



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, “We have all had times on the mount, when we have seen things from God’s standpoint and have wanted to stay there; but God will never allow us to stay there. The test of our spiritual life is the power to descend; if we have power to rise only, something is wrong. It is a great thing to be on the mount with God, but a man only gets there in order that afterwards he may get down among the devil–possessed and lift them up. We are not built for the mountains and the dawns and aesthetic affinities, those are for moments of inspiration, that is all. We are built for the valley, for the ordinary stuff we are in, and that is where we have to prove our mettle. Spiritual selfishness always wants repeated moments on the mount. We feel we could talk like angels and live like angels, if only we could stay on the mount. The times of exaltation are exceptional, they have their meaning in our life with God, but we must beware lest our spiritual selfishness wants to make them the only time.

We are apt to think that everything that happens is to be turned into useful teaching, it is to be turned into something better than teaching, viz., into character. The mount is not meant to teach us anything, it is meant to make us something. There is a great snare in asking — “What is the use of it?” In spiritual matters we can never calculate on that line. The moments on the mountain tops are rare moments, and they are meant for something in God’s purpose.”

Personal:

Last Sunday at 2:30 PM the churches of Sherman and Durant met for a combined baptismal service. Pastor Snodgrass led the service



Events:

Time Change

- November 5

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:

September 2023

Operating Receipts:	\$4,458.85
Operating Expenses:	\$ 6,386.85
Total	\$1,928.00

and then baptized 6 people that was followed by 6 people from Durant being baptized. What a joy to celebrate the grace of this beautiful Christian rite and thanks to Sherman for sharing their facilities and fellowship!

This week has included some Conference related business meetings and office work.

Sunday we are scheduled to be at Durant for services.

Note:

The church at Grants, NM could use a pulpit, if one of the churches has an extra! Also Roy Archibald is available to hold a few services in interest of Conference Extension and Grants. Also, a cleaning team would be a blessing.

Just contact CE Chairman Aaron Johnson 970 749-3864.

Prayer:

- Pastor, during your Pastoral prayer, please lift Duncan, OK and Pastor Covington 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.
- Pray for Russell and Snodgrass families as they grieve the loss of Sister Tiethoff,

Praise:

- Praise the Lord, 12 baptism candidates last Sunday.
- Praise the Lord for health and strength.