



# 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:

Simone Weil wrote about the Lord's Prayer's opening statement, "*Our Father which art in heaven.*"

"He is our Father. There is nothing real in us which does not come from him. We belong to him. He loves us, he loves himself and we are his... We do not have to search for him, we only have to change the direction in which we are looking. It is for him to search for us. We must be happy in the knowledge that he is infinitely beyond our reach. Thus we can be certain that the evil in us, even if it overwhelms our whole being, in no way sullies the divine purity, bliss and perfection."

That is not to say, and I don't believe Simone means to imply that if we live in sin God just overlooks the evil or sin. My understanding, is she reminds us that He has the power and presence to lift us into the life He has for us. His nature never changes, our may be radically changed through His presence and blood.

He is our Father!

## Personal:

Last Sunday I had the privilege of preaching at Oklahoma City, OK for Pastor Stetler. Stetlers have been in OKC for 20 years. The church people orchestrated a celebration to honor those years and say thank you to Stetlers.



## Events:

### 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 register; 580) 736-2526 or [lroundtreectal@yahoo.com](mailto:lroundtreectal@yahoo.com)

### Conference Finances:

#### May 2023

Operating Receipts:	\$5,567.27
Operating Expenses:	\$4,809.15
Total	\$ 758.12

Following the morning service, Melba and I drove home to host Penn View's group Majesty. Following the service we enjoyed a fellowship meal with the church people the group. Monday morning we bid them good bye.

Tuesday our son Larry arrived and spend two days with us. This morning he left to fly home and we left to attend a day at Youth Camp.

Friday Chuck and Janie Dodd will be with us for a few days. Sunday we plan to be in Durant for the services.

## Prayer:

- Pastor, during your Pastoral prayer, please lift Mena, Arkansas and Jenkins 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 Herrer 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 Duncan as they search for a pastor and for Crouches as they move to Tennessee.
- Pray for Patsy Taylor, who has suffered strokes and is in hospital.
- Pray for Pastor Hurst's father-in-law who has suffered a broken hip.
- Pray for the Nathan Carpenter family as they grieve his loss.

## Praise:

- Thank the Lord for a sense of His refreshing in my spirit.
- Thank the Lord for people who are hungry for the Gospel!