
THOUGHTS & TRAVELS



BibleMethodist

CONNECTION OF CHURCHES

Events:

January Prayer Focus

The Bible Methodist community of Churches have planned for 21 days of prayer in January. We begin the 4th and conclude the 24th. There will be a daily prayer focus posted on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Sunday the 24th we plan to gather for Pray Around the World. There will be a video available to each pastor and church, simply request a copy.

Weekly Devotionals:

Following the leadership and encouragement of Michael Avery, the Connectional Chairman, we have instituted a weekly devotional program.

Each Wednesday you may click on the Bible Methodist Channel of YouTube and watch an inspirational and instructional devotional.

Leadership Retreat with Executive Committee

Purpose:	Mid America / Southwest interaction
Dates:	January 21-23, 2021
Leading:	Dr. Michael Avery

Serving churches in:

Colorado

Kentucky

Louisiana

Idaho

Oklahoma

Texas

Location: Arrowhead Conference and Retreat Center

Connectional Ministerial 2020:

- This event is March 16-18, 2021
- Higher Ground, West Harrison, IN
- Reservations - please email melba_sams@icloud.com

Prayer and Praise:

- During your Sunday morning pastoral prayer, please pray for the church in Millersburg, Kentucky and Pastor Jolly.
 - Pray for the President, Congress, Judiciary, Governors and local governments during this time of political transition.
 - Pray for Tim Keep and Bible Methodist Missions.
 - Pray for the Muir's as they minister in Mexico.
 - Pray for Troyers. They are on extended furlough.
 - Pray for Marika Herrer ministering in South Africa.
 - Pray for Shirley Fogleman and the ministry in Papua New Guinea. She has requested special prayer while dealing with a woman who is demon possessed!
 - Pray for R.G. and Sarah Hutchison. They are presently in the US.
 - Pray for David Martinez who is studying in preparation for ministry in Mexico.
 - Pray for an old friend, Richard Gremillion, as he struggles with COVID.
 - Please pray for Heartland Conference, Great Lakes Conference and the Southern Conference. COVID and the ramifications have made their ministries very difficult.
 - Pray for Rhonda Gardner's Father, Buddy Sarver, who is very ill.
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- Thank the Lord for His help yesterday. Connectional Chairman Michael Avery, Conference President Darrell Stetler II and I met to refresh and refine the agenda for next weeks Leadership Retreat.
 - Praise the Lord for a great report from Pastor Steele and the church at DeRidder, LA.
 - Praise the Lord for His strength and wisdom.

Thoughts:

For many days now this song, written by Edward Mote, has been in my mind.

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

When darkness veils his lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace,
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, his covenant, his blood
Supports me in the 'whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

May we focus on the strength and power of the Lord God and His investment in our lives and Churches. He is the foundation of life and faith, He is our hope for time and eternity.

Personal:

Last Saturday, Melba and I drove to Whitehouse, Texas and had dinner with Pastor Eric Going, his wife, Nancy and their youngest child, Rhett. Sunday it was my privilege to preach at Whitehouse and then lead the installation ritual for Pastor Going. It is a great joy to have them on the pastoral team in The Southwest Conference. Following the service and very nice fellowship meal we drove home.



Above Left: Pastor Going and his family with the Board and Sams.



Above right: Congregation at Whitehouse last Sunday morning.

Early Monday morning I was asked to help with some of the damage from the snow storm that blew through Texas. I drove to Lufkin, Texas and spent until Tuesday mid-day with “wire down.”

Tuesday, I drove home and had a very nice evening meal at the home of Stephen, Connie and Maddy Snodgrass. Following the meal we did some preparations for fulfilling the desires of the Conference Finance Committee.

Wednesday, Melba and I drove to Oklahoma City. We spent time with Darrell and Liz Stetler and their children. Brother Stetler and I did a Zoom meeting with Connectional Chairman, Michael Avery. The meeting was for purpose of finalizing plans for next weeks Leadership Retreat for members of the Executive Committees for Mid America and Southwest.

Thursday has been occupied with office work. In the evening we attended service at Durant.

Saturday morning, Melba and I plan to host Stephen Snodgrass, Mark Russell and Jim Dunegan for breakfast. The fellows will then work on creating policy, rising from the Finance Committee's request. The plan is to prepare policy for the Conference Revolving Fund.

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