



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:

Area Wide in Blackwell

Upcoming Events:

Dec 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 6-7 p.m.

Dec 25 – Christmas (Office Closed)

Dec 26 – Office Closed

Dec 29 – Office Closed

Jan 1 – Office Closed

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. ***

*** 312 people were served at pantry in November! ***

Order of Worship

.....	<i>How Majestic Is Your Name</i>
Pilgrim's Praise	Erik Granberg
Song Leader/Welcome	Jim Coker
.....	<i>We Praise Thee, O God</i>
.....	<i>Hear, O Israel</i>
.....	<i>Our God, He Is Alive</i>
Prayer	TBD
.....	<i>As the Deer Thirsts</i>
.....	<i>Just As I Am – I Come Broken</i>
Communion Talk	Jacob Bowman
.....	<i>I Will Call Upon the Lord</i>
.....	<i>O Holy Night</i>
Sermon: Fall on Your Knees in Ask	Erik Granberg
.....	<i>Seek Ye First</i>
Shepherd's Prayer	Pat Meek
Nursery	Kassidy Roberts
Sound Booth/Slides	Dee Plummer

Sermon Scripture: Matthew 8:1-4

Sermon Thought:

When a person falls on his or her knees before another it is a sign of acknowledgement. In today's scripture the man with leprosy acknowledged he had a need that Jesus could meet, so he asked, "if you are willing, you can make me clean." God is the provider. Bringing our prayers and petitions to him is us acknowledging him as our provider.

Sermon Questions:

1. What has God provided in your life?
2. What have you learned about God through his provisions?
3. What responsibilities might we have with what God has provided?

Prayer Requests:

Carol Jantz – having shoulder replacement surgery December 15.

John Wright – recovering from surgery on his broken ankle from a fall.

Narda – Cheryl Siders' sister-in-law; possibly has cancer and she is her husband's caregiver and possibly unable to do chemo.

Cheryl Siders – recovering from heart valve replacement surgery

Birthdays:

10th..... Steve Long

..... Terry Sherrill

12th.....David Burford

Next Week's (12/17/23) Servants:

Song Leader

/Welcome:

Pilgrim's Praise: Derek Tinius

Communion

Talk: Dee Plummer

Shepherd's

Prayer: Terry Sherill

Sound Booth/

Slides: Trey Johnson

Nursery:

Wendy &
Eleanor Taylor

Greeters For

December: Faye Garrison

Monte & Diane
Snider

A Spiritual Journey

Spiritual Help

We begin life with a complete need for help. We need help getting up and to eat. We need help to get dressed and to learn to walk. As we mature in life, we still need help to learn and do the things we need to do. When we have help, our task is easier, and our burden is lighter. We can confidently go forward in our physical journey because of the help we have already received and will always be there.

As we begin our spiritual journey, we also need help because we are just babes in Christ. That is why God gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us “*grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*” (Acts 2:38, 2 Pet. 3:18). We certainly have a lot to learn about our new spiritual life and to be able to share the good news of the gospel of Christ. It is very comforting to know, that as we go forth, God is providing the **spiritual help** we need to accomplish our mission. As King David acknowledged, “*Thou hast given me the shield of thy salvation, and thy help made me great*” (2 Sam. 22:36). As Christians, we go into the world, just as his disciples did, with the faith and trust that the Lord's help will always be there to guide us and direct our steps. I savor these precious thoughts of the psalmist. “*I lift my eyes to the hills. From whence does my help come? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth*” (Ps. 121:1-2). Don't you know, the God of creation is able to give us the help we need. With the **spiritual help** God provides, we can feel his presence, we can feel his nudges to change our direction, and we can feel his encouragement as we fulfill his will for mankind. He wants the very best for each one of us, and will even send his angels to lift us up when we struggle. “*Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?*” (Heb. 1:14). We are so blessed!

Gordon Jantz

Thank You

Thank you to all who came to support the mission of Christian's in Action: To show Christ's love to our community. We donated 50 backpacks filled with goodies to DHS. They were thrilled. God blessed us. If you know of an opportunity for us to serve, please leave a message about it at the office.

NOC Women's Basketball Schedule

If you would like to encourage and support the young women from NOC who have been attending worship with us, here is their basketball schedule. These home games are played at the NOC Maybee Center Fieldhouse on Main St.

- Monday, Jan. 8 @ 5:30 pm
- Monday, Jan. 15 @ 5:30 pm
- Thursday, Jan. 18 @ 5:30 pm
- Thursday, Jan. 25 @ 5:30 pm
- Monday, Jan. 29 @ 5:30 pm
- Monday, Feb. 5 @ 5:30 pm
- Monday, Feb. 12 @ 5:30 pm
- Thursday, Feb. 22 @ 5:30 pm
- Thursday, Feb. 29 @ 5:30 pm