPS room.

GPS Class "Better Parenting Through Better Marriages"

***Adult Class in Auditorium—
Hughbert Collier leads a class on the
book of Revelation
10:00 a.m. Worship***



HELLO
my name is

**Anokhi Magen (Next Class 11/10)
I Am Your Shield (Protection)
Wednesday Night Bible Classes
6:30 Auditorium
"What's In a Name (of God)?"**



Everyone is invited—Please join the Youth Group and other local Youth Groups!

Cross Connect

Sunday, November 7th
Graham Street Church of Christ
312 N. Graham St
Stephenville, Tx 76401

**4:15pm – Auditorium
Games**
**5:00pm – Auditorium
Devotional**
**5:45pm – Family Center
Supper**
**6:30pm – Family Center
Service Project**

****Contact Wes Wilson if you can attend – grahamstreetyouth@gmail.com****

Be sure to see the Thank You card from the Dacus family posted on the Bulletin Board in the hallway.

Tree of Thankfulness



Graham Street Family...
What are you thankful for? Grab a leaf from the basket in the foyer and write down something you are grateful or thankful for.

Help us fill our tree with leaves of gratitude.

