



GRAHAM STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rooted - Growing - Reaching

April 17, Sunday

DB's Dabblings: "The God of Empathy"

In our Wednesday night class on the names of God last week we studied "The God of Empathy." We started in Exodus 2:23-25 *"During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So, God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them (NIV 2011)."* There are some key words describing God's reaction to the cry for help of the Israelites: **heard, remembered, looked, concerned**. These words show empathy, feeling what others are feeling. In the ESV the words are: *"And God **heard** their groaning, and God **remembered** his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God **saw** the people of Israel—and God **knew**."*

Hearing and seeing are obviously part of the empathy process, and remembering the covenant relationship is vital to the history of the relationship, but what really illustrates the concept of empathy are the words "concerned" (NIV) and "knew" (ESV) translating the Hebrew word, **yada**, which can speak in the Old Testament of the most intimate of relationships, for example with Adam and Eve in Gen. 4:1. In fact Satan, as the Serpent in the garden, uses the word to convince Eve that God is trying to cheat her from the great prize that God wants to keep for Himself, for in God's intimate "knowledge" He "knows" that when she eats the forbidden fruit her eyes will be opened to become like God "knowing" good and evil. The truth is, God knows what is best for mankind and that the "knowledge by experience" of good and evil will be a burden He does not wish them to live with for eternity! God's relationship with mankind from that day forward is God showing his concern for His people burdened with pain and suffering by offering an opportunity for them to experience his compassion, grace, and mercy through the love he is extending for them to choose a relationship with Him through Christ. And through the resurrection, experience life without pain, suffering and death forever.

That's why we so often see God described with words like these:

Psalm 103:8-12 *The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He will not always accuse, nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. (NIV2011)*

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



Duracells are rescheduled for Tuesday, April 19th—Mayor Doug Svien will share some updates on the state of the City (chicken will be provided—bring a side dish or a dessert.)





NEWS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 17: **Children's Bible Class—The Story** - Paul's Mission
- April 17: **Children's Church**—continues
- April 17: **GPS Class continues:** Youth & Family Ministry Discussion
- April 17: **Adult Class in Auditorium**—Hughbert Collier Teaches on Revelation
- April 17: **Bible 101**— 7:00 p.m. Annex at Stephenville Funeral Home
(This Week: Elijah/Elisha)
- April 17: **Memory Verse**—(Luke 23:34) "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."
- April 20: **Wednesday Night Classes Continue—Wednesday Night Meals Continue**
Wednesday Night Meals —5:30 to 6:15 in the Family Center
(Menu: German Tacos, Potato Salad & Dessert—**Wednesday Night Meals are funded by donations collected at the meals—thanks!**)
Wednesday Night Bible Classes —6:30 in the main building.
Age 3 to 2nd Grade—in The Loft—starts at 6:30—Lessons are on: Characteristics of God
3rd—6th Grade—Resume normal class schedule
Revive—in Family Center (Youth Group)
Adults—meet in the auditorium at 6:30 for introduction of lesson theme, then divide in groups
"What's in a Name of God?" (**Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh —I AM THAT I AM**)
- April 17: **Community Sunrise Service 6:45 a.m. at Birdsong Amphitheater** (City Park)
- April 19: **Duracells rescheduled**—5:30 p.m. at the Family Center—bring a side dish or dessert
- April 24: **Wedding Shower honoring Allison Divin, bride-elect of Calahan Story** (2:00 to 3:30 at the Family Center)
- April 24: **No Fellowship Lunch**
- May 1: **College Emphasis Day & Honor our College Graduates**
- May 8th—14th—**Basic Needs Garage Sale** (Be thinking about what you want to donate)
- May 15: **Bible Class Promotion Sunday**—Plus hamburger cookout honoring High School Graduates





SUNDAY OPPORTUNITIES TO BE TOGETHER IN STUDY AND PRAYER

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

Children's Class: —The Story: Paul's Mission

GPS Class continues —Youth & Family Ministry Discussion

Adult Class: Hughbert Collier teaches from Revelation in auditorium

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.

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>

May 1st—College Emphasis Day & Tarleton Graduates Honored—Students Graduating:
With Bachelor Degree: Kamri Ashmore (TSU), Bailee Buchanan (TSU), Allison Divin (TSU), Leissa Jones (Stephen F Austin), Allison Ray (TSU), Quinton Cruse (TSU)
With Graduate Degree: Morgan Montgomery (TSU), Jordan McCain (TSU), Brooke Chaffin (TSU)



Basic Needs Garage Sale coming in May—

Set up May 8th through 11th

Garage Sale held May 12th—14th

HE IS RISEN!

Community Sunrise Service
Hosted by the Stephenville Ministerial Alliance

Sunday, April 17th @ 6:45am

Birdsong Amphitheater

Free breakfast burritos and coffee



Charles Williams; Bill Hodgson; Ronnie Moring, still grateful for our prayers; Paula Busby; Micaela Moore; Jody Caudle; Peggy Glover; Mildred Buchanan; Bill Scott; Ricky Caudle; Brenda Caraway; Vincent Lopez; Paul Schulze; Billy Powell; Fred Alvord & his wife, Cathey; Bobbie Tate; Johanna Graham; Margie Phillips; Joanna Lay; Jessica Kribbs; Marilyn Schulze; Chuck Gruenwald; Mike Dacus; Bob Doty; Rebecca Stephens; Don Jones; Merle Jo Parks; Curissa Watkins; Linda Powell

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:

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

Giving Update

Contribution 04/10/2022 \$ 11,467 (93.31%) Budget: \$ 10,700

YTD Contribution for 2022 \$ 139,637 (87.00%) YTD Budget: \$ 160,500

Building Fund \$437,149 - Our goal is \$350,000—WORK HAS STARTED!

Children’s Giving will go toward the Glen Moody Bible Fund

Shona Bibles Donations to Date: \$7,795.56

Special Contribution for Ukraine Amount Donated to Date: \$10,597

Fire Damage Special Contribution \$1,350



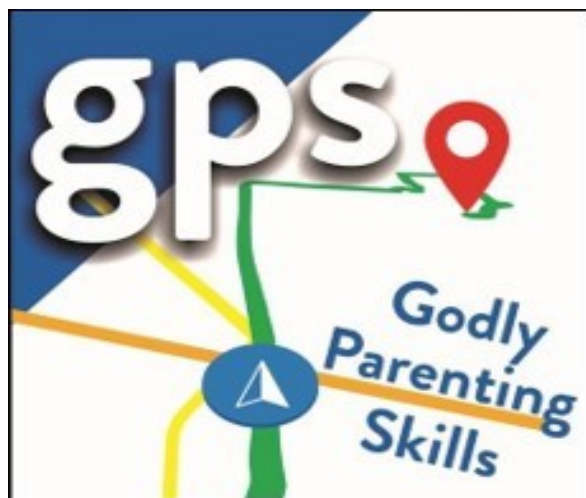
Heart | Soul | Mind | Strength
Graham Street Youth Group

Youth Group Announcement: For details and updates for 6th-12th grade students and their parents, go to:

<https://www.grahamstreetyouth.org>

April 17- Class @ 9:00am- Teens meet in Youth Ministry classroom

April 20—6:30pm REVIVE (FC)



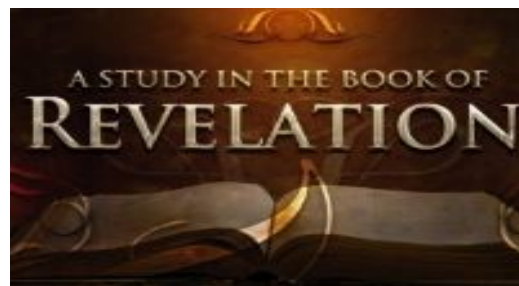
**Sun., April 17, 9:00am GPS room.
GPS Class Meets "Youth & Family Ministry Discussion"**



For ages
3, 4 & 5

Upstairs in the Loft
**Volunteers See
Kasey Reed**

Memory Verse is back—Come find the Memory Verse person in the lobby between Bible Class & worship service to recite the verse. Luke 23:24 "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."



**Adult Class in Auditorium
Hughbert Collier leads a class on the book of Revelation**

HELLO
my name is

**Ehyeh-Asher-Ehyeh
I AM THAT I AM
Wednesday Night Bible Classes
6:30 Auditorium
"What's In a Name (of God)?"**



Hamburger Cookout—Sunday, May 15th honoring graduating High School Seniors (Family Center following worship service). Students graduating: Reece Elston, Kinlee Harcourt, Elle Hart, John Wayne Ogle, Corbin Poston, Reese Young.



A wedding shower honoring Allison Divin, bride-elect of Calahan Storey, is planned for Sunday afternoon, April 24, 2022 in the Family Center from 2:00pm - 3:30pm. The happy couple are registered at Ace Home Place, Amazon, Target and Dillard's.

VBS is coming—July 24th through 27th—6:00 to 8:00—contact Megan Becker to help!

