

THOSE TO SERVE February 23, 2020

Worship Leader: Tim Spain
 Shepherd's Prayer: Greg Ferguson
 Lord's Supper: Jeff Nicks, Mike McCage, Jimmy Smith, Steve Muse, Greg Ferguson, Tony Dobson
 Scripture Reading: Kim Robertson
 Closing Prayer: Keith Connor
 Power Point: Tim Spain
 Greeters (side): Jeff & Sissy Nicks
 (back): Jerry & Tammy Ross

DAILY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

February 16 Leviticus 11-13
 February 17 Leviticus 14-15
 February 18 Leviticus 16-18
 February 19 Leviticus 19-21
 February 20 Leviticus 22-23
 February 21 Leviticus 24-25
 February 22 Leviticus 26-27

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

February 14-16	Winterfest	Gatlinburg, TN
February 23	Youth & Family Devotional	The Spains' house
February 29	Girls' Day	
March 7	8:30 am— 1:00 pm Ladies' Day	Humboldt Church of Christ
March 6-7	Women of Hope Weekend	Murfreesboro, TN
March 9	6-8:00 pm Parents' Date Night	
April 1-7, 2020	Mexico Mission Trip	Mexico
June 1-5	Youth Memphis Work Camp	
July 5-10	MSYC	
July 30 – August 1	Youth White Water Rafting	

OUR CHINESE FAMILY

Through the Agape Asia Foundation, our church sponsors nine Chinese children whose families are too poor, ill, handicapped, troubled and/or absent/deceased to care for them. Some of them live in care centers when the Chinese government allows the centers to stay open (they closed some in 2019). Of course any and all use of Christian terminology or practices by the foundation (and us) is under constant government scrutiny.

In addition to financial support, our church provides a sort of fellowship with these children through letters exchanged with church volunteers. We hope that letters from "real" Americans help the Chinese to see that we care about and encourage them and are interested in their lives. This correspondence is also a wonderful way for us to learn about

"real" Chinese people who, contrary to popular American opinion, are not pagan monsters and idiots, and who do not necessarily agree with the policies and actions of the Chinese government. (China is not, after all a democracy.)

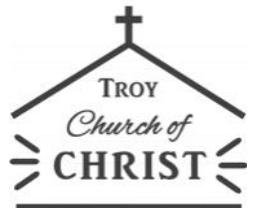
In 2019, one of our Chinese boys left the Agape program when he didn't pass his college entrance exam and had to look for a full-time job. He was replaced by a Mongolian youngster named Bayartsaikhan Khishigbayar. A 13-yr-old orphan, he is a good student and a chess champion, living in grim conditions with his sister, their very poor, disabled grandparents, and alcoholic aunt and uncle.

Recently Bayartsaikhan Khishigbayar and his grandfather were able to buy a treasure trove of good things with money provided by our church, and they thank us profusely for a pencil box, a ballpoint pen and re-fills, a set of notebooks, two sketchpads and a chess set. Proof that life can be good even without a cell-phone!

I look forward to getting to know this young fellow better because my own China travels were in southern and northeastern China. Mongolia, with its Mongolian Empire and Russian connections, is whole new world for me...and you!

- Jean





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THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 16, 2020

Worship Leader: Tim Spain
 Lord's Supper: Paul Hill
 Scripture Reading: Landon McCage
 Sermon: Ron Newberry
 Closing Prayer: Brian Clark
 Elder Available After Worship: Chris Gooch
 Children's Church: Rachel Clark
 Attended Nursery: Annette Dobbins
 Nursery Next Week: Renee Ferguson
 Greeters (side): James & Betty Bumpus
 (back): Royce & Brenda Aker



PRAYER LIST

OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Mary Johnson, Vernelle Sellers, Vallie Burden, Anita Nicks, Aaron Tittle.

OUR COMMUNITY: Yates Graham, Scott Albright, Hudson Hayes, Debbie Jordan, Mary Hessler, Debbie Bowling, Evelyn Williams, Carl Ivey, Michelle Cook (Brian Clark's boss), Shawn Weaks, Jean McCullough

OUR RELATIVES & FRIENDS: Erica Albritton, Alan Jones, William Gardner, Hazel Williams, Terry Grady, Louis Woods (cousin of Aaron Tittle), Adam & Jennifer Cooley, Katie Harris, Clinton Battles, Jason Elliott; Kimberly & Giovanni Rodriguez, Tresa Mudd (Autumn Garrigus's mom), Dwight Baggett, Philis Wilkinson (Amy Hawkins' mom), Bob Yates, Thomas Aker, Brenda Green

THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY: Jay Thomas, Thomas Booker, Chris Mays, Rebecca Gooch, Claire Lloyd, Brady Moore, Dakota McCord, Matt Hester, Clayton Fowler, Brady Moore, Chris Floyd, Eb McCage

MISSIONS WE SUPPORT: Baja California, City of Children, China, Guyana, Zambia.



We've learned that a number of celebrities have died in the past couple of weeks. Among them are Kirk Douglas, Adam West and Kobe Bryant. Another one passed away last week. The talk-show host and actor Orson Bean was killed by a car as he was trying to cross the street in Venice, CA. He was 91 years old.

In an interview a few years ago, Orson acknowledged that he struggled with happiness for much of his life. While a surprise to most Hollywood types, it should come as no surprise to us, that he eventually found happiness in his relationship with God.

As he reflected on his life and told an interviewer that for most of my life he didn't believe in God. He just didn't have time for God. Bean explained that he was too busy with things of this world: getting ahead, finding sexual conquests, becoming famous.

"I didn't want to be famous for its own sake. I wanted to be famous so as to be happy," he admitted. And yet happiness turned out to be more elusive than Bean expected.

He was disappointed when fame did not make him happy. Yes, it did for a while. But that was false happiness and true happiness proved to be elusive. For a while, he made money and it was fun. He wanted more, so he graduated to drugs and booze. "They worked, too, for a while (quite a long while, actually)," he said.

Then one day he confessed that it just stopped working and became nothing. He enrolled in a 12-step program and eventually asked a tough-looking member named Bobby: "What should I do?"

"Get down on your knees," Bobby told him, "and thank God every morning. Then, do it again at night."

Bean's response was he didn't think he even believed in God. "It doesn't matter," Bobby said. "Just do it."

"Why do I have to get down on my knees?"

"He likes it," said Bobby.

Bean said, "And that's all he said to me. He stood there looking at me for a minute and then I said OK and thanked him and he took off."

Though he admitted that it felt a little silly, that very night Bean got down on his knees and said, "If there's anybody up there, thank you for the day." He said he slept like a log and in the morning got down on his knees again and said, "If there's anybody there, thank you for my night's sleep."

Little by little it stopped feeling foolish. He began to feel his prayer was being heard and that whoever was out there loved him.

Later Bean would read C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. He said that he came to finally tell himself, "I'll buy that Jesus is the son of God." And his life got better and better. "That little prayer was what did it for me," Bean told the interviewer.

He added, "I don't know anyone who doesn't have an empty spot at the center of him, which must be filled in order to be really happy. That spot, like it or not, is reserved for God" and only He can make you 'lastingly happy.'"

Some people learn this late in life. Others learn it quite early. Unfortunately some don't learn it at all. And by the way, that on the knees business is worth the effort. If you aren't in the habit of doing that, you might try it sometime...because he likes it.

- Ron

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:30 am — Bible Study
 10:30 am — Worship
 6:00 pm — Small Group Discussions

WEDNESDAY SERVICES

6:30 pm — Bible Study

Worship Service

February 16, 2020

Welcome

238 "You Are the Song That I Sing"
 543 "Wonderful Words of Life"
 719 "Love One Another"

Shepherd's Prayer

555 "Seek Ye First"
 364 "Come Share the Lord"

Communion

Contribution

771 "Lord Speak to Me"
 448 "The Greatest Commands"

Scripture Reading

Sermon

"Inside Out"

Family News

238 "You Are the Song That I Sing"

Closing Prayer