



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:

I recently read this account of Missionary Robert Morrison. He was a British man studying accounting when the Lord saved him and called him to missions. When he arrived in China and the Chinese government learn what his mission was, they expelled him. In those days the people who went to a mission field went for life, there was no such thing as a furlough. So Robert went to Macao, a Portuguese colony. He stayed for a little while and then returned to China but again he was deported, so he found a job with the East India Company as an accountant. Periodically he would travel to China, only to be expelled each time. Morrison worked all day for the East India Company, which hated missionaries, and at night he translated the Bible into Chinese. Eventually he finished the translation and later he died in Macao. For days after his death there was no agreement on where to bury his body. The Chinese certainly didn't want a Christian to be buried in their cemetery and the Roman Catholics were not about to have a Protestant buried in their cemetery. Finally someone negotiated with the Roman Catholic Archbishop, who sold one cemetery plot so they could bury him. Robert was rejected all his life and even rejected in his death.

Do we ever think of the deep sacrifices those before us have made for the sake of the Gospel and the fulfillment of their calling to the Lord God? May we be deeply thankful for our forebears and the Lord for the investment they have made that helps us live freely as Christians.

Personal:

Last Sunday we had the privilege of worshiping with the people of Durant. Thank the Lord for his help, even though I had a little



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

Ministerial

- Dates: March 14-16, 2024
- Location: Prothro Center 269, Methodist Lane, Pottsboro, Texas 75076

Conference Finances:

September 2023

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

trouble Sunday morning with a feeling of fainting while preaching. By the time for evening service I seemed to be fine. (Doctor is working on the reason for the lightheadedness - Maybe little there to work with :))

Wednesday mid day I had the privilege of attending the Kiwanis Clergy Appreciation meal at the invitation of James Dunegan. It was a special time.

This week has been occupied with office work and preparing for next week. This coming Sunday we will be in Durant, Monday we fly to Indianapolis for Leadership Retreat (Bible Methodist Leaders) that will occupy our time until Wednesday. Next Friday we are scheduled to begin revival services with Pastor Steele and the people at DeRidder, Louisiana.

Note:

The church at Grants, NM could use a pulpit, if one of the churches has an extra one! Also Roy Archibald is available to hold a few services in interest of Conference Extension and Grants. Just contact CE Chairman Aaron Johnson 970 749-3864.

Prayer:

- Pastor, during your Pastoral prayer, please lift Heber, Miltonvale, KS and Pastor Mahin 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 for your Conference Leadership and Executive Committee.
- Pray for Conference Extension Chairman Aaron Johnson and the churches in Mena, AR, Millersburg, KY and Grants, NM.
- Pray for Whitehouse and Duncan as they search for pastor.

Praise:

- Praise the Lord for the progress being made in Grants, NM.
- Thanks to Pastor Stetler (Vice President) for connecting with some GBS students.