

The Apostolic Faith Report

June -Oct. 2023

Volume 69-Issue 3



Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Psalm 122:6

The Apostolic Faith Report

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By Laws of the

Apostolic Faith Bible College

Article VII—Doctrine

It is recognized that the true church of Jesus Christ consists of all believers who believe in the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and who have accepted Him as their personal Savior. It is recognized and agreed that no organization or man has been granted authority by the Lord to exclude from or accept anyone into the Kingdom of Heaven, as this is done by Jesus Christ only. It is further recognized and agreed that we as Christians are to love all members of the Body of Christ (Christians) and this love and fellowship derives from the unity instilled by the Holy Spirit. Although differences in doctrinal beliefs and interpretations should not influence our love for one another, adherence to similar doctrinal beliefs and modes of worship have bonded together those of the Apostolic Faith Movement as founded by Charles F. Parham in the early 1900's. The scripture teaches us to adhere to the truth and proper doctrine. The common doctrinal beliefs are essentially as follows.

*Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

*Creation and Formation

*Man is basically sinful and in need of salvation

*Salvation by Grace upon repentance toward God and acceptance of Jesus Christ as one's personal Savior, which is the conception of Spiritual Life.

*Sanctification of the Spirit, Soul and Body, a Second definite work of Grace by the Lord Jesus Christ

*Baptism of the Holy Spirit, evidenced by the speaking in other languages

*Water Baptism (of all believers) by immersion in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

*Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Washing of Feet

*Divine Healing through Jesus Christ for all believers

*Do not condone divorce and remarriage

*Destruction of the Wicked

*Conditional Immortality

*Rapture of the Man child Class

*Return of Jesus Christ to earth again; bodily and visibly

*A ministry supported by tithes and offerings

These doctrines shall be adhered to in the teachings of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, which in addition to other doctrinal teaching approved by the Board from time to time if they are not inconsistent with the above basic doctrines.

Apostolic Faith Minister's Benevolence Fund

Dearest Friends,

It is with very mixed feelings to write you that my involvement with the Benevolence Fund is coming to an end after nearly thirty years.

A short version on the history of the Benevolence Fund. At an Easter Convocation in Katy, TX in 1994, I had a real desire to do what little I could do to help financially, ministers and their widows who were no longer able to work as they had for many years. One of our ministers had shared with me about his father had spent many years as a pastor and an evangelist but was unable to do what he loved so much. My heart broke as he shared that at times, he helped buy clothes and shaving cream for him. That's not right for someone who have given their entire life in God's service to not have funds to buy shaving cream. At that time I purposed to do something for that not to happen again. My son, Tim, who served as youth pastor of the Katy church helped get the ball rolling. Our first retired ministers received \$25.00 a month and that was once every three or four months. It finally grew to each one receiving \$100.00 a month. I tried to ask each retired person to accept the offering if they needed it and those who get along without it to let those who really needed have it. At present time we are helping 8 retired ministers or minister's spouses.

Several years ago I felt the need to set this fund under a Board of Directors that included Jack Cornell, Joye Watson and myself. I was selected chairman of the Board. We asked Willa Dean Johnston to become administrative secretary, which she did with such professionalism for many years. We were so saddened at her passing. Since Bro. Jack had passed away, Sister Joye and I felt that it would be great if we could incorporate this fund into the operation of the Apostolic Faith Bible College. In communication with the College Superintendent and the Board of Directors, we came to an agreement for them to take full control of this fund and the dispersment thereof as intended. My burden for this endeavor has not decreased and we thought the College was the place it should be. My earnest prayer and desire that this work will continue and grow for the glory of the Lord.

May I close this letter by saying the Benevolence Fund is so important to those who have given so many years of their lives and are no longer able to do what they were called and loved to do. Let us never leave them **"unable to buy shaving cream."**

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all who have supported this ministry over the nearly thirty years.

All donations should be sent to:

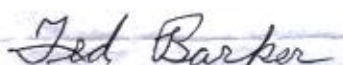
Apostolic Faith Bible College

P. O. Box 110

Baxter Springs, KS 66713

@ Minister's Benevolence Fund

With love and prayers,



AFBC FACULTY—2023-2024

Come, ye children, hearken unto me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Psalm 34:11



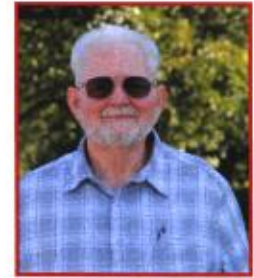
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Kalee Smith
Dean of Women
Instructor



Grant Grier
Missions Supervisor



Daniel Anima
Dean of Men



Matt Snyder
Instructor

AFBC 1st Year Students 2023-2024

Shew me thy ways, O Lord. And teach me thy paths. Psalm 25: 4



Alvin Anima, 21, is from Spearman, TX. He is the son of Alfredo Anima. In Spearman he attends the Union Church under the ministry of Mark Murray. He learned of AFBC through family members. The Lord is helping him to be more courageous in worship and setting him free from doubt.

Jaelyn Bell, is of Kansas City, MO. She is the 17 year old daughter of John Mark and Sally Bell. Her pastor at the Pebble Creek Assembly of God Church is JC Cooke. She learned of AFBC when she drove through Baxter Springs, KS with her grandparents. The Lord is teaching her patience.



Kaitlin Born, 18, Follett, TX is the daughter of Clayton Born and Marissa Wands. She learned of AFBC while at Midwest Youth Camp when someone from the College spoke of the School. Her pastor at Follett is Landry Caldwell at N. Harvest Community Church. God has shown her that she can forgive as He has forgiven her.



Cary Crocker, 29, is from Carthage, MO. Her mother is Barbara Crocker. She attends Faith Life Worship Center where Jerry Davis pastors. Her pastor recommended AFBC to her. The AFBC Choir sang at her church a few years ago. The Lord is healing her from hurt and pain.



Marcial Diaz, 18, from the Hardesty and Balko area in OK. His parents are Rosemary and Filiberto Diaz. He had heard of AFBC for years through the Fall and Spring tours and at Midwest Youth Camp. God recently has been revealing things and directing him to be more like Him and showing how he needs be more like Him.

Matthew Harder, Galena, KS is 19 years old. His parents are Vanessa and Corey Tucker. He attends Frisco Church under the ministry of Matt & Stephanie Snyder. He learned of AFBC at Youth Summit in 2021. He says the Lord is changing the way he carries himself, his discipline, his motivation, his love, his thoughts, I'm grateful for life.



Leah Harris, 19, is the daughter of Calvin and Debbie Harris of Rock Island, TX. Her parents are the pastors at Rock Island Full Gospel Church where the family attends. All of her older siblings have attended AFBC. God is showing her the truth of who He is and who she is in Him, not only in His Word but also in her life.



Rachel Jacklick, 19, is from Huntsville, AR. She is the daughter of Kiolynn Jacklick. Her pastor is Junior Jurelong at MPCF Huntsville Living Faith. A member of her church attended AFBC and she heard from them about it.

She says the Lord is changing her to trust Him and look to Him in every circumstance.



Shannon Salyer, is from Dodge City, KS. She is 18, the daughter of CP Salyer and Kye and Genevive Myers. She attends the Cornerstone Church under the ministry of Jason Swann. She heard of AFBC at Laverne Youth Camp and Youth Summit. She believes God is healing past pain, and changing her hearts desire.



Trey Stockton, 18, is from Granby, MO and is the son of Steve and Sabrina Stockton. His home church is Granby Gospel Tabernacle. Carol Oakes is his pastor. Both of his parents attended AFBC. He feels the Lord is showing him that his ways of life are foolish.

AFBC 2nd. and 3rd Year Students 2023-2024

*Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God; thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness.
Psalm 43:10*

Colt Adamson,19, from Galena, KS interned this past summer at Frisco Church under the ministry of Matt Snyder

He says that God is showing him how to fully submit to Him and trust Him in all areas of his life.



Emily Reimer,19, from Hugoton, KS is the daughter of John and Sara Reimer. At home Emily attends Bethel Friends Church. During the summer she worked for Peace House Ministries and at Midwest Youth Camp. God is changing her into the confident woman He created her to be.



Jeremiah Robbins, 20, Elkins, AR. is the son of Stephen and Heather Robbins. Russel Shackelford is his pastor at Brannon Mtn. He was able to work this summer. God is showing him that he is capable because He is his strength and as he surrenders He becomes Lord.

Hannah Spaans,18,is from Webb City, MO and the daughter of Dean and Cassandra Spaans. She attends Frisco Church where Matt Snyder is her pastor. She was able to visit family and work in Sr. Camp in Laverne, OK. God is showing her how to be content in Him and that He has a plan.



Machaira Wasson-19. is from Joplin, MO. Her parents are Timothy Wasson and Veronica Marchant. Matt Snyder is her pastor at Frisco Church in Webb City, MO. She spent time with her family and worked during the summer. God is teaching her how to love in a much deeper way.



Kimberly Contreras, 22, 3rd year student from Alvin, TX is the daughter of Daniel Contreras. In Alvin, Bill Derixson is her pastor at Trinity Apostolic Faith Church. She was able to intern for a month in Mexico with YWAMQ and serve in Camp Meeting and Youth Summit. Her deepest desire after all the Lord has done for her is to glorify Him.



Tristan Yanes

Tristan and Samuel Yanes are 2nd year students at AFBC from Alvin, TX. When in Alvin, they attend the Trinity Apostolic Faith Church under the ministry of Bill Derixson. During the past summer Samuel was able to work in the oil field. Tristan says that the Lord has changed her desires so He can lead her where He wants her next. Samuel says the Lord is molding him to look more like Him.



Samuel Yanes



David Hill, 20, Alvin, TX is a 3rd year student at AFBC . He is the son of John and Jana Hill. Bill Derixson is his pastor at Alvin at the Trinity Apostolic Faith Church. David worked at Midwest Youth Camp and spent time with family. He says that God is teaching him to hear His voice clearly and obey when He

speaks.

Christopher Monsalvo, 21, 3rd year student, is from Southwest City, MO and the son of Marian and Cecilia Monsalvo. He helped in Midwest Youth Camp, Camp Meeting and Youth Summit. He says God is speaking truth & life & how to live a life full of His love & to intercede for those around.



AFBC's Fall Tour

AFBC just returned from the panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas. We left Baxter Springs on Saturday, October 7th and returned on Monday, October 16th. Over these ten days, we held ten services at ten different churches, two of which AFBC had not previously attended. We also held two youth events, three nursing home services, and were able to complete three large service projects at the Midwest Youth Camp, including painting the basketball court, dorm doors, and the entry.



Thank you so much to all the churches and faithful people who made this trip such a huge success. We love you and appreciate you allowing our students to share what the Lord is doing in their lives!

God's Hand of Protection — by Billie Mullins, Joplin, MO

In thinking back over my life, I can see where God was watching over me and protecting me. We lived in the state of Washington when I started school. My parents had gone there to work in the orchards for the summer. I don't know how far away we lived from the school. I can only remember walking through a pear orchard and along the highway to get to school. This was a routine for a couple of months before we moved. During the second and part of the third grade, we lived near Big Sugar Creek in McDonald County, MO. My younger sister and I would go barefoot during the summer and play under the bluff (sometimes venturing on top of the bluff), go up a valley to investigate the spring, play under the big oak trees near an old church that had fallen in, as well as roam around a field across the road from our house. I remember stepping on a nail more than once. One night while living at this location, my dad sent me to bring in the wood for the stove. (Apparently, he had told me earlier in the day, but I was busy doing other things and had forgotten). The wood pile was across a dry brook a little distance from the house. I came running back to the house and reported that a skunk was near the wood pile. My dad thought I was just afraid to get the wood in because it was dark. Upon my insistence that a skunk was really out there, he went out with me. He ended up killing the skunk because he was of the opinion that it was rabid.

In early spring while living in Joplin, my family, An aunt and cousins had gone camping on Big Sugar Creek. Early in the morning my cousin and I got in the creek (we were probably 12 or 14 and could not swim. We were in water up to our shoulders and necks, and would jump up and down in the cold water (which we thought was a lot of fun). Fortunately, we didn't lose our footing in the loose gravel.

While attending AFBC in Baxter Springs, KS, I worked part time at a local grocery store stocking shelves and sacking and carrying out groceries. One day, I sacked groceries for a middle aged man and he expected me to carry them out for him. He opened the door of his pickup truck so I could put the groceries inside. One of the owners was outside a few feet away taking a break and the man spotted him. It is my opinion that if the owner had not been outside, I would have been in a dangerous situation.

I had joined a volunteer group and was on the way to some training about an hour away from home. I had some new tires on the car and there was about an inch of wet snow on the ground. I was crossing a bridge and the car started spinning. There were ravines on each side of the road. All I had time to do was to say "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus" over and over. The car came to a stop at someone's driveway. After calming down, I started on my way again and a few miles down the road, the car spun out of control and ended up in a muddy ditch. A man and his granddaughter was passing by and stopped and gave me a ride to my destination.

Some friends and I were in the Caribbean Islands and there was a bridge that would move to let boats pass by. We were on the bridge and I was engrossed in taking photographs and did not realize the bridge had started moving and I was standing close to some of the moving parts until someone grabbed my arm and pulled me away from danger. Another time some friends and I were inspecting fossils on an outcropping and I lost my balance, flipped over, landed on my left side and rolled down a 10-12 foot embankment. Some friends helped me to my feet. After determining that nothing was broken, we continued on the day's adventures. My left shoulder bothered me for a year.

I was at the Amtrak station in Chicago with friends and had to go down a steep, narrow escalator to board the train. I was wrestling with 2 suitcases and couldn't hold on also. I started to lose my balance and the man behind me grabbed my shoulder and offered to take the luggage so I could hold on while descending.

A friend and I were returning from visiting MO state parks. It was dark and rainy. The lights of an oncoming car blinded me and everything is a blur— it happened so fast— my car literally moved sideways to the right to avoid a collision. While visiting Hoover Dam a friend and I was walking across the road and a car had to stop to keep from hitting us. Thank you Father for your blessings on me and Your Great Hand of Protection!

A Trip to Japan

By Samuel Fleming-Webb City, MO

In July I had the opportunity of going to Japan with a couple of my friends from church. It was me, Chip Songer (the Creative Arts Director at my church) and Baylor Brouwer (A volunteer at my church.). We partnered with the Mustard Seed Network for two different high school events in two different locations, in hopes that even just a few Japanese students would hear the Gospel.

The Mustard Seed Network is a network of church planting churches in Japan. Their mission is to glorify God by making disciples through gospel centered churches in urban Japan. According to statistics less than 1% of Japan is Christian. Many of them have never had the opportunity to hear the Gospel. Here in the Midwest, we often ask "What church do you go to?" In Japan, the question is "what is church?"

When we got to Japan, it was an immediate culture shock. We got off of our train into Tokyo at the Shibuya Crossing, which is the busiest crosswalk in the world. As many as 1.5 million people cross this intersection in one week. Up to 3000 people cross at one time, all in a span of 1-2 minutes, which according to our stats, means that of those 3000 people, only 30 of them are Christians. Of those 1.5 million people, only 150,000 would be Christians. I could go on talking about our experience just on that first day in Tokyo, but instead, I'd like to tell you about how God popped a bike tire.

For the second event, we were in Takashima, which is a small town off the shore of Lake Biwa, just north of Kyoto. Our responsibilities were low that day, so we rented bicycles from the event center we were staying at. We rode into town, got some food and played some golf at a nearby golf course.

On the way back, we came down a road that had a few patches of grass. None of us thought anything of them, so Baylor rode over one and quickly realized it wasn't just a patch of grass— it was a pothole with grass growing out of it. He just clipped the side of it. I, on the other hand, hit it dead on and ended up being thrown over my handlebars. Surprisingly, I was fine and my bike was fine. Baylor was fine, but his bike was not fine. He had popped his tire on that pothole. So we began walking back to the event center. After walking for a few minutes a Japanese woman named Ai (pronounced "I") stopped her car and began a conversation with us. She wanted to know where we were from and what we were doing in town.. When we told her we were Americans, she got really excited and then told us that she had a foreign exchange student from Michigan and a 7 year old daughter who was learning to speak English. Then she invited us over for dinner. We told her, "No, we have a church service that we're playing music at." Then she invited us over for tea but we told her "No, we have to get back and clean up for services. Then she asked if she could come to the church service and bring her 7 year old daughter. We said, "*Absolutely!*"

Ai ended up bringing not only her daughter, but several of her friends and their kids, They ended up staying only half way through the service because they had somewhere they needed to be, but we had given her several resources and all the information she needed to contact the Mustard Seed Church in Kyoto.

I don't know what will happen to Ai, but I know she heard the Gospel and I know God has a plan for her. I'm so grateful to have been a part of the gardening that the Lord had in Japan, A few weeks ago, my pastor preached a sermon on I Cor. 3:7-8: "So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor"

Faith Community Church, Canyon, TX

The West Texas A&M University /Faith Student Center Alumni met for a reunion weekend. There were 38 in attendance, including the following(in alphabetical order): Valson & Laly Abraham, Chanin Barker, Cliff Barker, Jerry Barker, Nolan Brown, Barbara (Patterson) Chang & daughter Melody, Glenn & Velora Cummings, Lyn (Pletcher) Dickerson and mother Judy Pletcher, Dale & Pauline Ditto, JoAnna Beagle Gisch, Doug Hibbs, Joseph Kemei, Garvin and Kim (Smith) McCarrell, Gary & Sandra Peterson, Jeff & Rhonda (Cornell) Price, Ron & Rita Scott, David & Emily Scott, Randy & Pat Scott, Ron & Cindy (Berner) Smith, Vondell (Simmons) Stevens, Charles Ware, Bill & Joye Watson and Janeece (Randolph) West.

On Friday evening, there was a time of fellowship in the church ministry center. Classes represented were from 1960-1980. former students were able to look through memorabilia such as photographs, yearbooks, issues of Campus Witness and pictures of the Faith Chapel Singers.

The history of the student center dates back to 1960, when Bro Marcus and Sis. Mary Adair and children moved to Canyon. They lovingly provided refreshments and activities for students in a faith based environment. (Bro. Marcus began teaching classes in 1973). In 2002, Faith Student Center became home to the Navigators. Today, it houses Hope + Choice crisis pregnancy center and mentoring programs, with a basement for Bible lessons and rooms for studying and fellowship.

Reunion festivities continued on Saturday with the alumni touring Hope Choice. That evening they went to the production of Texas, a musical about the history of our state. On Sunday, they joined us for the morning worship service. We enjoyed the special singing provided by the alumni choir and men's quartet. To close out the reunion following the service, Chanin Barker



sang, "The Lighthouse" at the alumni dinner. Our church was delighted to host this wonderful group for the weekend.

Reporter- Sandy Haney

Pakistan Zoom Crusade

Greetings my friends! In July I had the opportunity to preach for a crusade that was held in two remote villages in Pakistan, and I have heard a report from Smith Media Group, who sponsored the crusade. Below is their report from their Pakistani representative. It was 9:30 am here and 7:30 pm there at the time of service. Thank you for your prayers as I continue to do all I can to help people come to know Jesus before He returns.

God richly bless each of you.

Bro. Damon Deaton- Pastor-

Faith Community Chapel- Canyon, TX



Hi Pastor Damon,

This is Eric Smith with Smith Media Group. I know you have been working with Lindsay Litchfield. I received this report from your remote village meeting that you did in July:

"Greetings to you dear pastor.

What a blessed time was that we had with over 93 souls saved and many were healed. One woman who was having an issue of bleeding and able to get healing gave her testimony. Another person who was having an issue with kidneys and he was healed also and testified that all pain was gone. One lady who had an issue with her legs and unable to walk without sticks was healed and gave her testimony of healing. Over 76 testimonies took place and other testimonies where different kinds of body pain were healed."

Adelynn Jo, along with her parents Brek and Breanna Walker of Joplin, MO, is proud to announce the birth of her baby sister, Peyton Renee Walker. Peyton was born July 28, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. and weighed 7 lbs.

4 oz and was 20 inches long. Peyton was also welcomed

by her grandparents, Shane and Robin Slavens and Jason and Kali Bard. She is also loved by several great grandparents.

Peyton was dedicated to the Lord on Sept. 17th by her great uncle, Rev. Brian Moser at Southside Apostolic Faith Church, where her family attends.



Grant and Shi Grier of Baxter Springs, KS announce the birth of their first child, a daughter Sadie James Grier. Sadie was born on Sunday, Sept. 17th at 10:43 a.m. She weighed 7 lbs. 7 oz and was 19.5 inches long.

Thank you everyone for your prayers and support!

We love you Sadie James!



Shirley Freshour- 1942-2023

Shirley Marie Freshour of Alleyton, TX passed away on Sunday, June 11, 2023 in Diamond, MO. She was born in Elizabeth, WV on June 22, 1942 to John Riley and Elsie (Holliday) Archer. In Feb. 1959 she married Calvin Marcus Harris. Following his death, she married Ronald Eugene Freshour. The two were married for 51 years. In Sept. of 1980 the couple moved their family to Columbus, TX. She spent most of her life as a stay-at-home mom. Later when her kids were in school or already out of the house, she got a job at the Colorado County Citizen. She worked there for many years doing various jobs serving as bookkeeper, stuffing inserts, delivering papers or whatever else was needed. She also enjoyed babysitting her grandkids and playing the Super Nintendo with them. Super Mario and Donkey Kong were her favorite games and she was pretty good, even if she screamed and swung her arms around a lot while playing. Later Farmville was also a hit with her. It must have been the chickens she loved so much. She loved chickens and usually had them pecking around in her yard, as it reminded her of growing up on the farm.



Later Farmville was also a hit with her. It must have been the chickens she loved so much. She loved chickens and usually had them pecking around in her yard, as it reminded her of growing up on the farm.

Anybody that knew her knew that she loved God. Not only because she went to church 3 times a week (at least) for most of her adult life, but because she lived it. Some of her best times were weeks she attended camp meetings in Illinois, Texas and West Virginia. She also loved working in the kitchen during South Texas Youth Camps.

She attended Christian Gospel Church in Alleyton, TX. There she taught Sunday School, hosted Ladies meetings and was a faithful friend and prayer partner to so many. For many years as she and Ron picked up kids and took them to Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Most of those kids still called her "Grandma Shirley" as the church was her extended family.

She spent countless hours praying for her family, friends, church family and even strangers. So much time telling people about Jesus and how He died so they could live. She "knew" that she "knew" where she was headed when this life was over. She wanted that for everybody and spent much time telling how He died so they could live. She truly believed that God was her healer, having been healed many times. She grew up with severe asthma. In Dec. 1970, she had one of her worst asthma attacks of her life. She visited her pastor and his wife, Everett and Betty Snyder who prayed for her. God touched her while she was there and she was completely healed and set free of asthma. There are many other instances of God's healing and protection on her life and those of her family. Even in her last months as she battled cancer she continued talking to hospital staff and EMS personnel about the Lord. Although she really wanted to live, she believed that there was a reason for her illness.

She was preceded in death by her parents, first husband, sisters Rosie Young and Sylvia Damiani; brothers, Ellsworth Archer and Olen Archer and a great granddaughter, Emmy Fay Harris.

She is survived by her husband, Ron Freshour; children, Calvin Max Harris (Debbie) of Rock Island, TX, Seldon Lees Harris (Vanessa) of Granby, MO, Charles Jon Harris (Andrea) of Taneyville, MO; Cynthia Mae Parkhurst (Bryan) of Lander, WY. And Veronica "Roni" Marchant (Kris) of Lowell, AR, 25 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, sister Ellen Douglas of Elizabeth, WV and brother Lloyd Archer (Debra) of Elizabeth, WV.

Services were held at Community Chapel in Joplin, MO with Rev. Ron Martin and Rev. Everett Snyder officiating. Graveside services were held at the Diamond Cemetery in Diamond, MO.

Emmy Fay Harris

Emmy Fay Harris was born into the arms of Jesus on March 4, 2023 at 6:51 a.m. due to unseen complications. She was the daughter of Cody and Kaylan Harris and a little sister to Noah Wren Harris of Baxter Springs, KS.

Emmy Fay has two loving earthly parents and an older sister, six grandparents, sixteen aunts and uncles, four cousins, seven great-grandparents and many more family members and friends, who though we barely knew her, loved her as deeply and dearly as her precious sister Noah. Our sweet Emmy Fay was laid to rest alongside her great grandfather, Clifford Cook, in Follett, TX on April 11, 2023.

The family has peace knowing that Emmy Fay has only ever known love; the warmth and comfort of her mom and being held by her Heavenly Father.



But Jesus said, **suffer little children , and forbid them not, to come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.**

Matthew 19:15



Billie Ragan- 1934-2023

Billie Jean Ragan , 88 year old Woodward , OK resident, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Thursday, June 1, 2023. Funeral services were held on Tuesday June 6, 2023 at the Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church, Lincoln Campus with Rev. Jason Dirks and Rev. Gary Williams officiating. Graveside services were held at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Balko, OK with Rev. Ted Barker and Rev. Fred Huff officiating.

Billie Jean (Phelps) Morehead was born on Sept. 18, 1934 in Beaver, OK. to Earl and Lena Merle (McAdams) Phelps. Billie grew up in Beaver and attended Beaver schools. She received her GED in 1976 and attended Baking school in Balko and graduated from Woodward Beauty College on Aug. 11, 1977. Billie attended and graduated from the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, KS.

She was united in marriage to Gerald Morehead on Dec. 24, 1950 and they were blessed with two sons, Gary Neil and Brent Allen. Gerald preceded her in death in 1974.

Billie was united in marriage to Neil Ragan on August 29, 1977 at the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, KS. Together they ministered churches in Joplin, MO, Alvin, TX, the Midway Christian Church in Logan, OK before moving to Woodward in 2000. Neil preceded her in death on Oct. 19, 2004. Billie continued living in Woodward.

She was a faithful member of the Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church. Billie was saved in a tent revival in Sept. of 1949 and her faith was very important to her during her lifetime. She volunteered at the church and hospital for many years. Billie enjoyed farming, being a Pastor's wife, water skiing, cooking and traveling in the RV with Neil.

She is survived by her son, Brent Morehead; one granddaughter, Chandra Shrum, and husband, Keden, one great granddaughter, Ragan Shrum; two sisters, Dodie Hill, Daisy McGowen, other relatives and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husbands, a sister LaVelda Smith and one son, Gary Morehead in 2009.

Alice Cass-1929-2023

Alice May (Walker) Cass was born April 19, 1929 in Sterling City, TX. She was the first child to AA and Viola Walker. Being the eldest child, Alice quickly became adept at taking charge and helping around the house. Alice learned to shoot at a very young age, and would hunt rabbits to feed the family before the age of 6. Around 1942, Alice's father AA was seriously injured in an oilfield accident that left him unable to care for himself. Viola, was pregnant with her fifth child and working a full time job at the time, so AA's mother moved him back home to care for him. In order to help provide for her family, Alice dropped out of school and went to work full time at a café/bar even though she was only 13. The owner would often look to make some extra money by betting customers that the young Alice could outshoot them. Inevitably, Alice would win, but never saw any of the prize money. Alice met Ed Cass through a mutual friend in 1946 and in March of 1947 they were married.



In 1952, Alice attended a tent revival held by Rev. Freeman and accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior. Soon after, she persuaded her husband, Ed, to attend with her. He did, but said he would never go back because the preacher was preaching right at him. A few days later, Ed had an encounter with the Lord on the side of the road and was saved. The following year, they moved to Baxter Springs, KS and enrolled in the Apostolic Faith Bible College. God had taken first place in their lives and upon leaving AFBC, they worked hard to serve Him however and wherever they could. Over the years, they assisted in countless tent meetings, revivals, camp meetings and churches.

Not only did Alice work for the Lord, she also worked as a bookkeeper at various camera and jewelry stores she and Ed owned throughout their lives. These businesses afforded them the opportunity to travel. Ed and Alice lived traveling and Israel was one of their favorite destinations. It was this combination that led them to create a panoramic slideshow of Israel which they showed at many churches and events.

On top of all this, Alice was mother to six children, granny to nine and great granny to an additional six. She made sure her children and grandchildren knew God's love. She was an amazing example of who a Godly woman is. She demonstrated her love for God and her devotion to Him in all she did. She lived a full life. She loved shopping and in her younger years, driving fast cars, but God always maintained first place. In her final days, she was eager to "go home". She knew she had run her race well. She had lived a full life, and she was ready to see Jesus.

Alice May (Walker) Cass passed away at home in Carthage, MO on September 8, 2023 at the age of 94. She was preceded in death by her husband Ed Cass, three children, Jerry, Stephen, and Martha Cass; son-in-law, Rev. Wayne Wheeler; daughters-in-law, Janice (Orange) Cass and Barbara (Haynie) Cass. She is survived by a son, David Cass and wife LaNan; daughters, Kay Wheeler and Linda Templeton and husband Charlie; nine grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

O love the Lord, all ye his saints; for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer.

Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Proverbs 31:23 & 24



Brenda Baert- 1956-2023

Brenda Jean Baert, age 67, went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday Sept. 20, 2023 at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, MO. She was born on Feb. 28, 1956 in Joplin, MO to Brooks and Betty Moser. Brenda attended school in Joplin. She and the love of her life, Dan, married on Dec. 31, 1976 and were married for 46 years.

Brenda was saved April 28, 1979 at a revival at the Original Apostolic Faith Church in Joplin. Brenda and Dan were blessed with 2 children, Danielle and Melissa. As a young family, they began attending Camp Meetings in 1979 which became their annual vacation for many years. They shared wonderful memories with a host of life long friends. Brenda's life is characterized by her love for her family. Brenda considered it to be an honor to be a mother and grandmother. The Baert home was never without children since their first daughter was born in 1977. The girls friends would gather practically every weekend. The blessing of having children in their home continues. Brenda's warm smile and great sense of humor along with her ability to find the best in everyone made her a magnet for people. Brenda loved the holidays, but her favorite was the 4th of July. Through all of her health battles she endured. Brenda always remained upbeat and smiling. She got to meet her first great grandson, Baylor, when she was in the hospital as he was placed in her arms. We know Brenda was happy for that.

Brenda and Dan were privileged to have five grandchildren and played an integral role in each of their lives. Brenda was a prayer warrior in the lives of her children and grandchildren and lived to see many prayers answered.

In addition to Dan, Brenda is survived by her daughter, Danielle Kilmer and husband Johnny, daughter Melissa Baert; grandsons, Jaylon Baert, Jordan Nguyen, Jaden Withrow and wife Katelyn; granddaughters Tatum Kilmer and Journye Baert; great grandson Baylor Withrow. She is also survived by her sister Joyce Chasten and a large extended family who love Brenda very much. Brenda was preceded in death by her parents Brooks and Betty as well as her brother Phillip Moser. Memorial services were held on Sept. 28, 2023 at Forest Park Baptist Church with Rev. Brian Moser and Rev. Richard Morris officiating. Interment was at Saginaw Cemetery in Saginaw, MO.

Philippians 4:6

I was leaving from a doctors appointment and saw a verse on the window as I went out. I think worry tends to dwell just below the surface in my life and has a sneaky way of showing up when I least expect it. But this verse has been one I have gone back to time and time again over the last few years. This version says, **"Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts, offer up your prayers and requests to God Philippians 4:6 .** Then you will have peace beyond understanding. What a precious gift! This verse also makes me think of another passage in Psalm 121:1 & 2 . It says, "I will lift up my eyes to the hills (from where does my help come from?). My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth" (ESV) The text commentary for this passage in Psalms describes this particular Psalm as a Song of Ascent - a song sung by travelers and this is particularly relevant for the trust placed in God through the journey." (David Guzik) The song would be sung as they would travel up to Jerusalem. But the singer understood that the group didn't need to arrive at Jerusalem before they came under God's protective care. He would watch over them on the journey. God is just as present in the journey as the destination. I have thought about these scriptures often in different contexts and while the circumstances may be different , a powerful truth remains the same

Concerned about your health or of a loved one? Don't worry. Look up and pray.! Concerned about how to make ends meet or provide for your family? Don't worry Look up and pray! Concerned about the world situation? Don't worry, Look up and pray! We don't always understand why we have to endure things or things happen but there is One who remains steadfast in all of life's twists and turns . So look up to Jesus! He is there with you and as you bring your needs to Him, He will bring you peace.

Cheryl Moser

The Apostolic Faith Report

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*-Brian Harris
AFBC Director*

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