



**We Strive to Be: A church devoted to making disciples of Jesus Christ, growing together in knowledge and relationship with God and each other.**

**Today's Events**

H.O.P.E Group  
6-8 p.m.

**Upcoming Events**

**March 7** – Youth Group Area Wide at Southwest Church of Christ in OKC  
**March 17** – Blood Drive 5 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
**April 10** – Spring Cleaning Day  
**June 5** – Reclaiming Education for Christ Conference

**Birthdays:**

**February:**

28<sup>th</sup>..... Carol Baxter  
 ..... Beverly Summers

**Record for 2-21-21**

Morning Worship..... 140  
 Contribution ..... \$6,680.10  
 Budget ..... \$6,634.62  
 Families Served at pantry ..... 105

**Order of Worship**

**Children's Worship**..... Derek Tinius  
**Welcome/Announcements**..... Stephen Lincoln  
**Opening Prayer**..... Todd Anderson  
**Song Leader**..... Jim Coker  
 ..... TBD  
**Communion Talk**..... Roger Unruh  
 ..... Dismiss Children  
**Sermon: "Thrive by Holding to the Teaching"**..... Erik Granberg  
**Shepherd's Prayer**..... Brent Dittmeyer

**Children's Worship**..... Cassie & Jamie Barr  
**Nursery**..... Kim Spencer  
**Sound Booth**..... Robb Mills  
**Slides**..... Dudley Darrow

**Sermon Scripture:** 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

**Sermon Thought:**

When we face times of turmoil it is easy to lose focus. We can get distracted by all the chaos. Paul encouraged the Thessalonians to hold on to the foundational teachings they had received. As followers today, we too need to remember the foundations of our faith so that we can strive, even on the midst of turmoil.

**Sermon questions:**

1. In your life, what do you find distracting you from God?
2. What reminders could you set up or do you have set up to point you back to the foundations of faith?
3. What experiences has God seen you through in your life?

### New Prayer Concerns:

#### All those affected with COVID-19

**Tammi Long** – recovering from neck surgery

**Loretta Ball** – in GB Assisted Living with health issues

**Vista Zidor** – recovering from an appendectomy; prayer of praise that everything went well

### Next Week's (3/7/21) Servants:

**Song Leader:** Danny Powers

**Opening Prayer:** Todd Anderson

**Communion Talk:** Matt Nichols

**Shepherd's Prayer:** Dan Kent

**Sound Booth:** Todd Anderson

**Slides:** Dee Plummer

**Nursery:** Wendy Taylor

**Children's Worship:** Brigitte Elledge

#### Michael & Karen Manley's

##### New Address:

115 Country View Lane  
Ghent, KY 41045

## Cold

A couple weeks ago I found a bird frozen to death in my garage. Poor little guy probably squeezed his way in looking for a way to stay warm. Unfortunately, the bitter cold destroys many things. When it gets too cold sometimes cars won't start, pipes burst (we all know about that), and people lose power. During the latest winter storm many people lost their lives as a result of the plummeting temperatures. We were not far from breaking Oklahoma's record for lowest temperature (-31 degrees). The bitter cold temperatures can destroy many lives and cause so much damage. A bitter, cold spirit can do the same thing. Life is full of tragedies, heartbreak, anger, resentment, and so many other bad circumstances and bad decisions. The way a person responds to them is a kind of mirror. It reflects the spirit of that person. Erik lost a lot of things when the pipe burst above his office. He handled it with grace and understanding. There was no finger pointing or fit throwing—just a focus on his next steps. When bad things happen and we don't respond to them the way we should, we usually just make them worse. Oftentimes, we make them worse for other people. When we are confronted with situations we don't like or people who don't treat us well, we have two choices. We can get bitter and stew in our resentment and let it fester. Or, we can get better and take the situation, find a positive, and try to work our way out of the problem. It's not always easy to find the good in the bad or to use hurtful and make it helpful, but sometimes it just takes a shift in perception. If you switch the I in bitter for an E, suddenly you have a whole new BETTER outlook. Following Christ equips us with a whole chest full of tools to help us navigate and succeed in this life. Use them. Ephesians 4:31-32 "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

**Stephen Lincoln**

## Blood Drive

Please come join us Wednesday, March 17, for our North Garland Blood Drive. It will be in the foyer, from 5-7:30 p.m. All donors will receive the shirt below and one free adult admission to the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum. The sign-up sheet is on the welcome center.

