



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:

Oswalt Chambers wrote in a devotional, "The simplicity that is in Christ. 2 CORINTHIANS 11:3

Simplicity is the secret of seeing things clearly. A saint does not think clearly for a long while, but a saint ought to see clearly without any difficulty. You cannot think a spiritual muddle clear, you have to obey it clear. In intellectual matters you can think things out, but in spiritual matters you will think yourself into cotton wool. If there is something upon which God has put His pressure, obey in that matter, bring your imagination into captivity to the obedience of Christ with regard to it and everything will become as clear as daylight. The reasoning capacity comes afterwards, but we never see along that line, we see like children; when we try to be wise we see nothing (Matthew 11:25).

The tiniest thing we allow in our lives that is not under the control of the Holy Spirit is quite sufficient to account for spiritual muddle, and all the thinking we like to spend on it will never make it clear. Spiritual muddle is only made plain by obedience. Immediately we obey, we discern. This is humiliating, because when we are muddled we know the reason is in the temper of our mind. When the natural power of vision is devoted to the Holy Spirit, it becomes the power of perceiving God's will and the whole life is kept in simplicity.

Personal:

Last Saturday Melba and I enjoyed dinner with Mike and Amy Eavey, then Sunday morning we worshipped with them in Ft. Wayne, IN. Sunday evening we drove to Cincinnati. Monday we had



Events:

Future Pastors Conference:

- September 21-23
- Pell City, Alabama

Ladies Retreat:

- September 14-13
- Colorado Springs, CO

Thanksgiving

- November 23

Advent

- December 3 - 1st Sunday of Advent
- December 10 - 2nd Sunday of Advent
- December 17 - 3rd Sunday of Advent
- December 24- 4th Sunday of Advent

Conference Finances:

August 2023

Operating Receipts:	\$9,160.45
Operating Expenses:	\$12,744.50
Total	\$3,584.05

breakfast with Daryl and Marilyn Muir. I dropped Melba and the Cincinnati airport (she spent some 8 hours in the airport because of mechanical and problems) and then drove to our son Dan's home. Dan and one of his sons joined be in a dinner with a grand son Jason and his fiancé Jessica. Following the meal we make plans for their wedding.

Tuesday I drove to Warsaw, OH and spent some time with an old friend, Dale Hartle. Thursday I am driving to Beulah Grove, Heartland Campgrounds near St. Marys, Ohio for Men of Integrity Men's Retreat. I will speak a couple times.

Saturday after noon I plan to drive to Kentucky in anticipation of having a meal with Jolly's and then preaching at Millersburg, KY Sunday. Monday I'm scheduled to fly home.

Prayer:

- Pastor, during your Pastoral prayer, please lift Dallas, TX and Pastor Anaya 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 Troyers while they research a possible place of ministry.
- Pray especially for Muirs and the situation in Mexico.
- Pray for your Conference Leadership and Executive Committee.
- Pray for newly elected Conference Extension Chairman Aaron Johnson and the churches in Mena, Arkansas, Millersburg, Kentucky and Grants, New Mexico.
- Pray for Whitehouse and Duncan as they search for pastor.
- Please pray for a matter that I'm dealing with that is quite a burden.

Praise:

- Praise the Lord, for safe travel.
- Praise the Lord for people planning to be baptized.