

The Apostolic Faith Report



When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. Isaiah 43:2

Pearls of Promise

Isaiah 26:3

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee.

The Apostolic Faith Report

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BY LAWS OF THE Apostolic Faith Bible College, Inc.

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 listed basic doctrines.



APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE

Go to learn. Learn to go.

1946-2021

Greetings from Baxter Springs!

As I sit here contemplating how to begin this letter, I'm overcome by the truth that God is in control. The last year has presented many challenges, and at times has been tough. There were moments when anxiety, discouragement and hopelessness tried to take over, but God was always present. Even when we didn't know the exact right path to take, God always did, and He faithfully led us. I'm so thankful for He is still in control!

This year is a very special year for AFBC. "2021" marks the 75th Anniversary of the Apostolic Faith Bible College. We have held consecutive terms at our current location and operated completely by faith since 1946. Over that span, there has been times of abundance, and there has been times of need. There have been packed dorms and there have been empty rooms. We've experienced unity and strength, and have walked through division and despair, but none of these temporary seasons have diminished the truth that God is faithful! He has consistently and miraculously, provided all of our needs, and He is still in control!

God has used this little school in a small town in Kansas to teach and to train for decades. The fullness of the effect AFBC has had throughout the world cannot be measured. Countless lives have been transformed through ministries that can trace their roots back to AFBC. Yours may be one of them.

What is so thrilling to me is.....God isn't finished! He's moving here at AFBC and it is awesome! He's providing our needs! He's answering our prayers! He's moving in our student body and lives are being changed! As students surrender their lives, they're looking to God to do more in and through them and He isn't disappointing.

Thank you so much for being a part of AFBC's ministry! Whether you have been connected since 1946 or have just begun to fellowship with us, know that we love and appreciate you. Thank you for helping make the last 75 years possible!

Celebrating the past and believing for big things in the future,



Brian and Jenny Harris, Superintendents
Apostolic Faith Bible College

The Journey

By Dwight Wilson-Ava, MO

The journey starts with our birth
but soon, we all go the way of all the earth.
Life awaits us just around the bend
but just as quickly it will come to an end.

Heaven waits for one and all
if on Him we will only call.
So as we travel along this trip
hold the important things, don't let them slip.

It's not in big houses or in our jobs
or perfect presents that make us
fight the mobs,
nor for fame and fortune we should strive.
these are not the things that make our hearts
thrive.

Is it not the laughter of a child
that causes us to remember a baby meek
and mild?

The tears on the cheek of a mother
that loves us in this life like no other.

We spend so much time watching the clock
and miss the joy of just throwing a rock,
the older ones who live and spend time alone
just waiting for a visit or a call on the phone.

The joy we miss from being in a hurry
the peace we lose that makes us worry.
So watch and listen for those you might bless
and help us all that those we don't miss.

A taste of heaven while here on earth
comes from how we live for what it's worth.
So while on our way to eternity
let us take time to enjoy THE JOURNEY.

Dear Sister Oakes,

It is with a heavy heart that I have to inform you that as things stand now, the Ministers Retirement Fund has only enough funds to go through April 2021. This ministry started in 1995 and has gifted many retired ministers and their spouses for 25 years. I am so aware that things in our country right now are at crisis level. I also know that God is still in control of everything. I don't want to see this ministry of helping our precious people that has given their lives in helping others, come to an end, but we are faced with reality of closing this work if there is not a change.

In visiting with the other Board member, we felt the movement has the right to know where we stand at the present time. Every cent given to this work has gone into the ministry.

With a thankful heart we say THANK YOU to every one who have prayed and contributed in this work the past 25 years. You have blessed so many that I am sure they would like to thank you.

Our sincere thanks to the Apostolic Faith Report for keeping you informed of this work.

Ted Barker and Joye Watson

Editors Note: The address for donations to be sent to this ministry is on page 11.

Thank You

Dear AFBC Scholarship Committee.

Thank you for your financial blessing as I continue my education. I will be finishing my degrees in the next year or so.

God Bless!

Alexandra Tennant
2018 AFBC Alumni
Parkersburg, WV

Thank You

Dear Friends of AFBC,

Thank you so much for the continuing education scholarship. It is appreciated greatly! I just finished paramedic school and all I lack is to pass my national board in skills.

I will graduate in May 2021 from Oklahoma Panhandle State University with a bachelors degree in biology and minor in chemistry.

Thank you again for supporting me!

Linda (Witten) Benson- 2017 AFBC Alumni
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The Directory is provided for convenience. Any Minister or Gospel Worker upon request may have their information published.

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God's work
Done God's way
Will produce
God's provision

Suffering in II Timothy

In II Timothy, when Paul was writing to Timothy from prison, he gave Timothy tons of advice when it comes to suffering. These pieces of wisdom may be helpful in the scary times we are living in.

The first piece of wisdom is this: **when we suffer, we must remind ourselves that suffering is to be expected.**(1:8,11-12, 2:3,9;3-11-12, 4:5.) No one who commits to following the Man of Sorrows can expect to not suffer himself. When we signed up to fight this war and run this race, we were agreeing to also endure the sufferings that would eventually come our way. No army soldier should be surprised when the enemy begins to attack. No marathon runner becomes confused as soon as the first few drops of sweat begin to run down his face. It is what they signed up for, what they were called to. Paul was suffering in prison when he wrote II Timothy- and in his letter to Timothy, he told him to “share in the suffering” not once but twice(1:8-2:3).He also mentioned that the reason he was suffering, was because he was “appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher.”(1:11-12). Paul was suffering because he preached the Word, and he was asking Timothy to be willing to so the same, Here’s the catch, though- when we share in suffering, we share in comfort, too.(II Corinthians 1:5-7)

Second, **when we suffer, we must not quarrel or entertain ourselves with the teachings of false teachers**(2:16-18,23-26; 3: 1-5,4:3-4). Everyone knows quarreling never does any good, and usually just makes any situation worse than it has to be. Like itching and prodding at a wound, you may feel better about yourself at the time being, but it’s actually making the problem worse, and you risk infecting the wound by itching it. The same analogy can be used when it comes to feeding ourselves shortcut answers to our problems. In some instances, this is known as false teaching. We tend to believe the things that make us feel good and suit our own desires. Many people believed the false prophet Hananiah in Jeremiah 28 who had prophesied that the Israelites only had a couple years left in captivity... but it wasn’t true. Paul spoke of something similar. There were teachers saying that the resurrection had already happened, but according to Paul, this had upset the faith of some(2:18). False teaching is toxic.

Third, **when we suffer, we must preach the Word because it has power.** (3:15-17; 4: 1-2). Paul wrote that we must be ready to preach “in season and out of season.” (4:2) In times of trouble ,whether the not-so great circumstances affect only you as well as to a number of other people, preach the Word. Preach it to yourself as well as others. Many times, you can’t see tribulation coming ahead of time. Sometimes it just appears out of nowhere This is why it is so incredibly important to make sure we are in the Word and letting it change us daily no matter what, so that when trials come, we can confidently declare the truth of God’s Word, and through it God will provide the strength, peace and wisdom that we need.

Finally, **when we suffer, we must patiently endure** (2:12a;4:1-9). If I were asked to sum up the whole letter of II Timothy in one word, I would use this word: *endure*. Paul mentions several times in his letter to Timothy that he is to endure suffering. Keep going. Don’t give up. In fact, Paul thought it was so important that he ended the letter talking about endurance and what happens when we endure. “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award me on that day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” When we endure suffering, we can rest assured that the best is yet to come. Revelation 21 is on it’s way. The God who remembers our tears (Psalm 56:8) will one day wipe all tears away. (Revelation 7 and 21). This is only possible through the work and power of Jesus Christ. *Praise be to God!*

Samuel Fleming- Webb City, MO



Is That Jesus Knocking?

I recently read a story about a nurse in the pediatric ward of a hospital. Before listening to the children through the stethoscope she would fit the instrument into the ear of the child and let them listen to their own heart. Their eyes would always light up with awe! "Listen," she said to little four year old Seth, "Do you hear it? What do you suppose that is?" He listened to the strange tap-tap-tapping deep in his chest. Then his eyes lit up and he exclaimed, "*Is that Jesus knocking?*"

In Revelation 3:20, Jesus said "*Behold. I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.*"

Have you ever had company over at the last minute and hurried to clean up the house when you heard the knock at the door? Maybe you have told the kids to be on their best behavior and be good entertainers to the unexpected guests. Sometimes this is like us with Jesus too. We are reluctant to let Him in because our lives are messy and we are ashamed.

The good news is that Jesus already knows what's in the house. He knows our hearts and He loves us. He isn't scared of our mess because He knows how to help us better than we can help ourselves. Today I ask you to listen through the spiritual stethoscope and see if you hear Jesus knocking. If you do, ask Him to come in. It will be the best decision you have ever made.

Brandon Dorris-Lead Pastor
Celebration Church- Joplin, MO

A New Man

As I was praying a little time back, I thought about an individual and their life- if they are saved. That is wonderful if they are, but the Lord knows if they are or not.

I thought about *A New Man*. What is it like to be a *New Man*? There are different ways one might feel like a new man, if they had been sick and gotten well. But, from the Word of God you have to put off the "old man" to be *A New Man*.

Romans 3:23- "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." We have to repent, be sorry for our sins, ask Jesus to forgive us, and not to want to sin anymore.

Jesus is our advocate:

I John 2:1,2- "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

Jesus said:

Matthew 11:28- *Come unto to me, all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*" So when people are tired of their lives in sin (this is the old man), Jesus is calling. Psalms 34:8-O taste and see that the Lord is good; and blessed is the man that trusteth in Him."

So the Day of Salvation is still here. "Salvation definition"- (Theol.) Deliverance from the power and penalty of sin: redemption.

I don't know how much longer He will keep calling, but the salvation of the Lord is still open today. He is willing to forgive sins. He gave His life on the cross for our sins, not to be remembered again, and to give us life eternal.

John 3:16- "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.: When we have done all that we can do; repent and be baptized, ask Christ into our heart we are *A New Man*.

II Cor. 5:17- "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

These are some scriptures and parts of scriptures that a new man doesn't do anymore.

Eph. 4:22- "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts." 4:25- "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth." 4:28 "Let him that stole steal no more" 4:31- "Let all bitterness and wrath, and anger and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice".

Joyce (Joy) Babst- Neosho, MO

In Memory

Rhonda "Dale" Stollings- 1955-2020

Rhonda "Dale" Stollings, 65, of Booker, TX passed away on Wednesday, October 14, 2020. Dale was born on April 25, 1955, in Enid, OK to Leland and Edna Lee Grimmer. She married David Stollings on June 8, 1974 in Gray, OK.

Dale was born as a preacher's daughter and served God her entire life. She was an elder's wife, an active member of Perryton's Community Worship Center and most recently served as the Administrative Assistant at Perryton Christian Academy. She was endowed with spiritual gifts that she passionately used to serve others and advance God's Kingdom for His greater glory. Dale was blessed to be a blessing and was widely known for her unique organizational skills, positive attitude, and commitment to her ministerial calling.

Dale was a humble wife, mother and grandmother with a servant's heart. Beautiful spirit and a gracious approach to life. She was defined by faith in God. She trusted her Heavenly Father and leaned on Him until her last breath. God is love and she loved because God first loved her (1 John 4: 8, 19). As a result, her passion was to love. She invested her life on people. So that they the love of God and place faith in Jesus Christ.

Dale was preceded in death by her father, Leland Grimmer; her brother, Savoy Grimmer and her son-in-law, Jason Martin.

Dale is survived by her husband; sister, Debbie Kinsey and her husband Steve of Perryton, TX; son, Jeremy Stollings and wife Jennifer of Amarillo, TX; son, Nathan Stollings and wife, Mandy of Amarillo, TX; daughter Rachel Rogers and her husband, David of Booker, TX. Dale was dearly loved by her 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were held on October 19, 2020 at the Community Worship Center with Rev. Kevin Britton officiating. Interment was at Ochiltree Cemetery, Perryton, TX.



Edna Lee Grimmer- 1928- 2020



Edna Lee Grimmer, 91, Perryton, TX passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020. Edna was born on Dec. 27, 1928 in Mosquero, NM to Frank and Jewel Goodhue. She married Leleand Grimmer on June 11, 1950 in Enid, Ok. Edna Lee was a loving and caring minister's wife for over 45 years. She had a servant's heart and loved her family. She loved the Lord Jesus Christ. Edna Lee and Leland raised their children to love and trust in their Heavenly father.

Edna Lee is survived by her daughter, Debbie Kinsey and her husband, Steve of Perryton, Tx; son-in-law, David Stollings of Perryton, Tx; daughter-in-law, Karen Grimmer of Barksdale, Tx; three sisters, Lois Smith, Treva Miller and Della Hill; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Leland Grimmer, her son, Savoy Grimmer; her daughter Dale Stollings; and her parents, Frank and Jewel Goodhue.

A private family service was held on Dec. 5, 2020 at Boxwell Brothers Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Fred Huff and Rev. Kevin Britton officiating. A private family burial followed at Ochiltree Cemetery.

Eleanor June Myers- 1929-2020

Eleanor June Myers of Baxter Springs, KS passed from this world to her eternal reward on Dec. 6, 2020. Eleanor was born in Compton, CA on May 16, 1929 to Clyde and Gladys Wagner. While living in CA, Eleanor worked as a child actress, appearing in films and print advertisements. Eleanor moved to Baxter Springs as a teenager and graduated from Baxter Springs High School in May 1946. She then continued her education at Joplin Junior College and Friends Bible College. Eleanor was joined in matrimony to Robert Lee (Bocky) Myers in Riverton, KS on Nov. 29, 1947.

She was preceded in death by husband Robert, daughter Eleanor Brockway, granddaughter Rebecca Taber, parents Clyde and Gladys Wagner, brother David Wagner and sister Dorothy Stephenson. She is survived by one son Michael Myers (Nancy), Baxter Springs, seven daughters; Myonza Gray (John), Kansas City, MO, Teresa McClean (Tom), McCune, KS, Roberta Myers, LaBarge, WY, Tracy Qualls (Larry), Baxter Springs, KS, Marilyn Taber, Joplin, MO, Joy Crockett (Dino), Baxter Springs, KS, Margaret Morrison (Paul) Hudson, WY, one son-in-law John Brockway of Ottawa, KS. She had 27 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren and 7 great great grandchildren.



(next page)

Eleanor Myers (con't)

Eleanor was a member of God's family and attended the Apostolic Faith Church in Baxter Springs, KS. She was an avid reader and served on the Johnson Public Library Board in Baxter Springs. She loved to make quilts which she gifted to family and friends., and bake cookies for family and many Bible College students.

The loves of her life were Jesus Christ and her family. She had lots of family and friends to love and that loved her. A celebration of life service was held at the Apostolic Faith Chapel in Baxter Springs on Sat. Dec. 12, 2020 with Pastor Cody Harris officiating.

Max Colin Clanton- 1953-2020

Max Colin Clanton, 67, Baxter Springs, KS, went to be with his Lord and Saviour on Dec. 27, 2020. Max was born on Jan. 13, 1953, to Paul A. Clanton and Bonnie Jean (Bard) in Webb City, MO.

Max married the love of his life, Sharon (Shira) on June 20, 1973, establishing a home for themselves outside Baxter Springs, KS. Well known-primarily for his onery demeanor and unshakable alliance- he made friends wherever he roamed. He enjoyed riding his motorcycles, hunting, fishing and spending time with family. He participated in a number of organizations, including the Christian Motorcycle Association, a member of the Masonic Lodge, a Shriner hospital dad for the Mirza Temple and a member of the House of Prayer.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon K. Clanton, of the home; son, Casey Clanton, Baxter Springs, KS; daughter, Kayla and husband Wesley Carrillo, Odessa, MO, brother Daniel and wife Sharon A. Clanton, Baxter Springs, KS and sister-in-law, Barbara Bilke, Grove, OK; and his grandchildren, Cody Clanton; Max and Harper Carrillo.

Masonic Rites were held on Dec. 30th and funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. at the House of Prayer in Riverton,

**Nyla Berylene Steed- 1950-2021**

Nyla Berylene Steed, Rhome, TX went to be with our Lord on Friday, Jan. 8, 2021 in Decatur, TX. Nyla was born on Jan. 7, 1950 to Quintin and Geraldine (Stimson) Beagle in Higgins, TX. She attended the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Baxter Springs, KS in 1968 and continued her singing for the Lord. She was united in marriage to Raleigh Steed on Sept. 17, 1969 in Lawton, OK. Nyla was a retired office assistant for the D.E.A. She will be missed by many.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Quintin and Geraldine Beagle. Those left behind to cherish her memory are her husband of 50 years, Raleigh Steed of Rhome, TX; her son, Raleigh Steed II and wife Macie of Houston, TX; her daughter Cassandra Robin and husband Sam of Ft. Worth, TX; her grandchildren, Austin and Ryan Steed, Nyla and Nicholas Robin; her sister Quinita Wylie of Arnett, OK; numerous extended family and a host of friends. A memorial Service will be held at a later date.

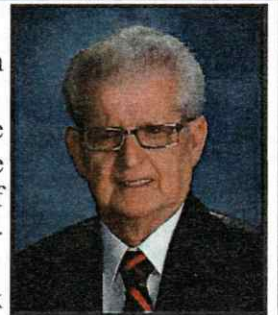
Andrew F. Estep- 1935-2021

Andrew F. Estep, age 85 of Joplin, MO passed away on Jan. 13, 2021 at Freeman Hospital in Joplin, MO following an illness.

Andrew was born on June 9, 1935 in Cabool, MO the son of William Towney and Rosa Lee (Scroggins) Estep. Andrew worked for many years as a salesman, most recently as a Private Distributor for Hiland Dairy for more than 20 years before retiring in 2016. He was a member of Fairview Baptist Church in Joplin, MO. Andrew and his wife Janet were 2nd year drive in students this year at the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, KS.

He married Janet Runnells in 1980, she survives. Additional survivors include 3 sons; Mark Estep (Cynthia) of Philadelphia, PA, Ross Runnells (Sheila) of Joplin, MO, Joshua Runnells (Waka) of Okinawa, Japan; one daughter Joe Ann Washam (James) of Mammoth Springs, AR; one brother; William Estep of Toole, UT; 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held at Fairview Baptist Church in Joplin, MO on Sunday Jan. 17, 2021 with Rev. Josh Branham officiating.



Isaiah 46:4

"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He who will sustain you."



Mary Lou (Bradford) Arnall-1940-2020

"Mrs. Gigi"

Mary Lou Bradford Arnall was born in Portales, NM to J.D. and Callie Gresham Bradford on Oct. 14, 1940. Her family moved to Granby, MO when she was 7 years old. Years later, she met Jimmie Arnall at school, who also became a farm hand on her Dad's farm. Jimmy fell in love with the Farmer's daughter and they were married on Feb. 28, 1955. They both graduated from the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, KS. They built their first home and lived in Granby until 1965. During this time they had their first two children. In 1964, they were called into the ministry and moved to Pine Hill, AL in 1965 to pastor their first church, The Pine Hill Chapel. In 1966 they had their third child. They also devoted their time working at Catherine Academy teaching and helping to organize school and sporting events. The friendships made there continued throughout their lifetime. In 1973, they were

called to pastor Bethel Christian Church and moved to Ashland, AL where together the whole family built a new home. They have pastored at Bethel over 40 years. They also pastored at Oak Hill Chapel in Millerville, AL and had services there on Sunday afternoons for many years. Lou dedicated her life to serving the Lord as well as her church, community and family. She not only was the pastor's wife, but also served as teacher and administrator of Bethel Christian School. She taught Sunday School, organized kids crusades, and spent many years keeping the ministry of Pine Crest Youth Camp thriving. She also served in community civic organizations such as the Red Hat Society and Modern Culture Club. She had a special talent for organizing events and celebrations. She was very hospitable and her home was always open to visitors. She believed you should treat your family like company and company like family. She always invited church family to their home after services and served homemade desserts and treats.

The joy of her life was spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved to take naps with them, take them on trips and educate them about history and science. She enjoyed bird watching and had beautiful flower gardens right outside her window which was a bird sanctuary. She collected angels and had them displayed all around her home. In her later years, most days you could find her and her sweetheart sitting in their chairs on the front porch watching people pass and hoping some of the kids would drop by for a visit. Her beloved dog, Spanky was always by her side.

At bedtime she enjoyed watching gospel music videos while holding hands with her husband until she fell asleep. On her very last night on earth with her husband by her side, her three children gathered around, turned the TV to those gospel videos and they all sang to her. One of the last things the family witnessed was during one of those songs, she lifted what had been a lifeless hand in praise unto her Heavenly father. She took her last earthly breath at 8:48 am on Dec. 31, 2020.

Lou is survived by Jim Arnall, her loving husband of 65 years, her daughter Kayla Anderson (Thomas), her son Steve Arnall (Cathy) and her daughter Shauna Denny (Duane). She left 10 precious grandchildren, TaLona, Stephanie, Lindsey, Tiffinie, TaLisa, Jessica, Lesli, Ashley, Taylor and Trey plus 27 great-grandchildren, Mackenzie, Kamden, Cason, Troy, Hadleigh, Cohan, Kiley, Cannon, Logan, Jerah, Tyler, Haddie, Shai, Judah, Ezra, Psalm, Boaz, Brynli, Raine, Jett, Joleigh, Conner, Cooper, Cade, Clay, Cole and Henry. She is also survived by her siblings, Juanice Morgan, Roy Lee Bradford and Stan Bradford. She was preceded in death by her parents, J.D. and Callie Bradford and her sister, Bernice Augustine. Her life and faith touched so many and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Memorial Services were held on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2020 at Bethel Christian Church, Ashland, AL. Officiating were Rev. Mike Brening, Rev. Wade Price and Steve Burkhalter.

Walter Hans Stemm- 1944-2021

Walter Hans Stemm, age 76, Joplin, Mo passed away Jan. 14, 2021. He is now at rest awaiting the resurrection. Walter was born June 7, 1944 in Erklangen, Germany to Georg Schuster and Olga Howard. Walter graduated from Richmond Hill High School in Queens, NY. Following graduation, he worked for an industrial lighting company and attended Aeronautics Academy in Flushing, NY. In 1964 he entered the United States Air Force serving until 1969. His service time allowed him to travel as far away as Guam. He served as an electronics technician where his responsibilities included repair, maintenance and inspection of radar systems, specializing in Aircraft Doppler Radar Systems and inertial Navigational Guidance Systems. Following his time in the service, Walter continued working with radios, becoming owner of West Comm LLC in 2014.



Walter was united in marriage to Janet Kay Bard in Joplin, MO on Sept. 23, 1972. She survives of the home.

Con't)- **Walter Hans Stemm-**

He is also survived by three sons, Matthew (Amy) Andrew (Rachel) all of Joplin, MO, Kristian (Vanessa) of Tonawanda, NY; six grandsons, Samuel, Evan, Ryan, Weston, Jack ,and Seth. He is also survived by an aunt, Charlotte Diedrick and family of Graceville, FL and a cousin, Herbert Schoenfelder and family of Erlangen, Germany.

Funeral services were held Jan. 18,2021 at the Mason Woodard Chapel in Joplin, Mo. Officiating were Rev. Barry Methvin and Rev. Cody Harris. Music was provided by Darla Oakes, Amy Stemm and Evan Rutenkroger. Pall bearers were Matthew Stemm, Andrew Stemm, Samuel Stemm, Chuck Ingram, Fred Fosdick, and Kristian Rutenkroger.

Interment was at Ozark Memorial Park Cemetery in Joplin, MO;



Violet Louise Crowhurst– 1921-2021

Violet Louise Crowhurst, age 99 of Hempstead, TX passed away on Jan. 30, 2021. Violet was preceded in death by husband, Leonard Crowhurst; father, John Mathis; mother Minnie Violet, brothers, Bryant Mathis, John Edward Mathis and an infant brother. She is survived by brothers, Donald (Elva) Mathis and Raymond Mathis; nieces and nephews, Doneva (Ted) McPhetrige, Elva (Curtis) Sevcik, Joyce (Joe) Hester, Kim (Larry) Goodrum, Karen (Steve) Hackett, Janis (Ron) Brening and Elton Mathis; as well as a host of great and great-great nieces and nephews.

“Auntie” as she was known by her nieces and nephews taught Sunday School for over 50 years, sowing the seeds of love for Christ in hundreds and hundreds of children. The Hempstead community was her area of ministry whether it was at church, her job at Dr. Brooks dental office or simply sharing an encouraging smile or word at the post office or grocery store. We are all better off for having an “Auntie” in our lives. May we all follow her example.

A private family service was held on Sat. Feb 6, 2021 at Trinity Apostolic Faith Church in Hempstead with Rev. Johnny Arnall officiating. A public graveside service was held at the Hempstead City Cemetery.

Linda Mae Peck– 1946-2021

Linda Mae Peck, 74, of Edmond, OK was born April 3, 1946 in Shattuck, Ok to Rev. & Mrs. Marcus Adair and passed away on Jan. 31, 2021.

Linda grew up singing with her two sisters and Rita (Conn) Scott at the churches her father pastored. She graduated from Canyon High School and later at West Texas A & M both in Canyon, TX. After years of teaching she decided to pursue her passion for interior design and opened her own business in Edmond, OK. Her innate go-getter work ethic, natural ability for warming up a space, and a servant’s heart made her well-suited to this endeavor, making many clients into the friends that sustained her along the way.



Unassuming but never a wallflower, Linda’s lively style was the out ward expression of her loving heart. With her vibrant tennis shoes, big earrings, and cheerful pops of color, she brought vibrancy, fun and joy to every person in every setting. Her generosity was unmatched. She seized every opportunity to go the extra mile to help her family and friends, and had an uncanny knack for finding that special something to let others know they were on her mind. Anyone that knew her will never forget just how wonderful it was to get a “sussy” from her.

Linda was a proud mother of two sons, Ty and Benji, and even prouder grandmother of 5 boys and 1 girl who affectionately called her “Deedah.” They were the light of her life and she loved them unabashedly. But it was well known that her love for the Lord surpassed even family and she served Him fully her whole life. She could regularly be heard singing s hymn under her breath or breaking into a Gaither chorus and her Bible was almost open and well-marked.

Linda is survived by her son, Ty and wife Rebekah, Edmond, OK and son, Benji and Katie of Nashville, TN, her grandchildren, Landon, Levi, Lincoln, and Ladd and Henry and Hattie, brother, Duane Adair and wife Carrie of Edmond, Ok, her sisters Velora Cummings and husband Glenn of Dalhart, TX, Ann Hays of Edmond, OK and many nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents, great niece and brother-in-law.

Services were held Feb.4,2021 at the Spring Creek Assembly of God in Edmond, OK . Internment was at Memorial Park Cemetery.



**And the peace of God which
passeth all understanding ,
shall keep your hearts and
minds through Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:7**

This is for all of you doubters out there and is about a 67 year old woman who thought she could never be saved, but was proven wrong on Feb. 27, 2021, when I stopped by to see my Uncle Bill. He was working in his garage and we were talking about the Bible and he began to pray for me. Suddenly a feeling came over me that I had never had before. We were both crying and I was saved right there.

I now have a peace and joy in my heart and soul that I've never had before. I thank my uncle and some very special friends but most of all 'My Jesus'.

It's wonderful!

Ilene Jefferson
Joplin, MO

***I say unto you, that likewise joy shall
be in heaven over one sinner that re-
penteth, more than over ninety and
nine just persons which need no
repentance.***

Luke 15:7

Delvin and Rhonda Kinser of Liberal, KS are announcing their availability for ministry. The Kinser's are hosting prayer and prophetic gatherings in churches and homes as part of the fulfillment of God's call to save the lost and speak into lives of believers in these critical days.

Ronda has spent more than 20 years ministering to individuals and families as a Biblical counselor. Her gifting is to preach the Word of God in a practical, matter of fact style, and to speak prophetically into your life. Delvin is experienced communicator and singer who carries on a legacy of ministry.

You can contact them for ministry by email at rhonda.kinser2@gmail.com or by calling 620-482-6180.



Won't You Join The Search?

The other day I was involved in something I had never witnessed before; the search for a missing child. As you can imagine, there was worry in every eye. My friends, Leanna and Erik were searching everywhere for their son, Ryan. They looked places they thought he might go. They looked places near where they live, They searched for hours and then they called the community for help from local law enforcement. Many, many people were searching, driving around with flashlights and yelling "Ryan! Are you there?" As the night grew darker the worry grew as well. The local law enforcement called upon surrounding counties and different resources they had that might help find Ryan. There was what seemed like an army of people looking for one lost child. And not a single person was willing to go to bed that night until Ryan was rescued., As I was listening to the radio a few nights later a song came on that reminded me of the race to find Ryan.

*"I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you
I will never stop marching to reach you
In the middle of the hardest fight
It's true I will rescue you": Lauren Daigle- "Rescue"*

The Heavenly Father is searching for you in the same way Leanna and Erik searched for Ryan that night. He won't stop until you are safe. Until you are saved. Until you have come home. Until you are sitting at the table with Him. Until you are out of harms path. And He's sending out an army to find you. You may not know it but God has sent out people to bring you home. That's me. That's the church. We are called upon to shine the light so we can find those who are lost and don't know which way to go. Just like those amazing law enforcement officers.

And when you do come home, oh man, the celebration that begins. When Ryan came through those doors that night, there was celebrating, smiles, and laughter where there once was worry, crying and fear. There were hugs and high fives. This is what Heaven is like when a lost soul is found.

So friend, if you are lost, I am coming to find you. I'm bringing my light and won't go to bed until you are safe. If you are not lost, grab your light and help me find the others who don't know the way home because we are being sent by the Heavenly Father, And it's getting darker and more dangerous. *Won't you join the search?*

Bethany Harris
Stella, MO

Standing Strong
Bill Derixson- Alvin, TX

Jeremiah 12:5 says "If the footman weary thee, how will you contend with horses." Nobody likes adversity, yet many are the afflictions of the righteous and the way of the wicked is hard. We are nationally and individually in a time of crisis. I know it is horrible, the state of our government, the state of our schools, the state of our economy, and the state of personal health in this country; these things all represent the footman of opposing forces, not the tanks. The spiritual condition of the world is terribly sick and dead, more so, than the people of the world are. Without true sorrow, real repentance, turning from the practice of our sins, and our humble petitioning of God; we are facing more difficulties ahead. Judgments sent by God are coming and will dwarf our current troubles.

We all have a spiritual enemy to face. If you are a Christian, the devil is your enemy. If you are a child of disobedience, then God is your enemy. He doesn't want to be, but sin brings a separation between us and Him. The rebellious heart declares war against God and His principles. God, desiring reconciliation, sends many ambassadors of peace across enemy lines. He sent His only begotten Son to represent Him on earth. Jesus taught the world of the Father's heart by dying in the place of man, and for man, so that man could be saved. If we reject so great a salvation, as God has offered it, there remains only the fiery wrath and indignation of God, which will devour His adversaries. When God is your enemy, who then will be your salvation? God didn't start this war of sin, but He will for sure finish it. Nobody can stand before Almighty God. Our choice today, is do we fall on His mercy or in His judgment?

Believe me, the tanks are rolling in. You thought we had seen the worst of what could happen in the world, but we have only glimpsed the beginning of sorrows. Jesus warned us, that when we see wars, famines, plagues, natural disasters and then hearts of men turn reprobate, that these are only the beginning of sorrows. What comes next is an assault, both from God and the devil, in the earth, such as never has been seen. What manner of person ought you to be then, seeing all these things are about to face the judgment of God.

As the children of God, we must prepare for difficult times to come. We must be witnesses in the earth and draw them to the wells of salvation. We must warn the wicked to repent from where they have fallen and do their first works again. We must remind the Church that Jesus is coming back for a bride that has prepared herself for Him, a radiant bride, without spot or wrinkle.

Greetings From Trapper Creek, Alaska

Jesus said, "I have set before you an open door, which no man can shut. " Praise God, He is true to His Word" The virus restrictions which have impacted us all this past year only served to open doors to new and creative ways to minister. During the period of time when in person services were restricted, Jeff and Linda Spotts turned to the internet for Sunday morning services and Wednesday in the Word. This expanded our local body to include friends around the world. Isn't God amazing?

We also held occasional parking lot services which were well and enthusiastically attended. And as a bonus, online services continued after we were able to resume in person services, so if you want to see what is happening and are too far away to drive, look us up on Facebook. We are just now finishing up a series on Revelation on Wednesday evenings and will begin a new topic soon.

Restrictions were eased up in time for summer activities. The men get together for coffee, fellowship and community projects. They spend a lot of time cutting wood for elderly and disabled in the community. Several church families participated in the annual Dip Net Fishing Trip to Kasilof. It was a time to get to know one another better, stock the freezer and just have fun.

Jeff is now working locally at the new Three Bears store, Linda is working as the lunch lady at school. The Spotts family also stayed busy through the summer cutting wood for their own use in the winter and filled their freezer with home grown chickens and pigs. It was a learning experience for the kids and they are enjoying the ham and bacon,

The church partnered with community members to provide a unique Christmas experience for the community as they guided Santa on a mobile route through the community. The time and route were announced on Facebook and Santa stopped at each house with a greeting, candy and the love of Jesus. The outpouring of gratitude from the community was amazing.

River of Life finished the year with a New Year's Eve fellowship of games, food, worship and prayer. God is greatly moving in the Trapper Creek area and Pastors Jeff and Linda are focused on reaching the lost, encouraging believers and training disciples. The focus for 2021 is to encourage the church family to be more outreach and mission focused this new year. Please keep them in prayer. God bless you and thank you again for being part of God's work in Trapper Creek, Alaska.

Sincerely- The Spotts Bunch and all the folks at River of Life

The Alumni Corner

Usually this time of year I would be inviting you to come to our annual Alumni & Friends Banquet at the AFBC Graduation, but as of this writing we still aren't sure if that will happen.. So instead of that, I wanted to write and encourage you. As I thought about what I could share with you I thought about the power that words have in our lives.

Words can build up and words can tear down. We probably all can remember a time when a word spoken has had a profound impact on us. A negative word hung over you like a shadow, threatening to steal your peace and joy. Or a positive word gave you confidence and the courage to take on the challenges you needed to face.

It seems strange to me sometimes that words hold so much power over our lives. What can letters, syllables, sounds, consonants and vowels really do? But every day we are impacted by words. Words like "Love" "Hate" "Hope" "Peace" and "Justice" evoke a feeling because they mean something to us. We all know that it's not just the words or the combinations of letters themselves that have power, but rather their meaning. Words carry meaning. They are a way of communicating some feeling, influence or character of or about the person who speaks or writes them. And because words do hold such power it is important that we choose our words carefully. A timely word can mean life or death to a person.

Proverbs 18:21a says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."

And **Proverbs 25:11 (KJV)** says it this way "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." A word spoken at the right time and in the right way is truly a gift to the hearer.

Maybe you need to hear an encouraging word today. Maybe the cares of life have been pressing you down and causing you stress. There is a place that we can go to hear healing words and words of encouragement. The Word of God speaks life to us and is available any time day or night. So if you are in need of some encouragement today, here are some things the Lord says about you in His own words.

You are *blessed, chosen, redeemed, forgiven* and *given a purpose in* Christ! **Ephesians 1:3-14**

You are *beautifully created* and God's *masterpiece created for good works* in Christ. **Psalms 139; Ephesians 2:10**

You are *made new* in Christ! **II Corinthians 5:17**

You are *more than a conqueror!* **Romans 8:37**

You are *not alone!* **Joshua 1:9**

You are *loved!* **John 3:16; Jeremiah 31:3; Romans 8:37-39**

God speaks all these beautiful, encouraging words over you **AND MORE** in His love letter, the Bible. May we always remember to let these be the words that define us and not something else that has been said. Our Creator, the One who gives us life, has called us good and made a way through Christ to receive good things He has planned for us from the beginning. That, my friends, is good news and I hope that it brings you some encouragement and know that you are loved! God Bless!

Cheryl Moser-AFBC Alumni & Friends
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