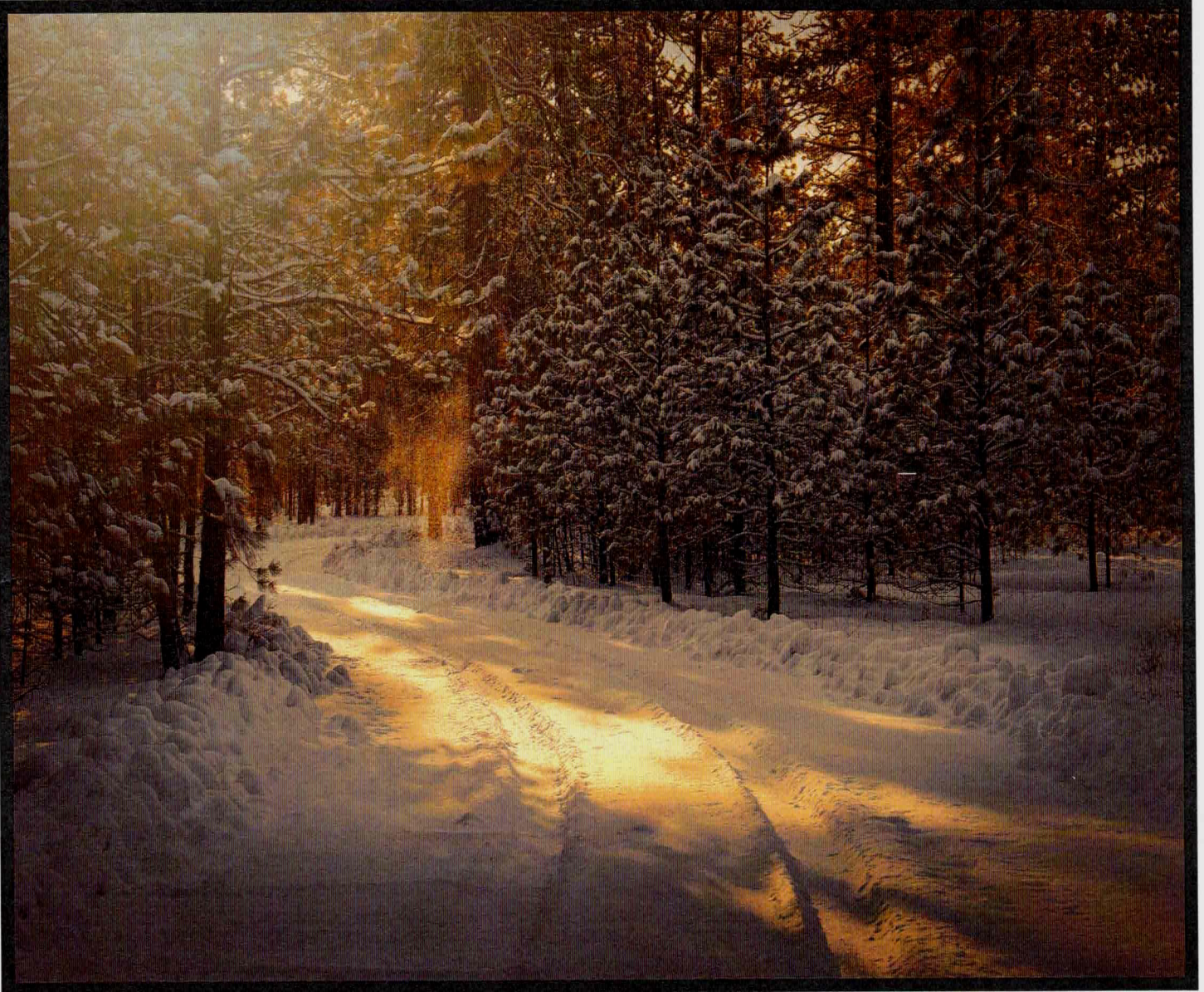


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# *The Apostolic Faith Report*



*He hath made his wonderful works to be  
remembered ; the Lord is gracious and full  
of compassion  
Psalms 111:4*

## Thank You

*I want to say Thank You to each church and individual that supported the ministry of the Apostolic Faith Report during 2023 both prayerfully and financially. God continues to supply every need by using those that hear His voice and follows His leadings.*

*May God bless each one of you in 2024 as you work for Him in your area and reach others for Christ.*

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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~~ OK
- \* 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.

## River of Life Christian Fellowship-Trapper Creek, Alaska

Greetings From Trapper Creek,

We want to share what has been happening this past year. Like many of us, our church building had been showing its age. It was built in 1974 and has been needing some serious TLC.



Praise God for the efforts of Rick Reed who did a major amount of the work accomplished last summer. He and Chris spent a couple of months in Alaska. He was able to insert a beam that was needed to shore up the floor under the sanctuary, a truly major project.



Rick started the remodel of the basement. Deconstruction was needed before construction could begin. The downstairs was virtually gutted to implement the new open concept design including a new kitchen layout. Sheetrock has been hung and is awaiting taping and painting. We plan to add a new floor covering to complete the work in that area. The new design will be ideal for hosting fellowship events and children's church. Upstairs, we have completed two fully accessible bathrooms. Plans for new flooring and seating in the sanctuary are in the works.

Thanks to the efforts of Mike Sandstrom, we replaced our electric heating system with Yoyo oil stoves upstairs and down. Electric heating has become too expensive and we are grateful to find an alternative solution.



During construction, life goes on. Jeff and Linda continue to pastor, work at Three Bears and raise children. Chris graduated from high school in May 2023 and is attending the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Lena and Aisha are seniors at Nenana Boarding School and participate in sports there. Lena injured her knee and is recovered. Charlie is an eighth grader at SuValley and Miracle is in third grade at Trapper Creek.

The church continues to bless the community and glorify God. In addition to the Sunday service here is a midweek Bible study, get-togethers for the men and the women, and special events. Early in October the Life for Christ group came up for a day of ministry and fellowship. The Crafting Creekers have been working during the winter and judging from the facebook responses, the community is excited about it. The church also collected socks for the homeless.

We enjoyed the holiday season with church and community activities which included Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas celebrations. We are confident that God used these opportunities to touch lives and build connections in Trapper Creek.

We are looking forward to this new year. We are planning a 50th Anniversary celebration of the church in Trapper Creek. It is tentatively scheduled for July. We are hoping to have as much of the remodel work as possible completed at that point.

We appreciate your prayer and support over the years. Needless to say, the work done this summer depleted our financial reserves. Pray that God will provide what is needed both in money and physical help to complete what has been started. Pray that God would impart additional strength and vision to Pastors Jeff and Linda as they deal with daily demands of working and raising a family while pouring themselves out in ministry to the community. Continue to pray that God will draw in those who are hurting and broken to hear the good news of Jesus Christ and the abundant life that He gives.

God Bless You All,  
Jeff and Linda Spotts



APOSTOLIC  
**FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE**  
*Go to learn. Learn to go.*

*“Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the Lord unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, not by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of hosts.” Zechariah 4:6*

In our power and might, we cannot do what the Lord has called us to do. Often we do not have the wisdom to know what we should do or the natural ability to make it happen. We are hopeless in our strength, destined for failure, with righteousness like filthy rags.

Here is the good part. We have not been called to live in our strength or our wisdom. God has given us life through His precious Holy Spirit ( II Cor. 3:6). The “earnest” or initial down payment, of Heaven (II Cor. 1:22), the literal power of God (Acts 1:8) sent to live within us, and where He is, there is freedom! He changes us into the very image of God from glory to glory (II Cor.3:17-18) !

This is what’s happening at AFBC! God is transforming lives! He’s making us more like Him! We recognize that it is not by our works, but it is by His Spirit! Currently, we are busy for our ministry trips and are excited about the opportunity to share what the Lord has been doing in us. Please continue to pray with us as we learn to yield to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to teach us. We need Jesus!

On the physical side of things, we are very busy as well. We have many projects in the works for the upcoming FGEA National Convention we are hosting in April. Please continue to pray for us as we do our best to be good stewards of the blessings of God.

We love you and appreciate you. We are excited about what the Lord is doing and are grateful for your continued support.

Believing Big,  
Brian & Jenny Harris  
AFBC Directors

### The Alumni Corner

We would like to invite you to celebrate with us another great year at AFBC with the Alumni and Friends Banquet on Wednesday May 8,2024.

We will be honoring the class of 1974 (50 years) , 1999, (25 years) and each class ending with 4. Make plans now to join us for Brother Jim Boyd’s BBQ and a great time of entertainment and fellowship. RSVP to save your seat and we’ll see you there.

I plan for this to be the last year to host the Alumni and Friends Banquet. If you are or someone you know would be interested in hosting this event please contact me. Thank You!

Cheryl Moser - 417-540-8737

Beyond what we can  
**SEE**  
1 Cor. 2:9 & Isa. 64:4

Alumni & Friends Banquet  
Wednesday, May 8th  
7:00 pm  
\$20 Adults  
\$10 Kids

Call, text or e-mail Cheryl  
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Celebrating Classes of 1974, 1999, & years ending in 4

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## Minister's Benevolence Fund

We want to express our gratitude for your continued support for the Minister's Benevolence Fund. Nine individuals are currently receiving \$100.00 monthly and were given \$400.00 during the Christmas season. God has blessed this benevolence ministry that was started 30 years ago as a result of Bro. Ted Barker's desire to help elder ministers who were no longer able to work.

With your generosity, this ministry continues. Thank you again for your support.

Shauna Denney  
Vanessa Harris  
Darla Oakes

Contributions may be mailed to:

Apostolic Faith Bible College  
Minister's Benevolence Fund  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

**Prayer is not overcoming  
God's reluctance but  
laying hold of His  
willingness.**

## Valued by God

Hi everyone,

I am Don Marek of Alvin, TX and below are some words that God gave to me to share with you.

I am a sinner saved by God's grace because His Son Jesus Christ paid the price for my sins. All I must do is believe, with faith, that God will help me live a Holy life that leads to righteousness.

Though the road may be narrow, it is the only road that leads to God's eternal Kingdom after my life here on earth is over. Until then, God's exploits are available through His written Word, to show me how important to Him.

As my relationship grows with our Father in Heaven, I become more and more valuable to Him. Only then can I obey His commandments and be a doer of His word.

If these things can happen to me, then I believe my neighbor is a good candidate for being valued also, so I'm going to ask him if he is valued by God and see what happens.

## Peace in the Midst of the Storm

By Peggy Sutton– Katy, TX

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. (John 14:1 KJV)... Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you : not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled , neither let it be afraid. ) John 14;27 KJV)... These things have I spoken unto you , that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world . (John 16:33 KJV)... And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. (Mark 4:39 KJV)... He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD. He is my refuge and my fortress; my God. In Him will I trust.( Psalm 91: 1& 2 KJV).

I heard a story, many years ago, about a contest to see who could paint the best picture portraying peace. This is the version I read. It came down to two paintings. One of them was a peaceful pasture with animals and children. The other picture was a raging storm with winds and rain beating against a cliff. The people couldn't understand why one was being painted. Then they noticed a cleft in the rock where a bird was sitting brightly singing. That painting won because it showed that true peace survives the storms of life that come against us. We can still sing because we have the God Jehovah's peace. Jesus told us not to be troubled when these times come. We have God to run to in the hard times like these to give us peace. Jesus is ever sitting at the right hand of God to make intercession for us that we might have joy and a song in our heart. Jesus has given us peace this old world can't give. We don't have to let our hearts be troubled or afraid! His peace is so superior to the world's!

When Jesus finished ministering to a great multitude, He and His disciples went in a ship to the other side of the lake. Jesus was sleeping and a storm of wind and waves beat on the ship and filled, making everyone afraid. They woke Jesus up and said, "Master don't you care that we perish?" he arose and said "peace be still" and there was a great calm, Jesus asked 'why?' Were they afraid because they didn't believe? It is a question we should ask ourselves. Why are we afraid? Is it that we don't have a God to protect and keep us? Jesus can speak peace in our lives still today! Psalms 91 tells us if we dwell in His secret place, we will abide under His shadow. We can trust God with no shadow of doubt. God has everything we need.

If you don't know God and this peace I've been talking about, this is your time to find it. Confess Jesus as your Lord with your mouth and believe God raised Jesus from the dead and you'll be saved. If you take this simple step sincerely, it will change your life. We can all have a life of God's peace!

Peace, peace! Wonderful peace,  
Coming down from the Fathers above:  
Sweep over my soul forever, I pray,  
In fathomless billows of love.

( Wonderful Peace/ Haldor Lillenas)

***The Lord will give strength unto His people, the Lord will bless  
His people with peace. Psalms 29:11***

## 1966 AFBC Graduate

I just want to express my gratitude for the foundation I received when we attended the Apostolic Faith Bible School in 1966. We were newly saved, young and green. The staff taught us, encouraged us, fed us and nurtured us. Just a few short years later we found ourselves pastoring at Willow Chapel in Alaska where we had been saved. From there we went on to establish what is now River of Life at Trapper Creek Alaska.

In the many years since we have served in various churches and in many ways. By the time we moved to Burns, OR in 2011, I felt I was done. Like there was no dreams left to dream. But since then God has walked me through His plans and purposes and renewed my vision. Saying goodbye to Jay about a year and a half ago was difficult but God was faithful even then.

Now God has given me a new responsibility. I am so grateful. I don't know what the future holds but I know who holds the future. He is ever faithful. And much of what I have been able to accomplish came because of the solid Bible teaching I received so many years ago. Thank you for the foundation you gave us and are now giving to the young ones starting out. Looking forward - knowing the best is yet to come.

Virginia Smith- Burns, OR

**Edwin Wayne Modrick, 83**, a long time resident of Amarillo, TX went home to be with the Lord on Jan. 31, 2024. He was born on Aug. 24, 1940 in Laverne, OK to John Joseph and Viola May Modrick. He graduated from Palo Alto High School in 1958 where he excelled in football, choir, a cappella choir, key club, and his vocal quartet. Ed married his sweetheart Eula on Dec. 20, 1958 and remained married for 60 years. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Eula Lorene Modrick.

Ed is survived by his daughter LaParsha (Michael) Wise, grandchildren, Jonathan (Shann) Wise, J'Rhea (Josh) Carrillo, Josalynn (Tim) Maskill, Jacob Wise and his fiancé Tara; 7 great grandchildren, Jonathan Wise, Lynden Wise, Levi Carrillo, Liam Carrillo, Lila Carrillo, Eleanor Maskill and Emmitt Maskill.

Ed and Eula embarked on their journey in Midway, OK where Ed and Eula served as pastors from 1961 to 1964. They then continued their mission in Guymon, OK to a small white church, the Guymon Chapel. Ed's vision expanded and with determination and some help, he built the Apostolic Faith Student Center in 1967 in Goodwell, OK. Shortly after, the church grew and Ed with help, built a new church completed in 1969, the Apostolic Faith Church. The new church in time, grew to overabundance, so a large gymnasium for youth activities was added. The new church was renamed, Panhandle Bible Center. Ed's influence and his commitment inspired the community, echoing the impact of his unwavering dedication.

In 1978, Ed & Eula moved to Amarillo, TX for their final venture, establishing Suburban Bible Church. For more than two decades, they devoted themselves to the ministry, tirelessly spreading the message of Jesus and His love. As the time came to an end at Suburban Bible Church, Ed's calling did not end. He went to work as pastor at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch for a year and half where the kids adored him. To continue his ministry, he found a place at Washington Avenue Christian Church, as the director of the Family Service Center. Soon following, he was hired on staff at WACC as the Pastor to Senior Adults. Ed served a decade at WACC, where he felt so loved and appreciated. Ed and Eula called Washington Avenue their final home.

Ed's love language was undeniably acts of service. His legacy is woven into the countless lives he touched-feeding clothing, mentoring, and praying over family and friends and strangers alike. With Eula by his side, he seamlessly incorporated the love of Jesus into every sermon, meal and conversation. Ed's magnetic personality, bubbling with charm and humor drew people to him, fostering an environment free of judgment and criticism. He had a profound love for entertaining through music and storytelling. Every encounter ended with a hug, a cool handshake and laughter. His passion was simple- love people and the Dallas cowboys. They had a super fan in Ed Modrick.



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Ed Modrick- con't

While Ed's impact was vast his devotion to family was unparalleled. LaParsha was his world and their father-daughter bond was a testament to a lifelong to a lifetime of love. His dedication extended to his grandkids, attending every concert, recital, and game and never missing a birthday. Throughout their college years he continued to attend many of their important events. Ed beamed with pride at each of their accomplishments, maintaining a unique and special connection with each one.

As we celebrate his life let us remember a man who lived a life of purpose, spreading love, laughter, kindness and hope.

Services were held on Feb. 5, 2024 at Washington Avenue Christian Church. Rev. Jim Shelburne officiated. Burial was in Memory Gardens Cemetery.

His Lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

Matthew 25:21



**Vicki Patterson, age 74**, passed away in Tulsa, OK Oct. 16, 2023. She was born in Pampa, TX on Feb. 14, 1949 to Joe and Norma Jean Autry. She graduated from Pampa High School in 1967 and met Bill Patterson at West Texas A&M University. Bill and Vicki were married in Sept. 1969.

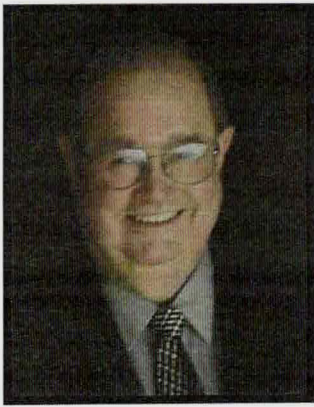
Vicki was a loving and compassionate wife and mother who dedicated her life to serving others, especially her family. She was a wise Christian mentor and prayer warrior who always opened her home to share her gift of hospitality and delicious cooking. Vicki's immense talent as a musician, teacher, and homemaker was evident to all who knew her. But above all, she was characterized by her love for others. Her grandchildren adoringly called her "Grammy Love". Anyone who encountered Vicki instantly felt the pure love of Jesus overflowing from her heart. Vicki had a classy and glamorous style and she loved bold colors, clothes and jewelry.

Throughout her life Vicki cherished deep and loyal friendships, from childhood friends who remained in her life to co-workers. She was grateful for the relationships that God placed in her life. She was a mentor to young moms and a trusted confidant to her peers. Vicki and Bill had a gift for showing up in your most trying times to just sit with you and give encouragement. They enjoyed taking a road trip to visit old friends for a quick weekend of fellowship. Vicki had a sense of humor and her joy was genuine! She enjoyed the simple things of life.

Vicki loved to sing and enjoyed traveling with Bill and their Gospel group, The Royal Heirs. There are countless stories of Vicki's gift of leading worship and miracles that followed. After her singing career she was devoted to raising Clint who was her greatest blessing. Later she began working as an elementary school teacher. For more than 20 years she touched the lives of many students.

Vicki is survived by her husband, Bill Patterson. Son Clint (Shay) Patterson, grandchildren Emmaus and Gabe; sister Jan (Tom) Rose and their children Heath and Zac and their families; her aunt, Brenda Condo and her family; brother in law, Gaylon (Marla) Patterson and their children Gary and Shelly and their families.; brother in law Bill Speak, his 3 children and their families. Vicki was preceded in death by her parents, her aunt June Autry, sister in law, Delpha Speak, her in laws Bill and Marie Patterson, great uncle, Sam Condo and her grandson Jackson Patterson.

Memorial services were held on Jan. 27, 2024 at Bykota Church, Joplin, MO. Officiating was Rev. Marlon Sparks and a presentation by Wayne Freeman.



**Harold Jay Bollinger, 89**, longtime Hardesty, OK resident passed away on Nov. 8, 2023 at the Abundantly Blessed Care Home in Canyon, TX. He was the son of Eldon Jay and Beulah May (Thompson) Bollinger. Harold was born Aug. 30, 1934 near Gruver, TX, His father died one week later and Harold was raised by his mother and second father, Emil Steffen. Harold grew up in the Hardesty community, graduating from Hardesty High School.

Harold and Wilburta Corene Miller were united in marriage Jan. 24, 1954 in Hardesty, beginning a 69 year journey together through life and love. He furthered his education at Central State University and later received his Master's in Education from West Texas State University in 1970.

Harold's faith was the central point of his life. He began preaching at the age of 15. He helped build churches in Mississippi, Alabama, California and Alaska and had pastored many churches including Trinity Faith in Liberal, KS, Panhandle Bible Center in Guymon, OK and most recently the Apostolic Faith Church in Spearman, TX. On one stint in Alaska, he and Wilburta adopted their cherished daughter, Crystal in 1981 at Chevak, Alaska where he had served the prior year. The family returned to Hardesty in 1983.

In addition to his love for the Lord, Harold loved education and children, which led him to teach school on Oklahoma, Texas and Alaska. He also served as a counselor and in administration. He was awarded the Ok Administrator of the Year for 2005 while he was at Tyrone schools. He and his brother, Eldon were instrumental in developing curriculum, writing textbooks and teaching countless ministry students at the Apostolic Faith Bible College and later taught for the Great Commission Bible College. He loved spending time writing books and poetry and even embraced technology to begin releasing e-books. His knowledge for the Word never wavered and he read the Bible from cover to cover every month for the past five years.

He was preceded in death by his father, Eldon Bollinger; his parents, Beulah and Emil Steffen; one sister, Eula Harrel and two brothers, Johnny Steffen and Eldon Ray Bollinger. Survivors include his loving wife, Wilburta Bollinger; daughter, Crystal and husband Cody Ninemire of Hardesty; grandson, Jereme Green of Garden City, KS; sister Vivian Flowers of Mills, NM; along with a host of nieces and nephews, extended family and friends.

A celebration of life was held on Nov. 16th at the Hardesty Community Church with Rev. Nick Gift and Rev. Ben Clubb officiating and special comments by Rev. Fred Huff. Interment was at Hartville Cemetery, SE of Hardesty.

**Wilburta Bollinger, age 89**, longtime resident of Hardesty, OK passed away on January 9, 2024 at the Abundant Blessed Care Home in Canyon, TX. The daughter of Wilbur Carcell and Elizabeth Emma (Saathoff) Miller was one of triplets born Sept. 9, 1934. near Arnett, OK. Her sister, Reburta was stillborn so Wilburta And Emburta became known as the Miller twins. The Millers had resided in the Hardesty area from the time of their marriage, and when Wilburta was a young child built the home that remains in the family. Wilburta graduated from Hardesty High School in 1953 alongside with her future husband and love of her life, Harold Jay Bollinger. Wilburta and Harold were united in marriage. Jan. 24, 1954, in Hardesty and enjoyed 69 years together until his death in 2023. During their marriage they both attended the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, KS; Central State University In Edmond, OK and Wilburta attained her Master's degree at West Texas State University in 1972.

Wilburta was a faithful and hardworking woman, supporting her husbands endeavors in building churches in Mississippi, Alabama, California and Alaska, and in pasturing many churches including Trinity Faith Church in Liberal, KS; Panhandle Bible Center in Guymon, OK; and the Apostolic Faith Church in Spearman, TX.



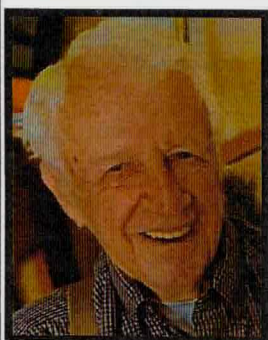
Con't page 16

## Wilburta Bollinger con't

She taught science and elementary classes for many years in Dumas and Borger, TX and in several remote villages in Alaska. After a year of teaching the children of Chevak, Alaska, Wilburta and Harold adopted their beloved daughter Crystal, from a Cup'ik mother in 1981. Wilburta nurtured and tended the family homestead through Crystal's life, planting thousands of trees and encouraging them to thrive in the arid Oklahoma panhandle. Similarly she encouraged her only child, and later her grandson, to thrive in the same conditions.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Wilbur and Elizabeth Miller; her brothers Gale Miller and Elson Miller, one sister Namona Helms; and her beloved husband, Harold Bollinger. Survivors include her child, Crystal and husband Cody Ninemire of Hardesty, grandson Jereme Green of Garden City, KS, twin sister, Emburta and husband Larry Stallard of Gate City, Virginia and a plethora of nieces, nephews and extended family.

A Celebration of Life was held at the Hardesty Community Church on Jan. 21, 2024 with the Rev. Nick Gift officiating. The immediate family had a private interment at Hartville Cemetery southeast of Hardesty.



**Bill R. Cupps, 90**, of Neosho, MO went to be with the Lord on Dec. 15, 2023. He was born on Nov. 25, 1933, in the Lone Star area of Missouri, to Gene and Fern Cupps. He graduated from Granby High School in 1951. He then married his high school sweetheart Dorothy Snow on Sept. 29, 1952 and enjoyed 71 wonderful years together, she survives. Also surviving are 2 sons, Billy Cupps (Anita) of Neosho and Mark Cupps (Pam) of Joplin, MO, 1 sister Barbara Hancock of Tulsa, OK, 2 granddaughters, Jamie Chastain (Jeremie) and Nickie Burks (Troy), 1 step granddaughter Andrea Simek (Lenny), 1 Step grandson, Wyatt Hatfield (Brooklyn), 9 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandson.

Bill worked at the former Rocketdyne/Teledyne plant for 41.5 years. His friends and family heard him tell many stories of the time he worked at the plant. He enjoyed his work very much. Over the years he raised many bird dogs and enjoyed quail and pheasant hunting. He attended Granby Gospel Tabernacle for most of his life. He was preceded in death by his parents, 1 sister, Rita Ruth and 1 brother Jimmy Cupps. Bill was dearly loved by all of his family and friends.

Funeral services were held on Dec. 20th at Clark Funeral Home in Neosho. Pastor Carol Oakes officiated. Interment was in Hazelgreen Cemetery in Boulder City, MO.



**Donald Richard Johnson, 85**, Joplin, MO, passed away on Dec. 29, 2023 in Joplin at Freeman West Hospital. Donald (Don) was born on Feb. 22, 1938 in Gruver, TX to Earl and Ethel (Thompson) Johnson. Donald (Don) and his wife of 61 years, Norma (Fowler) were long time residents in the Spring City area of Missouri. Don worked as an office equipment technician for Monroe for many years before retiring at the age of 50. This allowed him the time to work on his beloved farm. Don loved living in a rural setting and working around his acreage. At different times he had horses and cows to take care of. He enjoyed owning and maintaining John Deere tractors and taking part in Plow Days. Don was known for his ability to fix just about anything... cars, tractors, lawn mowers, etc. and always enjoyed helping anyone in need.

He was a member of Prosperity Apostolic Faith Church, Joplin. Don was a kind patient Christian man. He loved his Lord and his church and family and friends. Norma preceded him in death, passing in 2018. Don missed her very much, as he will also be missed, but now they are reunited and rejoicing together in the presence of the Lord. Survivors include 2 daughters; Melodie Conley and her husband Bob of Fort Gibson, OK and Donna Salzberg and husband John of Pawleys Island, SC, 4 grandchildren, Zachary Doss, Jessica Thomson, Katherine Salzberg and Dan Salzberg, and 2 great grandchildren, Aiden Bema and Dylan Doss.

Funeral services were held on Jan. 5, 2024 at Mason Woodard Mortuary in Joplin, MO. Don's pastor Rev. Joel Dorris officiated. Interment was at Ozark Memorial Park Cemetery in Joplin, MO.



## **Memories of three Pastors and Mentors-** by Rev. Fred Huff,

I was blessed during my youth and early years in the ministry to have some loving, inspirational pastors and mentors who helped me grow in my faith. I would like to honor three of my former pastors.

### **Brother Amos Harris**



Brother Amos and Sister Violet Harris came to Midway City, OK to serve as our pastors when I was about 10 years old, around 1959. Their oldest child, Janae, was about the same age as my little sister, Carol. One of their sons was born while they were our pastors. I believe his name is Paul.

Bro. Amos was a thorough Bible teacher and a great example for children. He had a huge prophecy chart called "God's Plan for the Ages". It reached across most of the front of our church. I remember him teaching through the entire chart, from the 7 days of creation at the beginning to Heaven or Hell at the end. It seems like he spent two full years preaching through that chart, one step at a time. One thing that I clearly remember from his teaching is that God does not want anyone going to hell except the devil and his angels. He said the point of the gospel is that Jesus died on the cross so everyone who will believe in Him can be saved, forgiven of their sins, and go to heaven.

Even though I was a child and had not yet been saved, the Biblical foundation Bro. Amos carefully laid is one of the main reasons I gave my heart to Jesus when I was 12, while he was still our pastor. He explained the Biblical fundamentals in such a way that I could understand them, and he preached with such passion that the Holy Spirit was able to capture and hold my attention. I still remember the way he made the difficult parts of the Bible easier to understand, and it has always been my goal to minister in the same way.

I have learned that using words a 12 year old can understand makes it easier for everyone else to understand as well. When a preacher sprinkles "five dollar words" throughout will go over the heads of many hearers. Jesus spoke in a way that common people could understand. I am thankful that Bro. Amos followed the Lord's example. He spoke in a way that an ornery little boy like me, could understand.

Bro. Amos was a bi-vocational pastor. He had a tractor and trailer and did dirt work for construction jobs to supplement his family's income. In addition he did most of the work to put a sidewalk around our church and put a beautiful brick front on the building, with a nice front porch and flower bed. I have a clear memory of those improvements because I often mowed and trimmed the church lawn at that time.

As an adult, when I look back at the things Bro. Amos accomplished, I am amazed at the tremendous effort he made to improve our church, both physically and spiritually. I appreciate the seed Bro. Amos sowed in my life. I want to recognize and honor him as one of my earliest mentors.

### **Brother Harold Bollinger**



Brother Harold and Sister Wilburta Bollinger were our pastors when I was in high school. Brother Harold was a great preacher and they were both wonderful musicians and singers. I loved hearing him play the piano as Sister Wilburta played the organ. Bro. Harold gave me voice lessons and some piano lessons while he was our pastor. I was so preoccupied with learning the guitar at that time that I never devoted enough time to the piano to master it. I regret that now that I did not pursue learning the piano.

Bro. Harold taught me to sing much higher, and even a little lower, than I dreamed were ever possible for me. He regularly challenged me to sing songs that I thought were out of my range. With his help, my vocal range was expanded to a little over three octaves and my confidence about singing was greatly increased. Singing has been as natural for me as breathing since Brother Harold helped me break through the barrier of "I can't" and find the freedom that says, "With the Lord's help, I can."

When I was 16 years old, I wrote my 1st song with the guitar. The title is : Why Don't You Give Your Heart To Him?" Not only did Bro. Harold encourage me to sing the song with my guitar in church, he began talking to me and my older brother, Dennis, about doing what he called "gospel work". (con't pg 18)

## (Memories Continued)

That summer Dennis and I traveled to several different churches and camps, including the campground at Pine Crest, Mississippi. We also helped in a revival in Pine Hill, Alabama, where Brother Harold had been pastor at one time. Doing gospel work" at 16 allowed me to make that are still dear to me, years later. Among those is the family of Brother Jim and Sister Mary Lou Arnall. Their family has grown in numbers and in spiritual strength has been a blessing to many hundreds of people. I also met wonderful people like Brother and Sister Hindergardt, Brother Jerome and Sister Peggy Crowhurst and Sister Myrtle Carney, who became a dear friend to me.

I appreciate the way Brother Harold encouraged me to get involved in ministry as a young person and did want to honor him as one of my mentors. He was still active in ministry as pastor in Spearman, TX until his health prevented it, He was also the author of several books and served as a Board member of GCBC, the Great Commission Bible College. Thank you to Brother Harold, He and the Lord Jesus working together changed my life forever. We will worship the Lord together in heaven!



### **Brother Edwin Waterbury**

Brother Edwin and Sister Patsy Waterbury became my pastors as I headed off to college at OU in 1967. I came home for church on the weekends, and Brother Edwin encouraged me to teach a Sunday school class, preach at youth rallies, and even fill the pulpit for him occasionally. Sister Patsy was a wonderful singer and encouraged me to continue writing songs and singing special music.

Brother Edwin had a way of teaching me to do things around the church by working along side of him as he taught me "the ropes". He had a mimeograph machine that required the careful typing of a stencil to create a church bulletin, and he let me put my typing skills to work for the Lord in that way. I remember helping him anchor our new pews to the concrete floor of the church. Drilling into that hard concrete floor was tedious work and we broke a few drill bits, but Brother Edwin was a tireless worker who always remained cheerful. As we were working, he was continuously teaching. We talked about everything from the Bible to the details of the project we were working on, to the best way to approach lost and unchurched people with the gospel, to how to minister to the sick and dying.

Brother Edwin took me along to visit the sick at times and allowed me to see how he ministered to the people in need. He related to people so well. He quickly turned brand new acquaintances into friends. I have always desired to follow his example in that way. I once asked him how he got along with "difficult" people. Brother Edwin simply said, "You just keep on loving them".

After the Waterbury's left our church, Brother Edwin stayed in touch with me and continued to encourage me. He picked me up when I stumbled, and he gave me my first real chance to be a "guest speaker" at the church where he was pastor in Granby, MO in 1985. Later on he invited me to preach revival services in Alvin, TX, where he served as pastor. Eventually, Brother Edwin, along with Brother Olen Bachelor and Brother Bennie Stanberry, Ordained me to be a minister of the gospel, on Palm Sunday, 1992 in Alvin, TX. That was 32 years ago.

After my ordination, Brother Edwin invited me to come to Balko, OK for revival services on 2 different occasions, while he was serving as pastor there. I will never forget the time he wanted me to see the beautiful, new, zero turn radius lawn mower that the church had just acquired. I never dreamed that I would eventually operate that same mower myself for many years, while mowing the Balko church property. I learned that riding on a mower is a great opportunity to pray, sing, or gather thoughts for a sermon.

Brother Edwin suggested back then that I might be called to the Balko church as pastor someday. I just laughed off that notion at the time, not realizing that Brother Edwin's suggestion was exactly what God had in mind for me and Sandra. Just a few years later, in June of 2003, Brother Edwin's health forced him to resign from the Balko church. Amazingly, the company for which he had worked for over 31 years sold out the very same week that he resigned.

(con't next page)

I worked for the new owners of the company for a few months, but soon became ill with diabetes and stress that the doctor thought I was having a heart attack. My doctor asked me what I could do to reduce the stress in my life. I knew, and Sandra knew, that the job was killing me. We had been holding revivals and special services for eleven years, while I continued to work the job full time. We knelt together and prayed that night whether we should go into full time ministry. I remember telling the Lord, "If you want us in full time ministry, just open the door, and we will walk through it".

The very next morning, James Law, the President of the Balko Board of elders, called to ask if we would consider coming to Balko as pastors. One of my long time Christian friends at the furniture company said to me, "Fred, if you don't go, you might get swallowed by a whale."

Our first Sunday as pastors in Balko was Dec. 7, 2003. We served there for nearly 18 years. Our last Sunday in Balko was April 25, 2021. As of now, we have been the longest serving pastors in the 77 year history of the Balko church.

By the way, both Brother Edwin and Sister Patsy passed away while we were serving at Balko. I was honored to help with Brother Edwin's funeral in Katy, TX in 2007. Sister passed away in 2010.

I have never had a better pastor, mentor or friend than Brother Edwin Waterbury. I would like to express my thanks to him and his dear wife and their family. I will rejoice to see him and Sister Patsy again in the presence of the Lord one day.

**Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom, fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. Proverbs 13:7**



**Lillie Ilene Jefferson, 71** of Joplin, MO passed away on Jan 22, 2024 at her home. She was born on July 6, 1953 in Bakersfield, CA to the late Raymond and Lillie (Owens) Brownfield. Ilene's journey through life was one marked by joy she brought to others. Ilene's life was a beautiful tapestry woven with threads of connection and service to others. She spent many years as a waitress, serving not just meals but warmth and smiles to countless individuals at local restaurants and truck stops across Missouri and Oklahoma. Her work was more than a job; it was an extension of her nurturing spirit a chance to touch lives.

Her involvement with Southside Apostolic Faith Church in Joplin, MO was a reflection of her faith and commitment to her community. Ilene's faith was her guiding light and she shone that light brightly, illuminating the path for others through her actions and her unwavering belief in the goodness of others.

Ilene's family was the core of her world. She was a beloved mother to Melissa Morris of Seneca, MO, Shannan Caligiuri (Terri) of Jacksonville, FL, and Stanley Ball (Andrea) of Lebanon, TN. Her love multiplied through her grandchildren, Kyle, Tyler, Austin, Kristen, Jessica, Saria, and Ariel and further blossomed with the joy of 5 great-grandchildren. Her siblings, Phyliss Brownfield, Theo Knight, Chris Brownfield and Marvin Williams shared in the tapestry of life, each a vibrant hue in the colorful array of her experiences. Other than her parents, Ilene is preceded in passing by a brother, Raymond Brownfield.

Those who had the privilege of knowing her would say she embodied love in action. Her generosity knew no bounds; she gave not from her surplus but from her heart. Ilene's selflessness was her signature, a mark she left on the world that will long be remembered. She was the kind of a person who made you believe in the goodness of humanity and the power of a single individual to make a difference.

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**Apostolic Faith Bible College**  
**Baxter Springs, KS**

**Alumni & Friends Banquet**  
May 8, 2024  
7:00 p.m.

**Business /Ordination Service**  
May 9, 2024  
10:00 a.m.

**Graduation**  
May 9, 2024  
7:00 p.m.



**4-State Youth Camp**

Baxter Springs, KS

Junior Camp- June 2-6

Daniel Wilcox-417-540-1479

Sarah Wilcox- 417-385-8066

Senior Camp - June 9-14

Julie Pulsifer- 417-438-6595

Angela Dorris- 417-291-2309

**Pine Crest Youth Camp**

Pine Crest, MS

June 26- 30

Steve Burkhalter- 256-276-1073

**Midwest Youth Camp**

Laverne, OK

Junior Camp- June 2-6

Senior Camp- June 9-14

Landry Caldwell- 806-418-9210

**Apostolic Faith Camp Meeting**

Laverne. OK

July 17-21

Ben Clubb- 580-525-1100

**Youth Summit**

AFBC-Baxter Springs, KS

July 25-27

Austin Laubach

417-540-0250