



# Thoughts & Travels

Southwest Conference of the Bible Methodist Connection of Churches:

Serving Churches in:

**Arkansas**

**Colorado**

**Idaho**

**Kansas**

**Kentucky**

**Louisiana**

**Missouri**

**New Mexico**

**Oklahoma**

**Texas**

## Thoughts:

Mother's Day is a special time of year. There are so many Biblical examples of mothers and their influence on their families and communities. Think of Elizabeth who raised John Baptist, or Mary who raised Jesus. In the Old Testament women like Samuel's mother, Hannah or Moses' mother, Jochebed, were incredible examples.

Have you taken time to study Rizpah? The mother who guarded the bodies of her sons and other sons of Saul, through harvest season, is an amazing example of persistence and dedication. Through the heat of the day, cool of the night, rain and wind, she was on the rock keeping the birds and beasts from tearing the bodies of the men. What an incredible woman.

Paul honored the women who responded to the Gospel he preached and who became partners with him in spreading and strengthening the church. Often women, and especially mothers have a deep and lasting influence in the community of faith.

Be sure to honor the women in your congregation Sunday! They have often suffered more, and born more than they will ever tell you. They love deeply and pray continually.

## Personal:



## Events:

### Mother's Day

- May 14, 2023

### Youth Camp:

- Date: June 26-30, 2023
- Speaker: Marc Sankey
- Contact: Pastor Crouch - (812) 734-6946

### Family Camp:

- Annual Conference July 25
- Date: July 25-30
- Speakers: Dr. Paul Kaufman and Duane Quesenberry
- Contact LaFreda Roundtree to

<b>Conference Finances:</b>	
<b>April 2023</b>	
Operating Receipts:	\$7,899.71
Operating Expenses:	<u>\$5,411.27</u>
Total	\$2,488.44

Sunday we worshiped in Durant. The Lord helped us in the service though several of our people were out.

Monday, I attended cardio rehab. Tuesday Melba and I worked in the yard of the parsonage.

Wednesday included cardio rehab again. Following that I worked on some material I've been asked to present at SIM Board Meeting in a couple weeks. I also worked in the office preparing for evening service.

Today has included yard work and office work. Saturday we plan to be with the Dodd family for a birthday celebration and Sunday we plan to celebrate Mother's Day in Durant.

## Prayer:

- Pastor, during your Pastoral prayer, please lift Durant, OK and Pastor Sams to the Lord. I would encourage you to mention the highlighted church during your pastoral prayer. It is a good time to remind your people of the other churches in the Conference.
- Pray for Connectional Leadership: Blake Jones, Jack Hooker, R.G. Hutchison, Chelle Durr, Michael Avery and Bob Blankenship.
- Pray for Missionaries: Brennan and Ivon Muir, Shirley Fogleman, Maricka Herrero and David Martinez.
- Pray for a possible opening in the ministry of Troys.
- Pray for your Conference Leadership and Executive Committee.
- Pray for Conference Extension Chairman Todd Hurst and the churches in Mena, Arkansas, Millersburg, Kentucky and Grants, New Mexico.
- Pray for Whitehouse as they search for a pastor and for Goings as they transition to Pennsylvania.
- Pray for Jamie Gremillion - son of Richard. Jamie has advanced cancer.
- Pray for Pastor Aaron Johnson. He faces a procedure on a tumor behind his eye.

## Praise:

- Thank the Lord for the progress at Grant, NM!