



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:

Dr. Dennis Kinlaw wrote, "I remember once during WW II when I spoke to GI's at an evangelistic service. One of the soldiers lingered afterward to talk. Once we were alone, he said, "I would like to become a Christian."

"Why?" I asked.

"Well I don't want to go to hell." he replied.

"I suppose that is a good reason." I responded. "I don't know if it is the noblest reason, but it is perfectly legitimate one. All right, then, will you give your life to Christ?"

The soldier stiffened, "Oh I could never do that." he said. "Are you sure a man has to do that to be a Christian?"

I turned in my New Testament to read Jesus' words, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up my cross and follow me. For whosoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and the gospel will save it."

"I have plans for my life!" He exclaimed. "How can I give my life to Christ if I already have my own plans?"

I wanted to take that soldier's hand and shake it for his crystal-clear honesty. The man sensed the contradiction.

Most of us panic when Christ comes into our lives like this. The foremost reason is our inordinate fear of what he will do with our lives when we allow him to take control. But is there any good reason to suppose that Jesus would make a mistake in our lives?"



Events:

Father's Day:

- June 18

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

Conference Finances:

April 2023

Operating Receipts:	\$7,899.71
Operating Expenses:	<u>\$5,411.27</u>
Total	\$2,488.44

Personal:

Last Sunday we worshiped in Durant.

Monday I attended cardio rehab. Later in the day we had the privilege of welcoming Melba's sister, Janie and her husband, Chuck to our home. Tuesday we enjoyed a day of shopping and interaction with family.

Wednesday I attended my last cardio. Later in the day I prepared for evening service.

Saturday we plan to drive to Miltonvale, Kansas for Sunday.

Monday we plan to drive to Pierre, South Dakota for a Society of Indian Mission board meeting. We plan to be home Friday the 26th.

Prayer:

- Pastor, during your Pastoral prayer, please lift Grants, New Mexico 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 Troyers.
- 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 surgery on a tumor behind his eye.

Praise:

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