

# *The Apostolic Faith Report*



*Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

*II Timothy 2:15*



### *Pearls of Promise*

*When thou passest through then 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; nei-  
ther shall the flame kindle upon thee.*

*Isaiah 43:2*

#### **The Apostolic Faith Report**

**Karen Oakes- Editor**

**P.O. Box 653**

**Baxter Springs, KS 66713**

**Cell: 417-434-6245**

**Email: doakes@joplin.com**

#### **AFBC Board of Trustees**

Jim Boyd  
P.O. Box 563  
Leakey, TX 78873  
(830) 279-1451

Calvin Harris  
P.O. Box 217  
Rock Island, TX 77470  
(979)-732-7438

J.R.Slater  
503 S. Broadway Ave.  
Laverne, OK  
(417)291-3457

Joel Dorris  
112 Anita Drive  
Carl Junction, MO 64834  
(417) 439-2921

Tony Brown  
110 2nd Street  
Balko, OK 73931  
(806) 202-1986

Matt Snyder  
5721 County Rd. 290  
Carl Junction, MO 64834  
(417) 540-7681

Charles Harris  
4138 State Hwy. AA  
Taneyville, MO 65759  
(417) 546-7150

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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.





## 80 Years

Midway Country Church of Logan (rural Laverne), Oklahoma marked 80 years of existence in March 2025. The church has served a very rural area of the Oklahoma Panhandle for all these years. We have been blessed to have a series of really good pastors, starting with the founding pastor, Marcus Adair and continuing with our current pastor, Brother Earl Malone who has been here

for about two years. We are so thankful for his ministry.

Our church is small but important to this community. One popular way that the church serves the local area is a monthly men's breakfast on the first Saturday of each month (in fall and winter). These breakfasts are well attended by local men.

During the 80 year history of Midway Country Church, many people have come and gone. The influence of the church has spread far and wide. If we started naming those who serve the Lord across the U.S, and elsewhere, it would be a long list indeed. Each of you readers probably know several of those people who have ties to Midway Country Church.

We pray that Midway Country Church will continue to be a lighthouse and beacon along U.S. Highway 412 in Beaver County, Oklahoma and will continue to serve the Logan, Oklahoma community and far beyond.

Randall Bensch

### Reprinted from The Apostolic Faith Report– November 1944

Logan, Oklahoma– Progress on the new church here is good. God is blessing and the future of the work is encouraging.

Brother and Sister Marcus Adair

### Reprinted from The Apostolic Faith Report-June-1945

Dedication of the Midway Country Church of the Apostolic Faith, located on Highway 270, 30 miles southwest of Laverne, OK and is 5 miles north of Logan, OK, the center of the Panhandle District, was held with an all day meeting, Sunday March 11, 1945, A basket dinner was spread at the noon hour. The dedication service and message was delivered by Albert L. Durham and Jack Barker was in charge of the Communion service.

The pastor, Marcus L. Adair and the elders, Jim Stafford, Arthur Hosler and Glen Howard extend a hearty invitation to all to come visit the Midway Country Church.



**Evangelism 1983**  
AFBC Teacher- Naomi Busch

I attended your church this morning, You wouldn't remember me... may be eleven or eighty but I was there.... And I was hunting for something.....I think I almost found it.... I think I would have if you hadn't been in such a hurry.

The choir...even you in the congregation....sang hymns about a loving Lord that made my heart beat faster... I felt a tight, choking sensation in my throat as your Pastor described the condition of a lost person.

"I am lost. He is talking about me" I said to myself.

"From the way he speaks, being saved must be very important." I looked about at you in the pews near me... you were listening... you seemed to think the Pastors words were important. All these people are so concerned, I thought, they want me to be saved too."

At last the Pastor finished his appeal and asked you to stand and sing another of the beautiful songs that you know so well. I swallowed a lump in my throat and wished I knew the joy with which you sang. Then your Pastor looked at me and started telling me once again how I could have this joy... but his words were drowned in a buzzing beside me..


When I glanced around you were putting on your little girls coat and telling her to get her things, I looked on my other side and saw you touching up your lipstick and rearranging your hair.

Looking in front of me, I saw you frown at your watch as if time were running out. Suddenly I didn't want to look at more of you,- my eyes burned and my throat hurt.... my feet were so tired I couldn't have walked toward the pleading minister.

You didn't really care, This salvation the Pastor had been telling me about was not important, you only wanted to get away.

I wanted to get away too.... I wanted to run.... But I was afraid if I did you would wonder what I was hunting for.

I waited until the service was over and walked out among you...alone...LOST.




*Three stonemasons, when asked what they were doing, replied as follows:*


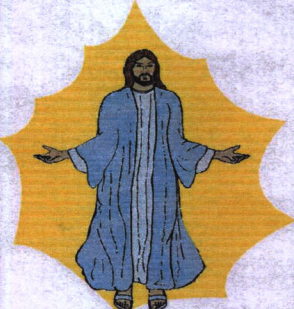
*"Laying a stone," said the first.*

*"Making a wall," said the second.*

*"Building a cathedral" said the third*



*Three Sunday School teachers were asked what they were doing:*



*"Baby sitting these kids" said the first.*

*"Caring for the children," said the second.*

*"Sharing God's love," replied the third.*

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

**Alumni & Friends Banquet**  
**May 7, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Business /Ordination Service**  
**May 8, 2025**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Graduation**  
**May 8, 2025**  
**7:00 p.m.**



# Minister & Gospel Workers Directory

*The Directory is provided for convenience. Any Minister or Gospel Worker upon request may have their information published.*

## A

**Allen, Homer & Sue**  
1718 Donax Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92154- 1144  
Phone: 619- 423-2131  
Cell: 619-823-1554  
Pastor:Community Church  
1727 Donax Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92154-1145  
Church Phone: 619-423-2131  
Website:  
Communitychurchsandiego.com  
Email: revhallen@cox.net

**Arnall, Frank & Cordula**  
22394 E. Highway 86  
Granby, MO 64844  
Cell:(F)417-437-1129  
Email: frank-arnall@yahoo.  
Prayer Ministry, support, music

**Arnall, Johnny & Kathy**  
P.O. Box 149  
Hempstead, TX 77445  
Phone: 281-744-2110  
Evangelist -Fill In  
Trinity Apostolic Faith Church  
1015 Calvit  
Hempstead, TX 77445

**Arnall, Steve**  
R. 1 Box 120  
Laverne, OK 73648  
Phone: 806-202-5272

## B

**Barajas, Samuel & Jennifer**  
720 Stansel Drive  
Alvin, TX 77511  
Phone- (S) 832-922-7319  
(J) 832-226- 3873  
Youth Pastor:  
Trinity Apostolic Faith Church  
Alvin, TX 77511

**Bard, Travis & Stacey**  
25276 Gum Road  
Carl Junction, MO 64834  
Phone: 417-622-8658  
traviswb1@gmail.com  
toequipthechurch@gmail.com

**Barker, Chanin & Mandy**  
1827 Palmetto Road  
Benton, LA 71006  
Phone: 318-426-3369  
Barker Vocal Evangelism  
Music Ministry  
Phone: 260-227-5378

**Barker, Keith & Charlene**  
104 Ridge Court  
Glen Rose, TX. 76043  
Cell Phone: 682-225-6220  
Teaching/Music Ministry/Prayer  
1st Baptist Church  
Glen Rose, TX  
Church Phone- 254-897-2351  
Email: Keith.barker@sbcglobal.net

**Barker, Ted & Deanna**  
3700 Grantsville Drive  
Fort Worth, TX 76244  
Phone: (T) 580-216-4700

**Barker, Tim & Polly**  
1319 Wiedner Drive  
Katy, TX 77494  
Phone: 281-391-9076  
Cell Phone:281-381-5624  
Pastor- Katy Community Fellowship  
24102 Kingsland Blvd.  
Katy, TX 77494  
Phone: 281-391-0099  
Email: tim@katyfellowship.com  
Website: www.Katyfellowship.com

**Barker, Ty & Debbie**  
8263 S. Harvard Ave. Suite #225  
Tulsa, OK 74137  
Phone: 918-250-5670  
Traveling Ministry  
Email: Ty@Barkerministries.org  
Debra@Barkerministries.com

## B

**Blackwell, Gus & Joanna**  
120 Picard Drive  
McLoud, OK 74851  
Phone:580-461-0999  
Email:repgus@hotmail.com

**Boyd, Jim & Shirley**  
P.O. Box 563  
Leakey, TX 78873  
Phone: 830-966-3583  
(S) 830-279-9450  
Pastor: Trinity Full Gospel Church  
Campwood, TX  
Email: jimboyd@swtexas.net

**Boyd, Phillip & Darlean**  
1100 Sealy Ave.  
Ballinger, TX  
Phone : 325-249-1583  
Email: kyleeban20@gmail.com  
Music ministry

**Brannan, Josh &Lyndzi**  
P.O. Box 768  
Elkins, AR 72727  
Phone: 479-856-5434  
(J)- Technology  
(L) Children's Ministry:  
Crosses Community Church  
Phone: 479-643-3709

**Brening, Michael & Peggy**  
PO Box 248  
Pine Hill, AL 36769  
Phone: 334-963-4742  
Cell Ph.(M) - 334-327-8509  
(P) 334-467-1253  
Pastor: Pine Hill Chapel  
P.O. Box 248  
Pine Hill, AL 36769  
Phone: 334-963-4742  
Email:mpjd4@yahoo.com

**Brening, Ron & Janis**  
41052 FM 1736  
Hempstead, Tx. 77445

**Brown, Tony**  
110 2nd Street  
Balko, OK 73931  
Phone: 806-202-1986  
Community Faith Church  
101 2nd Street  
Balko, OK 73931  
Phone: 580-646-3377  
AFBC Board of Trustees  
Email:tbrown48bj@yahoo.com



**Buschman, Alvin & Glenda**

6511 N. State Hwy 43  
Seneca, MO 64865-8588  
Phone: 417-775-3792  
(A) Cell: 479-713-0799  
AFBC Instructor  
Fill-In Preaching  
Sunday School Teacher  
Southside Apostolic Faith Church  
4430 S. Main  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Email: arbusch@fightforthefaitth.com

**C****Caldwell, Landry & Kayla**

P.O. Box 11  
Follett, TX 79034  
Phone: 806-418-9210

**Carmen, Terry**

809 Reid Road  
Neosho, MO 64850  
Phone: 417-451-7956  
Cell Phone: 417-455-3714  
Ministry of Helps  
Email: tdcarmen@att.net

**Carroll, Frank & April**

41056 FM 1736  
Hempstead, TX 77445  
Phone: (F) 832-284-7495  
(A) 832-574-2656  
Email: fr.carroll@gmail.com  
Carroll\_april@yahoo.com  
Fill-in preaching-  
Trinity Apostolic Faith Church  
Hempstead, TX

**Christenson, Ava**

P.O. Box 71  
Pettigrew, AR 72752  
Phone: 479-795-2412

**Clark, Zac & Bethany**

20829 Raccoon Road  
Stella, MO 64867  
Phone: (Z)-417-592-1297  
(B) 417-592-6029

**Clayton, Jon & Crystal**

805 S. Olive St  
Louisburg, KS 66053  
Phone: (J) 913-306-2841  
Pastor: Faith Chapel Assembly of God  
840 N. Metcalf  
Louisburg, KS 66053  
Email: jclayton4Jesus@gmail.com

**Cloninger, Michelle**

P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS. 66713  
Phone: 417-850-2644  
AFBC Faculty:  
Food Service Manager, Hospitality, Helps,  
Instructor  
Email: McPickle2@gmail.com

**Clubb, Ben & Tayler**

130680 EW 22 Road.  
Balko, OK. 73931  
Phone: 580-525-1100  
Pastor-Balko Community Faith Church  
101 2nd Street  
Balko, OK. 73931  
Church phone: 580-646-3377  
Email: pastorbenclubb32@gmail.com

**Cook, Coby & Stephanie**

R.1 Box 119  
Laverne, OK. 73848  
Cell: 580-334-4651

**Cook, Shari**

5930 S. Brookside Lane  
Battlefield, MO 65619  
Cell Ph.-417-434-5463  
Personal Evangelism  
Email-sharidiane@yahoo.com

**Cornell, Kathryn**

6443 Masons Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73142  
Phone: 405-245-7911  
Email: kathryncornell40@gmail.com  
Home Bible Study

**Cornell, Joshua & Jessica**

Global Hispanic Missions  
1211 San Dario Ave. #1835  
Laredo, TX 78040  
Phone: 870-210-2773  
Email: globalhispanicmissions@gmail.com

**Cornell, Kevin & Tena**

4946 S. Cincinnati  
Tulsa, OK. 74105  
Cell Phone: 918-724-9405  
kdcornell@icloud.com  
Special Speaker/ Sunday fill in

**D****Dalton, Randy & Gail**

R.4 Box 1040  
Ava, MO 65608  
Phone: 417-683-4202  
Evangelist

**Deaton, Damon & Brenda**

4319 Omaha Ave.  
Amarillo, TX 79106  
Phone: 806-353-2080  
Cell: 806-324-7471  
Email: deatonda@outlook.com  
Pastor: Faith Community Church  
2706 4th Ave.  
Canyon, TX 79015  
Church Phone: 806-655-9392  
Email: fcc.canyon01@gmail.com

**Derixson, Bill & Christina**

1405 W. Lang  
Alvin, TX 77511  
Phone: 281-585-8500  
Pastor: Trinity Apostolic Faith Church  
Phone: 281-331-0670

**Dorris, Brandon & Christina**

14125 Case Lane  
Diamond, MO 64840  
Cell: (B) 417-499-7179  
Pastor/Music evangelist  
Celebration Church  
1301 S. Duquesne Road  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Email: brandon@celebrationjoplin.com  
bdorris0723@gmail.com

**Dorris, Benjamin & Lesley**

330 S. Madison  
Webb City, MO 64870  
Phone: (B) 619-495-7493  
(L) 619-371-6002  
Fill in preaching/teaching  
Apostolic Faith Church  
Prosperity, MO-

**Dorris, Joel & Tamara**

112 Anita Drive  
Carl Junction, MO 64834  
Cell : (J) 417-439-2921  
(T) 417-439-2922  
Email- (J)-joeldorris50@gmail.com  
Pastor: Apostolic Faith Church  
20173 Elm Drive  
Joplin, MO 64801

**E****Eaton, Levi & Kiley**

6290 El Reno  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Phone: 417-499-9537  
Music Team  
Frisco Church- Webb City, MO



**Eaton, Rex & Jana**  
P.O. Box 576  
Elkins, AR 72727  
Cell: 479-387-6785  
Pastor: Crosses Community Church  
P.O. Box 496  
Elkins, AR 72727  
Phone- 479-643-3709  
Email: RJ2LE@yahoo.com

**Ehrlich, L.J. & Ida**  
11825 W. 64th Ave.  
Arvada CO 80004  
Cell: 918-346-4473  
Founder-GCBC  
Web: www.gcbcedu.us  
Free Online Lessons: www.olig.us  
Free Christian Books:  
www.freechristianbooks.download

**Eutsler, Suede & Kara**  
201 Howard  
Diamond, MO 64840  
Phone: (S) 417-592-8088  
(S) Men's Small Group  
Sound  
(K) 417- 389-3655  
Worship Team  
Children's Ministry  
Community Chapel  
Joplin, MO

## F

**Fiedler, Mike & Sherrie**  
453 Kelly Street  
P.O. Box 1330  
Center Point, TX 78010  
Phone-830-739-8880  
Pastor: Son Light Chapel  
Office Phone: 830-634-3444  
GCBC -Instructors  
Email: msftex@gmail.com

**Flora, Gaylon & Joyce**  
P.O. Box 184  
Danbury, TX 77534  
Cell: (G) 979-285-5182  
(J) 409-766-0760  
Pastor/Evangelist  
Christian Gospel Church  
100 Camp Street  
Alleyton, TX 78935

**Flora, James & Shanna**  
5726 FM 2917  
Alvin, TX. 77511  
Phone: 281-386-9857

Email: jflora96@gmail.com  
High School Ministry  
Life Foursquare Church  
Angleton, TX

**Fox, LaMoyné**  
1723 Drexel Dr.  
Katy, TX 77493  
Phone: 281-391-5522  
Cell: 281-389-9458  
Email: foxjl@consolidated.net  
Retired

## G

**Gift, Nicholas & Donna**  
Rt. 2, Box 95A  
Balko OK 73931  
Phone: 580-525-1702  
Email: nickgift@gmail.com

**Glenn, Kendall & Laticia**  
1501 Tudor Street  
Lowell, AR 72745  
Phone: 479-209-2614

**Grier, Grant & Shi**  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: 346-816-8844  
AFBC Faculty

**Grimmer, Karen**  
5818 S.W. 12th Street  
Topeka, KS 66604  
620-230-9532  
Email: karen.grimmer@live.com  
Open for Calls

**Groves, Bruce & Linda**  
725 Brookfield Rd.  
Taneyville, MO 65759  
Phone: 417-546-4570  
Cell: 417-251-0999  
Email: bandlgroves@yahoo.com

## H

**Hackett, Steve & Karen**  
23312 Mack Washington Lane  
Hempstead, TX 77445  
Cell: 936-825-1515  
Email- svhackett@yahoo.com Ministry  
Pastor, Music, Evangelist  
Church: Grace Bible Association

**Haltom, Hal & DeeDee**  
5210 Tremont Estates Trail  
Katy, TX 77449  
Phone: 903-748-3373  
Pastor- Trinity Faith Church  
5900 10th Street  
Katy, TX 77449  
Email: revhaltom@gmail.com

**Haney, Don Hal & Judy**  
27202 48th Ave. S  
Kent, WA 98032  
Phone: 253-850-2000  
Cell: 206-280-4870  
Music Ministry:  
Northwest Foursquare Church  
34800 21st Ave SW  
Federal Way, WA 98023  
Phone: 253-838-6321  
Email: don.hal.haney@gmail.com

**Haney, Loretta**  
27 William Lane  
Canyon, TX 79015  
Cell: 806-330-1462  
Email: lhaney1421@yahoo.com

**Harris, Brian & Jenny**  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: 620-856-3283  
Cell Phone: 417-499-9202  
AFBC Superintendent  
Email: afbiblecollege@gmail.com

**Harris, Calvin & Debbie**  
P.O. Box 217  
Rock Island, TX 77470  
Phone: 979-234-5214  
Cell Phone: 979-732-7438  
(D) 979-732-0246  
Pastor- Rock Island Full Gospel Church  
Rock Island, TX  
Email: many\_kids@hotmail.com

**Harris, Cody & Kaylan**  
320 W. 11th Street  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: © 979-733-2099  
(K) 806-202-1527  
Pastor: Apostolic Faith Church  
10th & Lincoln  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
AFBC Instructor  
Email: codyharris7711@gmail.com



**Harris, Joshua & Haylee**  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
AFBC— Instructor  
Phone: 417-592-8186

**Harris, Matthew & Haley**  
2410 E. 28th Street  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Phone-(M) 979-733-6258  
(H) 417-529-3953  
Assistant Pastor & Children's Pastor  
Community Chapel  
2740 E. 26th St.  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Phone: 417-781-0202  
Email: matthewaharris07@gmail.com

**Harris, Seldon & Vanessa**  
505 Burnett Drive  
P.O. Box 174  
Granby, Mo. 64844  
Phone: (S) 417-592-6269  
(V) 417-389-3366  
(S) God's Resort  
Fill-in, preaching, teaching  
Southside Apostolic Faith Church  
4430 S. Main  
Joplin, MO 64804  
(V) Hospital Chaplain  
Freeman Hospital  
Joplin, MO  
Email: svharris@mchsi.com

**Harvey, John & Kendra**  
222 N. Young  
Follett, TX 79034  
Cell Phone- (K) 417-439-2021  
(K) Director;  
Filling Station Youth Center  
Follett, TX

**Hill, David**  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: 281-256-5877  
Men's Residence Director  
AFBC

**Hopson, Jack & Elizabeth**  
Box 568  
Butler, AL 36904  
Phone: 204-459-3564  
Cell: 205-457-4998  
Ministry: Retired— Fill-ins  
Email: photo1@tds.net

**Huckabee, Billy**  
1631 Hwy 162  
Pine Hill, AL 36769  
Phone: 334-385-2246  
Cell: 334-830-7808  
Brazil Missions- CMU  
Christian Missions Unlimited  
P.O. Box 58  
Hope Hull, AL 36043  
Phone: 334-284-0878  
www.christianmissions.org  
Building Churches in Brazil  
Email: amazonbill2@gmail.com

**Huff, Fred & Sandra**  
11419 NW 121 st Place  
Yukon OK 73099  
Cell: (F) -806-339-4243  
(S)- 806-339-1252  
Email - pastorfred14@outlook.com  
Retired

## I

**Inga, Salvador & Elizabeth**  
1718 Donax Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92154  
Phone: 619-245-3861  
Associate Pastor; Community Church  
San Diego, CA.

## J

**Jamieson, Jim & Tillie**  
P.O. Box 1717  
Guymon, Ok 73942  
Phone: 580-338-1915  
Cell-580-651-1776  
Email: jjamieson@mac.com

## K

**Kenney, Steve & Emily**  
1182 CR 636  
Mountain Home, AR. 72653  
Phone: 870-424-2868  
Cell: 870-404-1712  
Sound, Video & Lighting  
Fellowship Church  
Email: stevemk\_44@yahoo.com

**Kinser, Ollie**  
P.O. Box 1043  
Liberal, KS 67905- 1043  
Phone: 620-370-7159  
Email: annakinser@att.net  
Preaching the Word

**Kinser, Delvin & Rhonda**  
P.O. Box 918  
Liberal, KS. 67901  
Prayer & Prophetic Gatherings  
Phone: 629-482-6180  
Email: rhondakinser2@gmail.com

**Kinser, Darrin & Angela**  
1312 W. 13th Ave.  
Stillwater, OK 74074-2562

**Klaus, Calvin**  
Lumina Lumii  
Balti 3100  
Str Decebal 144  
Moldova  
Moldova Cell: 373-685-34404  
Phone: 812-964-1004 (State side # rings in  
Moldova)  
Email: cwklus@msn.com  
Missionary

## L

**Laubach, Austin & Sarah**  
702 N. Liberty Street  
Webb City, MO 64870  
Phone: 417-540-0250  
Youth Ministry  
Community Chapel  
2740 East 26th Street  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Church Phone- 417-781-0202

**Law, Steven**  
P.O. Box 981  
Anderson, MO 64831  
Phone: 417-214-1745

**Long, Thelma**  
9718 N. Council Road  
Oklahoma City, OK 73162  
Phone: 405-510- 5713

## M

**Malone, Earl**  
Box 392  
Laverne, OK 73848  
580-748-0590  
Pastor: Midway Country Church

**Manning, J.J. & Denise**  
P.O. Box 583  
Buffalo, OK 73834  
Phone- (JJ): 580-699-1113



(Denise) 580-699-1116  
Email: coachmanning@icloudcom  
Pastor: Gate Friends Church  
Crescent Court  
Gate, OK. 73844

**Manthe, Jeremy & Debbie**  
501 S. Raff  
Kingman, KS 6706  
Cell Phone: 620-532-9496  
Email: jdmssoaring@yahoo.com

**Martin, Ron & Brenda**  
2530 John Crump Lane  
Katy, TX 77449  
Phone: 832-347-4073  
Email: ron2bre@gmail.com  
Fill-in-Pastor

**Mathis, Terry**  
3347 Jenkins  
San Antonio, TX 78247  
Phone: 210-490-4011  
Cell: 210-842-2566  
Email: submit@gmts.com

**Methvin, Barry & Kathy**  
110 Sand Oak Dr.  
Rockdale, TX 76567  
Phone: 512-446-7049  
Cell Phone: (B) 512-365-0439  
Pastor: Apostolic Faith Church  
400 W. Davilla  
Rockdale, Tx. 76567  
Email: bkmethvin@sbcglobal.net

**Morris, Richard & Renee**  
2118 S. Patterson  
Joplin, MO 64804  
Cell Phone: (R) 417-385-8233  
Email: rrjajm@gmail.com  
Campus Pastor: Uncommon Life  
709 S. Virginia Ave.  
Joplin, MO 64801  
Phone: 417-319-6097  
uncommonlifejoplin@gmail.com

**Morrison, Nathanael & LeAnne**  
P.O. Box 873  
408 Roosevelt  
Dubois, WY 82513  
Cell: 307-349-9497  
Worship Pastors-Mountain Grace  
27 Gilliland  
Dubois, WY 82513  
Phone: 307-455-2994  
Email: Thanaelscott@gmail.com

**Morrison, Paul & Margaret**  
357 S. New York  
P.O. Box 68  
Hudson, WY 82515-0068  
Phone: 307-332-2609  
Cell: 307-851-1640  
Pastor: Hudson Community Church  
319 S. New York Ave.  
Hudson, WY 82515  
Phone: 307 332-2609  
Email: pandmmorrison@msn.com

**Moser, Brian & Cheryl**  
2310 Lincoln Drive  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Phone: (B)- 417-540-8747  
(C) 417-540-8737  
Email: brian\_n\_cheryl@hotmail.com  
Pastor: Southside Apostolic Faith Church  
4430 S. Main  
Joplin MO 64804  
southsidefaith@gmail.com

**Murrell, Chet & Debbie**  
304 Moore Link Road  
Portland, TN 37148-4847  
Cell: 615-948-7778  
Pastor: Jesus Reigns Fellowship  
390 Pee Dee Branch Road  
Cottontown, TN 37048  
Email: chet.murrell@gmail.com  
Website: jesusreignsfellowship.com

## N

**Nestegard, Curtis & Jewel**  
6215 Fawnlake Dr.  
Katy, TX 77493  
Cell: (C) 909-289-5269  
(J) 240-505-1901  
Ambassadors-at-Large for :  
India Gospel Outreach  
Email: cjinestegard@gmail.com

**Noble, Ron & Evelyn**  
2501 Mary Ellen  
Pampa, TX 79065  
Cell Phone- (R) 620-429-0333  
(E) 620-429-0332  
Email: ivybrynob@yahoo.com  
Pastor- 1st Pentecostal Holiness Church  
Pampa, TX

## O

**Oakes, Carol & Gaytha**  
584 West Neosho  
Granby, MO 64844  
Phone: 931-796-2667  
931-796-0738  
Pastor: Granby Gospel Tabernacle

584 West Neosho Street  
Granby, MO 64844  
President- GCBC  
Email: carol.oakes4@gmail.com

**Oakes, Darla**  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, KS. 66713  
Phone: 417-825-4732  
Executive Secretary: & Faculty  
Apostolic Faith Bible College  
Email: lilywind38@gmail.com

## P

**Palermo, Ron**  
955 Raven Ave. #3  
Bowling Green KY 42101  
Cell: 208-899-5223  
Evangelist  
Semi-retired

**Patterson, Bill**  
3707 West 106th Street S.  
Jenks, Ok 74037  
Phone: 806-335-0381  
Missions to Africa  
Email: gcgc.patterson@gmail.com

**Perry, Andy**  
620 A Street  
Waller, TX 77484  
Phone: 209-561-9019  
Special Teaching-Theological  
Email: MA Perry1943@gmail.com

**Priest, Kenneth & LaDonna**  
10235 S. Janet Road  
French Camp, Ca. 95231  
Cell: 209-323-8006  
Pastor: Community Bible Church  
609 E. Galen Street  
French Camp, CA 95231  
Email: klplft@gmail.com

**Price, Wade & Julie**  
292 Faith Road  
Butler, AL 36904-8702  
Cell Phone : (W) 256-252-4004  
(J) 256-276-0633  
Pastor: Apostolic Faith Church  
297 Faith Road  
Butler, AL 36904  
Email: jprice5895@yahoo.com



**R****Robinson, Danny E. & Patsy A.**

10804 Providence Lane  
 Granby, MO 64844  
 Cell: (D) 417-691-5043  
 (P) 417-439-2414  
 (D) Fill in-Teaching, Board member  
 (P) Teacher- Song arranger  
 Granby Gospel Tabernacle  
 584 Neosho Street  
 Granby, MO 64844

**Russell, Kathy**

Box 1512  
 Fritch, TX 79036  
 Phone: 806-857-3836  
 Retired

**S****Sanchez, Eddie & Missy**

2503 Montana Place  
 Joplin, MO 64804  
 Phone: (E) 417- 540- 5529  
 (M) 417-434-4215  
 Open for Calls  
 Fill-in- preaching, teaching  
 Southside Apostolic Faith Church  
 Joplin, MO

**Segura, Daniel & Victoria**

1511 Tudor Street  
 Lowell, AR 72745  
 Phone: 479-633-5263  
 Trinity Apostolic Faith Church  
 P.O. Box 286  
 Cave Springs, AR 72718  
 Phone-499-957-4224

**Sharp, Roger & Kandy**

3312 West Knoxville St.  
 Broken Arrow, OK 74012  
 Phone: (K)918-809-1777  
 (R)918-289-1607  
 Missionary & Teaching  
 Overseas Bible Colleges  
 Email: ksharp77@cox.net  
 rsharp19@cox.net

**Siex, Ron & Linda**

8461 E. 64th Place  
 Tulsa, OK 74133  
 Cell: (R)918-812-8182  
 (L) 918-812-8184  
 Ministry to Seniors  
 Woodlake A/G  
 7100 E.31st St.  
 Tulsa,OK.  
 Church Phone:918-622-7100  
 Email: rsiex@cox.net

**Slater, J.R. & Angie**

503 S. Broadway  
 Laverne, Ok 73848  
 Phone: (JR)417-291-3457  
 (A) 417-291-3471  
 Email: jrslater79@yahoo.com  
 auntieninge@gmail.com  
 Pastor: Trinity Faith Fellowship  
 501 S. Broadway  
 P.O. Box 528  
 Laverne, OK 73848  
 Phone: 417-291-3457  
 www.trinityfaithfellowship.com  
 Facebook- Trinity Faith Fellowship

**Smith, Jimmy & Meredith**

2125 Sandy Lane  
 Webb City, MO 64870  
 Phone: 918-848-0603  
 Pastor:  
 Spring Grove Church  
 1819 S. Main  
 Galena, KS 66739

**Smith, Kalee**

P.O. Box 110  
 Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
 Phone:479-685-9309  
 Women's Residence Director  
 AFBC

**Smith, Virginia H.**

P.O. Box 291  
 Burns, OR 97720  
 Phone:541-589-8239  
 Email:vhsmithtc@hotmail.com

**Snyder, Everett & Betty**

P.O. Box 6  
 8908 Southern  
 Rockport, WV 26169  
 Phone: 304-474-3365  
 Cell: 304-481-015  
 Pastor: Tri-CountyWorship Center  
 P.O. Box 73  
 9886 Slate Creek Road  
 Rockport, WV 26129  
 Phone: 304-474-3643  
 Email: tri-county  
 worship@zoominternet.net

**Snyder, Matt & Stephanie**

5721 County Road 290  
 Carl Junction, MO 64834  
 Phone: 417-540-7681  
 Pastor: Frisco Church  
 P. O. Box 488  
 908 W. Daughtery

Webb City, MO 64870  
 Church phone: 417-673-3672  
 Email: mattsnnyder535@hotmail.com

**Sparks, Marlon & Kathy**

1217 S. Fordham Street  
 Perryton, TX 79070  
 Phone: 806-778-0177  
 Pastor/ Evangelist  
 Victory Family Church  
 2322 S. Main Street  
 Perryton, TX 79070  
 Church phone- 806-435-3476  
 Email: marlonsparks20@gmail.com

**Ssemaganda, Lawrence & Noella**

P.O. Box 1522  
 Kampala, Uganda  
 East Africa  
 Phone: 256-772-608-491  
 256-752-608-491  
 Faith Remnant Ministries & Remnant  
 Christian School  
 Email: apfrem@gmail.com  
 Www. remnantsschools.ac.ug

**Stockton, Steve & Sabrina**

230 Cherry Street  
 Granby, MO 64844  
 Phone: 417-317-3988  
 Email:stockton230@mchsi.com

**Sumler, Mark & Dayna**

9149 E. State Hwy. 76  
 Anderson, MO 64831  
 Phone: 417-223-4502  
 Cell: 479-640-5441  
 Pastor: Union Chapel Church  
 457 Bulldog Lane (no mail)  
 Stella, MO 64843  
 Email: sumdayann@yahoo.com

**Sutton, Garry**

5105 Live Oak Drive  
 Amarillo, TX 79110- 4622  
 Phone: 806-353-6917  
 Cell phone- 806-420-9227  
 Preaching, Teaching, Music  
 Church-Mount of Blessing  
 1600 N. Bivens  
 Amarillo, TX  
 Email- pastorsutton@cs.com

**Sutton, Peggy**

1913 Height  
 Katy, TX 77439  
 Phone: 281-391-7221



## W

**Wallis, Randy & Lou Ann**  
117 McKenzie Dr.  
New Braunfels, TX 78130  
Cell: 512-413-9010  
Email: rwallis@cerqa.com

**Waterbury, Mike & Betty**  
P.O. Box 845  
Perryton, TX 79070  
Phone: 806-435-9785

**Watson, Bill & Joye**  
115 Chelsea Ave.  
Dumas, TX. 79029  
Phone: 806-935-5253  
Cell: 806-662-9055  
Email: bjoyewatson@windstream.net  
(J) Hospice Chaplain  
Memorial Hospice  
Dumas, TX

**Webster, Lucy**  
5801 N. Oakwood Rd. Apt. C401  
Enid, OK 73703  
Phone: 580-297-3019

**Welsh, Betty**  
734 E. O'Bryant St.  
Bellville, TX 77418  
Phone: 979-865-3485  
Ministry of Helps

**Whiteley, Mrs. Howard (Yvonna)**  
10704 Flory Road  
Nokesville, VA 20181  
Phone: 540-729-4361  
Email: hownna@comcast.net  
Prayer Ministry

**Wiles, Delvin & Rita**  
41 Linderhof Circle  
Bedford, TX 76022  
Phone: 817-881-2176

**Wilson, Dwight & Carla**  
R1 Box 454  
Ava, MO 65608  
Cell Phone: (D) 417-683-7512  
(C) 417-543-3134  
Evangelist

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

## Minister's Benevolence Fund

Dear Friends,

We want to say Thank you for your continued support for the Apostolic Faith Minister's Benevolence Fund.

Currently 9 individuals receive \$100.00 monthly and were given \$400.00 during the Christmas season.

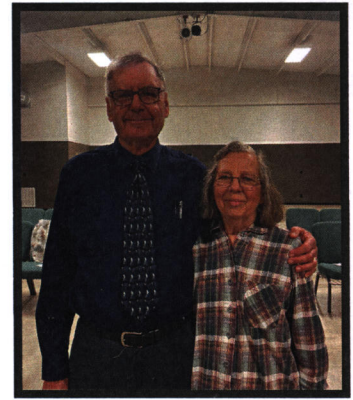
Thank You for giving to support those who have faithfully served in the ministry.

God bless your generosity.

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



## Church History

For the past 26 years, the AFBC attending students have had the privilege of having Brother Randall and Sister Joyce Bensch of Logan, OK spend a week teaching about the history of the church. Brother Bensch teaches them nearly 2000 years worth of doctrinal beliefs, important figures that have led the church, the rise and fall of leaders that played a role in the spread of Christianity, many different types of movements, some interesting information on different denominations and so much more.

All of this information is compiled into a booklet that Brother Randall put together himself! They also take the second year students on a field trip to the museum here in Baxter Springs and over to the cemetery to see a little piece of our history.

While it sounds like a lot of information to be squeezed into such a short time, Brother Randall and Sister Joyce do a fantastic job teaching and sharing what they have learned.

On behalf of all the students at AFBC, thank you both for taking time to come and teach us!

Machaira Wasson



## ***Where Would You Like To Live If You Could Live Anywhere In The World?***

That was a question my granddaughter asked me to write a short story about "Where would you live if you could live anywhere in the world." First, that made me stop and think about it. I have lived in so many places, some really nice and some barely nice. I thought of some that might work, and some that just didn't seem right. All the houses I've ever lived in were made of lumber, brick and mortar, some in good neighborhoods and some less desirable, so nothing that made me feel like it was the best place. At that time, I remembered a video I saw on television and they used the newest and most powerful telescope in the world and recorded outer space. I watched that and tears streamed down my cheeks as I observed those pictures. I remember saying out loud, God has been here! I don't recall ever feeling like that before. When I stood in wonder at the sight I saw, I said, "Lord, come quickly." Say, my perspective of the question at hand changed, "Where would you live if you could live anywhere in the world?"

Immediately, the places and houses that I had lived in seemed so insignificant, so I decided to compare the world now and the stratosphere where God lives.

**World:** crime, hatred, sickness, murder, cancer, heart failure, adultery, divorce, deceit, war, political unrest, the economy, alzheimers, rest homes, and I could go a few more pages.

**Heaven:** No jails, no police, no hospitals, no churches, no funeral homes, no grocery stores, no cars, no gas, no TV, no face book, no internet, no doctors, no politicians, no preachers, need I say more? Where would you live if you could live anywhere you wanted? I would like to ask every reader of this article, as things stand with you right now, you have made a choice. Every one of us, as we are today, have the right to change our choice, because we have the right to decide the place we would spend eternity.

The choice is: An acre of land, a beautiful home of lumber, brick and mortar and all the accessories and beautiful sunsets.

### **OR**

Mark 14:2— In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so. I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3. And if I go and prepares a place for you, I will come and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Revelation 21:18— And the building of the wall of it was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass. 19. And the foundations of the wall of the city were garnished with all manner of precious stones.... 21: And the twelve gates were twelve pearls; every several gate was of one pearl and the street of the city was pure gold, as it was transparent glass. 22. And I saw no temple there—in; for the Lord god Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. 23. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of the Lord God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. 25. And the gates of it shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. 26. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the nations into it.

Thanks to my granddaughter for asking me to write a short story about. **"Where would you live if you could live anywhere in the world?"** It made me appreciate so much more, the choice I made more than 80 years ago. You will choose one or the other. **Eternal Life or Death.**

Rev. Ted Barker  
Fort Worth, Texas



### **Psalm 23—For the Worker**

Author Unknown

Submitted by Roberta Worley— Joplin, MO

The Lord is my real boss and I shall not want.  
He gives me peace, when chaos is around me.  
He gently reminds me to pray and do all things  
Without murmuring and complaining.

He reminds me that He is my source and not my  
job.

He restores my sanity everyday and guides my  
Decisions that I might honor Him in all that I do.

Even I face absurd amounts of e-mails, system  
crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks,  
gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors,  
and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every  
morning, I will not stop-for He is with me, His  
presence, His peace, and His power will see me  
through.

He raises me up, even when they fail to promote  
me.

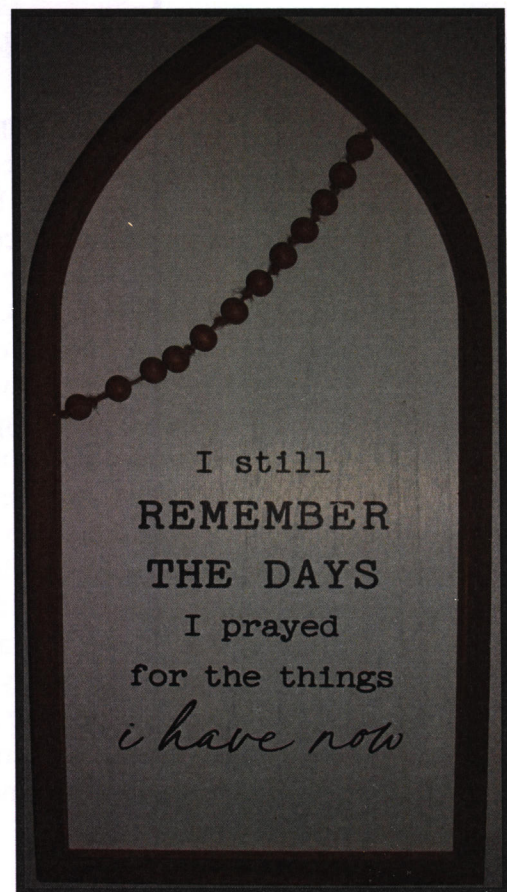
He claims me as His own, even when the company  
threatens to let me go. His faithfulness and love is  
better than any bonus check.

His retirement plan beats any 401k there is!  
When it's all said and done , I'll be working for  
Him a whole lot longer and for that

**I WILL BLESS HIS NAME!!!!!!!**

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He  
leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the path of  
righteousness for His names sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shad-  
ow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with  
me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of  
mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my  
cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the  
days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the  
Lord forever.



I received this picture for Christmas and I hung it  
in my kitchen where I see it every day, several  
times a day.

Every time I go by and look at it I think how true  
the message is. I have thought of all the things I  
have prayed about since Feb. 10, 1960 when Bro.  
Paul Clanton met me at Bro. & Sis. C.O. Bard's  
home in Joplin, MO and He prayed with me as I  
gave my heart to the Lord.

Bro. Paul was right - it does pay to serve the  
Lord. He has never failed, always provided every  
need- walked through the valleys and on the moun-  
tain tops, saved loved ones, healed, encouraged,  
blessed, gave peace in troublesome times, answered  
prayer, loved and drawn closer every time I needed  
Him close.

I praise the Lord for all He is and has been through  
the years and I know He will be with me in days  
ahead.

**And He will be with you too!**





## Cathy Arnall-1958-2024

Cathy Lou Arnall was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend. She passed away peacefully at the farm that had been her childhood home near Slapout, OK, surrounded by her loving family on Nov. 10, 2024 at 66 years old, after what can only be described as an epic battle with cancer.

Cathy was born to Winton and Billie Jett on June 13, 1958. Her older brothers, Stanley and W.D. were her heroes, and the three spent their days making many happy memories on the farm. Cathy attended Victory School House for preschool, Laverne Elementary School until first grade and ended up at Follett where she excelled in many sports and activities, graduated Valedictorian of her class and was honored in too many ways to mention by her classmates, friends and faculty of FHS. She was an athlete, a gifted musician and singer and she had an infectious laugh that accompanied her beautiful smile.

After graduation, Cathy attended West Texas State University before following God's call to go to Bible College. In 1979, while on Choir Tour with the Apostolic Faith Bible College in Baxter Springs, KS, Steve Arnall tricked her into giving him a kiss and the two became practically inseparable for the next 45 years. They were married on a windy March day a year later in Midway Country Church and they spent their first years of marriage in Ashland, AL near Steve's family. In 1981 they welcomed Stephanie Lou to their family and a year later moved back to the panhandle of Oklahoma, where Lindsey Leigh was born in 1983. The young family relocated across the state line to Follett, TX in 1988 and soon after a third daughter, Ashley Lane joined the crew in 1990.

Cathy worked as a postal clerk for both Old Logan and Follett Post Offices and eventually took over the roll as Postmaster at Follett. Her smile always lit up the room and she was a bright light in the heart of the small town. She saw many people every day, but few really see people as Cathy did. She excelled at her job, but it was never about the job, it was about the people that she loved.

She was an amazing mother and wife and she and Steve made a home full of joy, laughter, and love. Together they instilled in their girls a fervent love of God, a love of people, and a willingness to work. Countless hours were spent supporting the girls in every event they took part in, since they would never think of missing a game or performance.

Their home was always filled with music as the whole family loved to play instruments and sing together, and they took their talents to Midway Country Church, where they loved being a part of their church family and served in many ways. Steve and Cathy were thrilled to help build a community youth group in Follett and it was common to see the street lined with cars in front of their house as teens poured into their "second home" where they were fed spiritually but also fed physically as Cathy wasn't one to ever let someone be even a little bit hungry. She was always welcoming and soon she welcomed three sons-in-law that she loved dearly as her own.

If you thought Cathy was a good mother, just wait until you hear about what a grandmother she was! Lovingly dubbed "Nan" by Logan, her first grandchild, she was the picture of what a grandma should be. 13 grandchildren were born one after another and her heart must have grown 13 sizes because she loved each one as if they were the most precious person on earth. The number of books read, bedtime stories told and ballgames watched were endless. The amount of food she cooked for everyone, the crayon art to be admired and the mountain of shoes at the door was unfathomable. The presents under the Christmas tree, overflowing stockings, eggs to be filled and hidden were equally unbelievable.. She was having the time of her life.

When she was able to retire and become full time "Nanny" she could not have been happier. Her retirement also meant she and Steve were able to spend summers living on the farm and gardening together, which was something they both loved. On cool summer mornings they could be found in the greenhouse singing songs of worship together and praying over their family as they picked and pruned. It was her greatest desire that all those that came after her would serve the Lord.



Cathy faced many hardships, the last of which was metastatic breast cancer, with strength and grace. She had the most beautiful, genuine smile that could put anyone at ease and she wore it through every appointment, every treatment, every report. They told her she might have three years to live and she lived six. She was one of the select few who could rise to meet challenges with a smile, and that smile meant that everyone was Cathy's friend. She touched the lives of so many in her 66 years.

Cathy was preceded in death by her parents, Winton and Billie (Gardner) Jett and her brother W.D. Jett. Left to cherish her memory are her husband, Steve, , Coby and Stephanie Cook and their children, Logan and wife Diona, Jerah, Tyler and Haddie, Ben and Lindsey Danner and their children Shai, Judah, Ezra, Psalm(Chum), and Boaz, Tanner and Ashley Woods and their children Brynli, Rainee, Jeff and Joleigh, and brother Stanley Jett and family

**Rest, Nan. Well Done!**

A Memorial Service was held in Cathy's honor on Nov, 15, 2024 at Trinity Faith Fellowship Church in Laverne, OK.

### **Joyce Darlene Lohmann– 1945-2024**

Joyce Darlene Lohmann was called home to heaven by the Lord on Nov. 12, 2024 in Kissimmee, Florida. She was born June 3, 1945, to Edward and Eunice Lohmann in Guymon, Oklahoma.

She was a student of the Apostolic Faith Bible School in Baxter Springs, KS for three terms, 1965, 1966 and 1967.

She moved to Florida in 1990 with her brother and sister where she worked for Walt Disney World until she retired in 2010.

She is predeceased by her brother David who passed away in 1998. She leaves one surviving sister, Cheryl in Kissimmee, Florida.

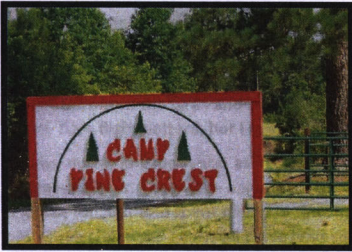


**Apostolic Faith Church, Baxter Springs, Kansas**, or as the students fondly refer to it, Baxter Chapel, which ironically is the name of a funeral home just a half mile away, is a pinnacle of the Apostolic Faith Bible College experience. Many people have passed through, and few have stayed, but what has been constant are the experiences that have taken place within these walls. From countless hours of prayer to many attempts (some failures) at preaching, corporate breakthroughs, revivals and miracles, this is a place where students, staff, residents of Baxter Springs, and people from all over have come together to be united in worshipping our Lord and Savior. This is a place where hearts have been transformed. I, Machaira Wasson, have had the privilege of spending these last 7 months interning with Cody Harris, and I have come to appreciate the church on a whole new level.

While not many people attend church at the Apostolic Faith Church, the ones that continue to show up and serve, are the most faithful people I have ever met! Hardly ever are they put in the spotlight, and it seems to me they like it that way. They have shown me that silent support is just as powerful as loud loyalty. They have taught me that it means to love from behind the scenes. We may not be big in numbers, but the spirit of the Lord is active and very powerful among our church members. If you ever look back at your time at the Apostolic Faith Church, I hope it puts a smile on your face thinking about all the fond memories you have of attending, because I know it does for me!

Machaira Wasson- 3rd Year Student





## *My First Ministry Experience-by Fred Huff*

It was the summer of 1965. I was 16 years old and my brother Dennis was 18. We were both Christians and had been invited to help with the "gospel work" that summer. Our pastor in Midwest City, was Brother Harold Bollinger. He encouraged us to accept the invitation and offer ourselves as servants of the Lord.

Our father, Wayne Huff was naturally concerned for our safety, but he encouraged us also. Dad had been a "gospel worker" as a young man himself. He made a generous contribution to our work by letting us drive his best car for the summer. It was a sleek, black Studebaker Hawk with a 289 V8 engine and a 3 speed transmission with overdrive. It got great gas mileage for such a sporty car. Now that I am older, I appreciate more fully the sacrifice Dad made to help us. Not only did he give up his favorite car. He took over all the yard work and other chores that Dennis and I usually did.

Our first stop was in Shattuck. OK to help Bro. L.J. Ehrlich start a new church. There was plenty of cleaning, painting and yard work to do. I remember being scared while painting the church steeple. I got the assignment because I was the tallest, I had never been afraid of heights, but this was different. I stood on that steep roof, on a step ladder, while reaching up as high as I could, struggling to paint the top of that steeple in the Oklahoma wind. Two ropes were tied around my waist, Brother L.J. was on the ground holding the rope on one side of the church while Dennis held the rope on the other side. I'm thankful that we never had to test those emergency measures, and I was very happy when the job was done. By the way, I have never painted another steeple and certainly don't plan to ever do it again.

The next stop I remember was in Baptist Ford, AR, where Brother and Sister Alfred Whitely were pastors. I played the guitar and sang and Dennis preached. The Whiteleys and their church people were very kind to us. Next we stopped at Cave Springs, AR where a young couple, Roland and Loretta Haney were pastors. We really enjoyed spending time with them and their two little boys. I remember pushing Marty on the swings. He was just a little guy then. They were kind enough to let us minister to their congregation. The people were so friendly and the food was wonderful. We left Cave Springs heading for the camp in Pine Crest, MS. What a trip! It seemed like we seldom got above 40 miles per hour on those curvy AR roads. By the time we got close to the camp, it was late at night. We had never been there but we noticed on the map that the camp was near Hinton, AL I remember Dennis saying that if we missed the camp we could get a motel in Hinton. We had a good laugh about that later. All we saw in Hinton was two mailboxes on the highway.

I will never forget getting out of the car at the Pine Crest Camp. We were deep in the woods, but the night calls from the birds and crickets made a deafening roar. I was raised under the Tinker Air Force Base flight pattern, but I never expected to hear a roar like that deep in the woods.

This was my 1st experience as a Youth Camp Counselor. My group consisted of 8 nine year old boys. They were eager to learn and I was eager to teach what little I knew. We had lots of fun, but also spent plenty of time in prayer together and talking about God's Word. It was wonderful to see nearly all those boys seeking God at the altar that week.

I shared with them the things I had learned from the Bible and told them the stories of how God had worked in my life. They also enjoyed hearing me play the guitar and singing some of the songs I had written, I always encouraged them to go to the altar with me and pray after each service. I tried to help them understand that God loved each one of them and wanted to touch their lives, as He had touched mine. One night, after all the boys but one finished praying, they were restless and wanted to go back to the dorm. After about 30 minutes, I felt I should go check on him. I was wearing a white shirt and white jeans, which were to become part of this story. Most of the lights were off in the tabernacle, but I could see the young man still praying at the altar. I walked down one side of the tabernacle and sat at the end of the altar about 50 feet from where the boy was. While I prayed for him quietly, I heard an uproar from the boys dorm, so I quietly got up, walked around the end of the tabernacle and went back to the dorm. In just a few minutes, the boy who had been praying came running into the dorm shouting, "Bro. Fred! Brother Fred! I just saw an angel!



After he quieted down a little, I asked him to tell me what he saw. He said he was praying and asked God to show him a "sign". The next thing he knew he saw a figure, dressed in all white, walk into the tabernacle, sit on the altar and pray for him. Then the figure just got up and walked away. He was so excited that I just didn't know whether to tell the "angel" he saw was only me, in my white shirt and jeans. But he had given his heart to Jesus and I was very thankful for that. I have thought about that incident many times through the years. It occurs to me that we never know how our actions may affect someone else. I know that little boy saw me, not an angel, that night. But I also know that what he saw seemed like an answer to prayer for him.

Did God use me that moment to be a "ministering spirit" to that little boy? It could be. The memory of that event makes me want to be careful to follow every prompting of the Holy Spirit. None of us knows when God might use us to be the answer to someone's prayer.

I was really impressed with what it meant to be in the deep woods of Mississippi in June. It seemed to cloud up and rain every afternoon. Sometimes it rained hard, but only for a few minutes. When the rain stopped, you could see steam rising all around. The rain kept things damp, but it didn't cool us off at all. Later in life, while pasturing the church in Balko, OK I thought several times about how nice one of those afternoon thunderstorms would feel there.

One afternoon during youth camp, Brother Lowell Long, who had a farm nearby, brought a pickup load of watermelons for the campers. I never saw kids have any more fun eating watermelons than they did that day.

Brother Jerome and Sister Peggy Crowhurst were living at Pine Crest at that time and Brother and Sister George Hindergart were the pastors at the nearby Hinton Church. I have never met any people who worked harder or prayed more faithfully than those 4 wonderful people. Many of the vegetables that were served at the camp were grown in the large garden by the Crowhurst's hose. I remember the tomatoes, beans and squash as being especially tasty. Once, just after a meal one of the men from the community asked me, "So, how do you like goat meat?" I told him I had never eaten goat meat. He just laughed and said, "That's what you had for supper!" Maybe I didn't notice because of the spices but the meal tasted very good to me.

The 2nd week of camp was called Camp Meeting. It was for adults as well as kids. I must confess something that embarrasses me every time I think of it, even today. I had been playing the guitar for about 4 years and I thought I was doing well with it. I had even learned to do a little picking while strumming the chords with a song. The camp directors were kind enough to ask me to sing during the services often. Then one night a local group came to sing at camp. They played gospel music with a heavy bluegrass/country flavor. I enjoyed their "foot stomping" style of music but thought to myself that their guitar music was simple. Naturally I preferred my style to theirs. After the service a young man from our dorm ran up to me and said, "Bro. Fred, if you practice a lot Maybe someday you will be able to play like those guys!" I learned 2 lessons that day. First, we don't all have the same taste in music, and that's ok. Second, nothing can deflate the ego of a teenager quicker than the honest opinion of a child. Those lessons have helped me not to take myself too seriously through the years. God uses each of us and the gifts and talents He has given us. When I just share with others what the Lord has given me and trust God for the results, everything works out just fine.

After the camps were over, Bro. Jim Arnall invited my brother and me, along with the newlyweds, Earl and Carol Malone, to come to their church at Pine Hill, AL for a revival. That was an amazing experience. Den- nie and Bro. Earl took turns preaching and Sis. Carol and I helped with the music. I was amazed at how big the crowds were. Everyone treated us like celebrities, and the Spirit of the Lord touched hearts every night. Bro. & Sis. Arnall were wonderful hosts. They took such good care of their 4 guests along with their 2 young children, Kayla and Steve. The meals were outstanding. I don't know how she managed that large group the way she did. If I remember right they were living in a travel trailer behind the church and a lot of our meals were served on a picnic table. I became good friends with their son Steve that summer. He was 6 years old and was learning to play baseball. I spent a lot of time pitching the ball to him. It's amazing to remember how we got to know each other. Steve and Cathy had 3 beautiful daughters and 13 grandchildren. It's a good thing Steve learned to entertain from his parents. He certainly raised a family to love the Lord. Many times I have seen Steve as a 6 year old in the faces of his grandchildren. God took care of me & my brother that summer. We met people I will never forget. Looking back at what happened 60 years ago, I am so thankful for God's mercy and grace and the opportunities He has given me to minister to His people.



## **Famine for the Word of God**

By Rev. Bill Derixson- Alvin, TX

Amos 8:11-12- Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: and they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord: and shall not find it,

The nation of America has developed spiritually to the likes of Sodom and Gomorrah. We are living in a time where the majority of the population care only for the things that create their own happiness. The government is stealing more freedoms from the people while promising them self-indulgence. When did the government get involved with population control, sexual identity, rent control and individual self-esteem over what race God made you? I'll tell you, when we entered a famine for the hearing of the words of the Lord.

When the Word of the Lord is not preached and taught, people serve themselves. We have so much greed, injustice, idleness and luxury at the expense of others, because we have despised the Word of the Lord. We are traditionally religious but practice little to no true righteousness. We disregard God's warnings of impending judgment, like hitting snooze on our alarm clocks. No one wants to wake up to the reality that we are far from God and will face His wrath for sins committed. Such as, the murder of innocent lives in the womb, the reassignment of genders, as if we can do better than God, and the institution of marriage between same sex couples, which is sterile and blatantly against God's command to be fruitful and multiply.

God said that the famine that would destroy us would not be a hunger for food and a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing and understanding God's Word is far worse a judgment. Even though the Word is preached multiple times a week, it is God who opens the eyes and ears of our understanding to be able to receive the truth of it. What if God sent no more true prophets to us to reveal His Word? We see the lack of spiritual understanding in the leadership of our churches already. What hope is there for their congregations? If the righteous are scarcely saved, what hope is there for ministry to those lost in sin and shame? The hope is always in God and His mercies toward us. But He has warned us He will not always strive with man. We better begin meaning business with God.

Repent! Turn from your sin, Call on the Lord while he may be found, reach for Him while He is near. Hide God's Word in your heart, that you might not sin against Him. Meditate on that Word by day and night, until the Lord grants you a revelation of Himself, Be reproved, grow in knowledge and in the fear of the Lord, and stay connected to God. Blessed are the hungry and thirsty for righteousness for they shall be filled.

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## It Paid Off

Author Unknown

A sergeant was telling his family about his conversion. He had gone into the army as a unbeliever, but had come out a saved man. "How did it happen?" asked his brother.

"It happened one night in the barracks." Then he went on to tell the story: "We had a private in our company who live his Christianity all the time. We gave that fellow an awful time. "One night we came in after having marched in a terrible rain. All of us were very wet and tired. Our one thought was to find the quickest way to get to bed. But this Christian private took time to kneel down and have his prayer time with the Lord.

This made me so angry, that I picked up one of my muddy boots and threw it at him.. It hit him on the side of his head, but this did not stop him from praying. I picked up my other boot and heaved it in his direction. I hit him again, but he continued to pray."

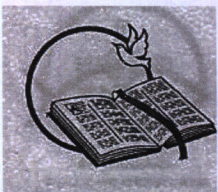
"The next morning, beside my bunk stood my boots beautifully cleaned and polished."

"That broke me, and I was saved that day. After what I had done to him, he had shown this kindness to me."

Christian people can learn a great deal from an attitude like that of the private. He not only talked his religion, but he showed it in his day-to-day actions.

The Bible tells us to love those that hate us, and do good to those who persecute us. Certainly this was evident in the life of the private.

Is it evident in your life? Do you show kindness, tolerance and Christian love to fellow students, co-workers and others who question your belief in God?



If you can find  
your way around a  
Bible,

thank a Sunday School teacher!

**Thy word have I hid in mine heart,  
That I might not sin against thee.**

**Psalms 119:11**

## God Answers Prayer

I know not by what methods rare,  
But this I know, God answers prayer.  
I know that He has given His word,  
Which tells me prayer is always heard.  
And will be answered, soon or late,  
And so I pray, and calmly wait.

I know not if the blessing sought  
Will come in just the way I thought,  
But leave my prayers with Him alone,  
Whose will is wiser than my own.  
Assured that He will grant my quest,  
Or send some answer far more blest.



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CAROL OAKES  
584 W. NICHOLS  
GRANDTOWN, MO 64054

## **Rock Island Camp Meeting 2025**

I grew up going to Rock Island Camp Meeting and it was so good to go back. It was the first time since I was a little kid that I was able to attend services throughout the day as I no longer had to go to school. It was a good time of fellowship and community. We shared similar experiences together for a week and created bonds that we'll remember and have for a lifetime. And our unity with each other pushed us closer to the Lord. For our Bible College group, we grew closer together and those light hearted moments of joking around while cleaning led the way for us to be more vulnerable with each other in the spiritual moments and to intercede and support each other. It was intentional time set aside for us to take a break from our classes and really focus on the Lord, press in, and hear Him. It grew us physically, relationally and spiritually- what more could you ask for from Camp Meeting?

Leah Harris

### **Unfeigned Faith**

Camp Meeting, I feel, is an event everyone should experience. It's not about the preachers or the singing but about spending time as a whole to worship. Learn and dedicate ourselves to God. It should never be about hearing all the best preachers, that kind of thinking is all wrong. When you focus on the articulation of the messages and songs that God has orchestrated, you will see how cool God is. This is at least and I probably speak for the whole group that went, what we all saw. Prayer, fasting, devotion, living. And seeing ourselves as children and once more heirs of God. This aggregation of principles could all be wrapped up in one word and that is love.

One night, after Joey Dolpies preached, all of us Bible students stayed behind to pray and seek the Lord. While I am being honest, I didn't necessarily receive anything on my own, we believe one of the other students did receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, which is what we were intently praying for. We showed that it could be done, that when we stand in agreement, something will be done. God is not playing hide and seek with us. We can often be dull with God, giving Him only half to none of what we actually have to offer. When I look back at this revival, I'm sure it will kindle my faith to press forward and not stop. I will see victory if I am looking and seeking! II Timothy 1:5-7

Jeremiah Robbins