

# 4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
~ Matthew 16:18



May 7, 2017

## Contact Us:

3201 4th Street  
Brownwood, TX 76801  
325-646-7102  
www.4thstreetcoc.org  
office@4thstreetcoc.org

## Meeting Times:

### Sunday:

Bible Study .....9:45 AM  
Worship .....10:40 AM  
Care, Inc. Service .... 2:30 PM  
Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class.10:00 AM  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

## Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

## Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

James Thomas

## Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

## Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children  
Gospel Broadcast Network  
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Mission Printing  
Rohan Jones, Africa  
The Truth in Love  
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study  
the Bible to know more about  
Christ and His Church.

## *I don't remember my high-school math and I'm okay*

Between you and me, I have a confession to make: I hardly remember anything I learned in my high school trigonometry class. I also can't write in cursive very well anymore. I have no idea how to calculate girth (or what *girth* even is). I still get "affect" and "effect" confused.

I took several Advanced Placement courses: American history, European history, chemistry, physics, etc. I made good grades. I graduated with honors. But I can't name all the countries in Africa. I don't remember all of the state capitals. I can't name all of the kings of France or Britain, much less put them in order. The only chemical formula I understand is "H<sub>2</sub>O." I don't remember most of the state birds I had to memorize for a school competition (except Oklahoma's, which is the Scissor-tailed flycatcher). I took three years of Spanish, but I only remember a handful of words.

And guess what: I'm not living on the street.

In fact, I've got a pretty good job. Sometimes my family splurges and buys the occasional brand-name item from the grocery store. We are living large.

Dear parent, I know you are under immense pressure to make sure your kids are learning a second language, involved in the local play, participating in after-school athletics, enrolled in the honors program, eating nutritious organic meals – all while maintaining a *Southern Living*-like Facebook profile and Pinterest board. Don't misunderstand me; I'm not minimizing these things. For all you struggling parents like me and my wife who are killing themselves to make sure your kids are prepared for college, keep it up.

But don't forget to be realistic. Ask yourself, how much are your kids going to remember from school? How much do *you* remember from school?

In the hustle and bustle of being a responsible parent, don't forget to teach your kids the things they won't forget.

Let me tell you what I do happen to remember from my early years.

- I remember coming down the stairs after waking up in the morning and seeing my mom reading her Bible.
- I remember my parents picking up people for church who no one else wanted to pick up.
- I remember my mom apologizing to me when she made a mistake.
- I remember my parents having Bible studies (some going late into the night) with Mormons/Jehovah's Witnesses/Baptists/Catholics (or whoever else happened to knock on our door the day before).

(Continued on page 2)

**"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." John 3:17-19**



(Continued from page 1)

- I remember my dad telling me that I would always be welcome in their house after I moved away, unless I was ever unfaithful to my wife or unfaithful to Christ and had not repented.
- I remember my parents not letting me take a part-time job if my employer wouldn't give me time-off to go to every church service.
- I remember my dad making dinner sometimes so my mom wouldn't have to.
- I remember my parents sometimes telling me "no" when I saw something I really wanted.
- I remember my parents showing me tenderness and affection (not "effection," right?)
- I remember going on walks with my mom.
- I remember my parents taking me to visit elderly church members.
- I remember my dad making me mow our lawn. With a push mower.
- I remember my mom making me set the table for dinner, followed by washing the dishes. By hand.
- I remember my dad reading to me.
- I remember my dad learning about my unpaid debt to a church member, and forcing me to sell something I really liked in order to pay back the debt.
- I remember my parents having "Bible time" with me, making me recite the books of the Bible, countless verses, the twelve sons of Jacob, the apostles, the judges, the plan of salvation, etc. I couldn't forget those things today, even if I tried.

You want to give your children the best education money can buy. But while honor rolls, athletics, and other extra-curricular activities are well and good, they aren't the most important thing you can give your children. If your children learn to speak French, but don't leave your house loving Jesus and His Kingdom above everything else, what have they really gained?

There are only a few things in life that actually matter. Prioritize the stuff that will get them to heaven. The rest will fall into place.

Ben Giselbach (PlainSimpleFaith.com)

## Who Should Teach Our Children?

We as Christians have a grave responsibility to bring our children up "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Most of us recognize this responsibility, and at home do our best to fulfill God's command. However, what about at our local congregations? Are the people we have as Bible School teachers doing their best to teach our children? Do they want to teach, or were they coerced into it? Do they have as their primary concern our children's spiritual growth, or are they just trying to kill time until the worship service starts? Is the teacher actually qualified to teach, not with a Ph.D. from higher education, but as a faithful child of God? As we think about our children and their formative years, we need to ask ourselves: "Who Should Teach Our Children," and once we have asked the question we need to seek an answer. Let us look at "Who Should be Teaching Our Children."

**The teacher should be one who is faithful in attendance.** The Lord gives us the command to not forsake the assembly (Heb. 10:25). How can one be an effective teacher when they only attend one, and at most, two services a week? Our children are looking to the teacher, and when they see them "forsaking the assembly," they get the idea that it is okay to come to church only when you want to. Also, how can someone teach effectively about attending the services when they themselves do not bother to attend the greater portion of the services? Paul told us that faithful brethren were to teach others (2 Tim. 2:2), not someone that has been given a class trying to get them to be faithful!

**The teacher should be one who diligently studies their Bible.** All of us are to be diligent students of God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15). However, the teacher has an even greater responsibility. As a teacher, you are imparting God's Word to others. If you teach error, you will be held accountable for that error. If over the years someone continues in that error and loses their soul, God will not hold you guiltless. If we take God's Word and rightly divide it, then what we teach will be pleasing to the Lord and will strengthen and encourage our young people and may save their soul.

**The teacher should set a good example.** Paul told the young man Timothy to be an example of the believers "in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim.

(Continued on page 3)

### Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:30am on KTAB

### Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

### Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

### God's Plan for Redeeming Man

**Hear** Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

**Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

**Confess** Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

**Repent** of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

**Live faithfully** (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

### Bible Reading Schedule

May 7	2 Chron. 12-14; Mark 15-16
May 8	2 Chronicles 15-17; Luke 1-2
May 9	2 Chronicles 18-20; Luke 3-4
May 10	2 Chronicles 21-23; Luke 5-6
May 11	2 Chronicles 24-26; Luke 7-8
May 12	2 Chronicles 27-29; Luke 9-10
May 13	2 Chron. 30-32; Luke 11-12
May 14	2 Chron. 33-35; Luke 13-14

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."



**Visitation Meeting**

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **33 contacts** were made.

**Announcements**

- ◆ **First Sunday Fellowship Meal** today.
- ◆ **Thank you to Gene Bannister, Joe Dennis, and James Fuller** for filling in today while Johnny is gone to Focal Point.
- ◆ There will be a bake sale this afternoon, 2:00-4:00, in the Firestone parking lot, to raise money for the Caruth family. Donations of baked goods are welcome, as well as shoppers.

**Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart**

- ◆ August 8—Summer Youth Series
- ◆ October 15-18—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Dave Rogers
- ◆ November 4—Ladies’ Day w/ Lasha Dennis

**Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow**

- ◆ May 6-11—Focal Point (San Marcos).
- ◆ May 20—Ladies’ Day @ Dublin w/ Evelyn Bonner. *“Cooking New Creations”*
- ◆ June 4-9—Preacher Training Camp (boys, ages 14-18) @ Oldham Lane (Abilene).
- ◆ June 5-8—VBS @ Bangs
- ◆ June 6—Summer Youth Series begins
- ◆ June 25-29—Junior Camp
- ◆ June 30-July 2—Gospel Meeting @ Meridian w/ D.J. Stucky, *“The Great High Priest”*
- ◆ July 1—Youth Day @ Meridian
- ◆ July 9-13—“Shine” camp (girls, incoming 7th-12th grade) @ Oldham Lane (Abilene).
- ◆ July 16-21—Senior Camp
- ◆ August 2-4—VBS @ Hamilton (All ages)
- ◆ August 6-9—Gospel Meeting @ North Main (Weatherford) w/ Wade Webster
- ◆ August 18-24—Polishing the Pulpit

*(Continued from page 2)*

4:12). This entreaty applies to all of us today, but I believe that it applies even more so to those who stand before us and teach from God’s Word. Teachers must be an example in their speech, in the way they live, in their love, in their attitude, in their faith, and in their clean and pure life. Anyone following a worldly lifestyle, with ways and habits fashioned after the world, should not be teaching our children!

**The teacher should love the souls of children.** A lot of teachers never give any thought to the groundwork that they are laying. Children begin to accumulate information in their classes that form the basis of their faith. If a teacher loves the souls of children, they will teach them about Jesus, and tell them about the Gospel, about the Lord’s church, what they must do to be saved, and about all the blessings of living a Christian life. If they have little interest in the souls of children, they will continue to baby-sit, tell about the flood, the ark, and stories such as this without mentioning the Savior.

**The teacher must love the Lord.** If we have teachers that love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and mind (Matt. 22:37), then all of these other things will fall into place. If the teacher loves the Lord, they will want the children in their class to know about Him. They will make Him real in their eyes, just like He is to them. They will be like the prophets of old and not be able to contain themselves when talking about the precious Savior.

Our children are the future of the church. We must have people teaching them in our assemblies that will help assure that the church will be strong and sound in the days to come!

Danny L. Box, deceased  
*(Defender, Vol. XLVI, Num. 3 [March, 2017], p. 7)*

**Celebrate**

*“Rejoice with those who rejoice...” (Romans 12:15)*

**May Birthdays:** Aliyah Rayon (3), Ian Barnum (5), Rosa Fuller (6), **David Milam (7), Barbara Bannister (10)**, Nita Boyd (14), Pam Teague (14), Caitlin Settles (15), Billy Chism (15), Zelma Leslie (16), Gracen Hardy (30).

**May Anniversaries:** Joe & Lasha Dennis (6), **Ryan & Tammy Rudloff (7)**.

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...*



**Records**

	Apr. 23, 2017	Apr. 30, 2017
Bible Class	48	45
AM Worship	65	70
PM Worship	45	53
Wednesday PM	46	38
Contribution	\$2,030	\$2,246

	<b>This Week: 5/7/17</b>	<b>Next Week: 5/14/17</b>		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<b>May 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Gene Bannister <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Tom & Carol Wilcox <b>Clean Building:</b> John Barnum Family  <b>June 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> John Barnum <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Mike & Patti Bannister <b>Clean Building:</b> Randy & Laura Huckaby Karen Bland	
<b>Greeters</b>	Maninger Family	James & Cindy Fuller		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Ken Maninger		
<b>Communion</b>	Randy Huckaby*, Jack Turner Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell	Tom Wilcox*, Allen Bland Ryan Rudloff, Hank Wheeler		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith	Rafe Smith		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Aaron Smith	Ian Barnum		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: James Fuller		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Mike Bannister	Randy Huckaby		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Hank Wheeler	James Thomas		
<b>Communion</b>	Randy Huckaby	Tom Wilcox		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Don Smith	John Barnum		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	May 10 Rafe Smith	May 17 Tom Wilcox	May 24 Don Smith	May 31 Joe Dennis

## Search the Scriptures

*Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)*

<b>Studies for the week of May 7, 2017</b>	<i>Sunday Class</i> ..... <b>Gene Bannister</b>
	<i>Wed. Class</i> ..... <b>TBA</b>
<h3><b><i>The Farewell</i></b></h3> <p>Speaking of the day they left for Africa in 1958 to do mission work, my mother described seeing my little head bobbing up and down on my father's shoulder as he entered the plane in Kansas City.</p> <p>"Once a friend remarked, 'I could never go to another land because our family is very close.' I wanted to cry out, 'Our family is very close, too!'" (Donna Mitchell, <i>Among the People of the Sun: Our Years in Africa</i>, p. 6).</p> <p>As it turns out, missionaries have parents, siblings and a desire for the comforts of home, too. One missionary told me when he left for the mission field that his father told his mother, "I will never see my son again." Happily, this sorrowing father was wrong; he saw his son and grandchildren numerous times, though he could not have known that.</p> <p>When I returned to the United States for college, a timid seventeen-year-old, my mother slipped a note into my suitcase quoting Laban's words to his daughters: "<i>Mizpah: The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another</i>" (Gen. 31:49). I found it as I opened the case in a dingy Paris hotel on the way to the United States.</p> <p>"Back in the day," as the saying goes, missionaries were</p>	<p>referred to as "missionaries of the one-way ticket." They would board a ship, take a month to reach Australia, the Philippines, or Africa, and would generally spend their lives there.</p> <p>My parents were more fortunate in that they were able to return several times to the US to see family and supporting congregations. It was a deep sacrifice, but one well worth the taking in terms of souls saved, churches established, and hearts mended.</p> <p>If you are looking for heroes for your children, instead of empty-headed celebrities or arrogant athletes, what about those who served the Lord in other lands?</p> <p>Do you want some good reading? There are a number of excellent biographies of missionaries who have made a permanent – no – an eternal difference.</p> <p><i>The Dew Breakers</i>, Dow Merrit.  <i>On the Wings of the Morning</i>, Eldred Echols.  <i>They Called Him Muluti</i>, Georgia Hobby.  <i>Among the People of the Sun</i>, Donna Mitchell.  <i>Meanwhile, Back in the Jungle</i>, Donna Horne.</p> <p>Beware. Reading such material might damage half-hearted Christianity and lead to greater commitment to God.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Stan Mitchell</i> (forthright.net)</p>