



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:

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6-7 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 25 – Christmas (Office Closed) Dec 26 – Office Closed Dec 29 – Office Closed Dec 31 – Church Wide New Year's Eve Party: 6:00 p.m. Jan 1 – New Year's Day (Office Closed) Jan 3 – Meal: Baked Potatoes, Salad, Dessert Jan 3 – Ladies' Wednesday Night Class: "Renewing, Transforming, Pursuing" begins Jan 12-14 – Winterfest (Please let Cole know by Dec. 31st if you are going)

*** There will be no Wednesday night meals in the month of December. ***

> NOC Women's Basketball Schedule:

Jan. 8 @ 5:30 p.m. Jan. 15 @ 5:30 p.m. Jan. 18 @ 5:30 p.m. Jan. 25 @ 5:30 p.m. Jan. 29 @ 5:30 p.m. Feb. 5 @ 5:30 p.m. Feb. 12 @ 5:30 p.m. Feb. 22 @ 5:30 p.m. Feb. 29 @ 5:30 p.m.

Order of Worship

| Pilgrim's Praise Song Leader/Welcome | Trey Johnson Dee Plummer |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Prayer | |
| Communion Talk | Jim Coker |
| Sermon: Fall On Your Knees in Worship | - |
| Shepherd's Prayer | |
| Nursery Sound Booth/Slides | Kim Tinius Jim Coker |

Sermon Scripture:

Matthew 2:9-12

Sermon Thought:

When the Magi found the child Jesus, they were overjoyed and bowed down and worshipped him. We worship God. He is greater, we are lesser. He is the creator; we are the creation.

Sermon Questions:

1. When you worship, what characteristics of God do you tend to celebrate most often?

2. There are many different ways to worship. Which draw you closer to God?

3. How can you magnify your everyday life as worship to God?

Prayer Requests:

<u>Merick Solis</u> – Debbie Martin's grandson; having surgery in Feb. to remove tonsils & adenoids & have tubes put in his ears **Debbie Martin** – has pneumonia &

back issues

<u>Teresa Willems</u> – friend of Debbie Martin; recently diagnosed with dementia

Leitha Summers – friend of Jovita Lang & member at Garriott Road; having multiple health issues Carol Jantz – having shoulder replacement surgery January 10 at

Integris Baptist in OKC Cheryl Siders – still recovering from

open heart surgery; in ICU on a ventilator

Dylan & Kyle Anderson – both recovering from tonsillectomies; Kyle is having issues with pain and keeping hydrated Jackie Shock – Jacqueline Anderson's dad; recovering from shoulder surgery

Birthdays:

28th..... Erik Granberg 29th...... Tammi Long

Anniversaries:

| 29 th | Bruce & Linda Swart |
|------------------|----------------------|
| | |
| | John & Brenda Wright |
| | 44 Years!! |

Next Week's (12/31/23) Servants:

/Welcome: Bruce Swart Pilgrim's Praise: Cole Roberts

Song Leader

Communion Talk: Chris Taylor Shepherd's Prayer: Dan Kent

Sound Booth/ Slides: Robb Mills Nursery: Reeta Williams

Greeters For December: Faye Garrison Monte & Diane Snider

When God Shows Up

"And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them." Mark 16:13 NRSV

There is a group of folks that gather every morning in the coffee shop where I office. They talk loudly for anyone to hear them without effort, and they talk a lot about politics. Sometimes a preacher joins them, which adds some irony to this story. Several at the table are Christians, some devout.

Their conversation is spirited and political. The issues raised are rights, business, money, and race, to name a few. What is interesting to me about their conversation is what is not said. There's never any mention about what they think God would say about any of those issues.

Notice I didn't say what party point-of-view they have. It's because the same phenomenon can be observed no matter what the party. God is not invited into the chat. *"God chose what is foolish in the world..."* Paul said. I imagine that group saying, "What does God know about politics?"

The "What Would Jesus Do? bracelets that people used to wear might not be such a bad idea. While it is dangerous to speak for God, it would be helpful to be prompted to think about whether a choice or conversation reflects the mind of God or if it is just ugly humanness.

Taken from Power for Today, written by Bruce W. Logue

New Year's Eve Party!

Next Sunday is New Year's Eve! Come join us at 6:00 p.m. for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship. Bring your favorite games to play and a snack to share. We can't wait to see you there!

Thank You

Thank you for your generous donations this holiday season! Your support for local foster children does <u>not</u> go unnoticed. We appreciate you! Merry Christmas! Love,

Enid Child Welfare