



**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:**

**Potluck: After worship!**

**Upcoming Events:**

- Aug 4** – Youth Group Lock-In
- Aug 13** – Area Wide at MRCOC
- Aug 16** – Meal: Chef Salad, Fresh Watermelon, Cake
- Aug 18-20** – Weekend with Randy Willingham
- Sept 20** – Meal: Chicken & Stuffing Casserole, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Dessert
- Oct 18** – Grilled Cheese Sandwiches, Tomato Soup, Beef Veggie Soup, Dessert
- Oct 22** – Garland Girls Service Project: Immediately after church until 2:30 p.m. (Lunch Provided)
- Nov 15** – Beef Stroganoff, Green Beans, Fresh Green Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert

**Birthdays:**

- 30<sup>th</sup>** ..... Jo Ann Buxton
- ..... Wayne Schoeling
- 31<sup>st</sup>** ..... Judy Watson

**Aug.**

- 2<sup>nd</sup>**..... Bryan Brownell
- ..... Levi LeCrone

**Record for 7-23-23**

Morning Worship .....	140
Contribution .....	\$3,470.00
Budget.....	\$4,081.10
July Pantry Patrons .....	224

**Order of Worship**

.....	<i>Lord, I Lift Your Name On High</i>
<b>Welcome/Announcements/Song Leader</b> .....	<b>Robb Mills</b>
<b>Pilgrim's Praise</b> .....	<b>Trey Johnson</b>
.....	<i>At the Name of Jesus</i>
.....	<i>I Raise a Hallelujah</i>
.....	<i>I Still Have Joy</i>
<b>Prayer</b> .....	<b>TBD</b>
.....	<i>Open My Heart</i>
.....	<i>Open the Eyes of My Heart</i>
.....	<i>Break My Heart</i>
<b>Communion Talk</b> .....	<b>Dudley Darrow</b>
.....	<i>Clap Your Hands</i>
.....	<i>Shout Hallelujah</i>
.....	<i>Beautiful One</i>
<b>Sermon</b> .....	<b>Cole Roberts</b>
.....	<i>I Love You with the Love of the Lord</i>
<b>Shepherd's Prayer</b> .....	<b>Terry Sherrill</b>
<b>Nursery</b> .....	<b>Mandy Coker</b>
<b>Sound Booth/Slides</b> .....	<b>Jim Coker</b>

**Chaperones**

If you would like to help with the youth lock-in Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>, please see Cole Roberts. He is needing chaperones for 3–4-hour shifts.

**Rising Above the World**

Copies of a spiritual guide, "Rising Above the World," that addresses the concept of spiritual transformation by "renewing our minds" to be like Jesus are available on the welcome center for anyone who would like a copy.

## New Prayer Requests:

**Jerry Allen** – Gene & Pam Denney's daughter-in-law's dad; a mass was found on his pancreas

**Ken & Carol Newman** – friends of the Kents; Ken will be going through chemo for throat cancer.

**Larry Cochran** – his twin brother passed away.

**Maria Gonzalez** – friend of Glenn Walker; had a heart attack while visiting family in Mexico. She is back at home & doing better.

**Arlene Stute** – friend of Glenn; having a stint put in her heart at the end of the month.

**Cathy Grant** – friend of Jovita Lang & member of Garriott Road CoC. She has tumors causing health problems.

**Beverly Carroll** – waiting for colonoscopy results.

## Next Week's (8/6/23) Servants:

### Song Leader

**/Welcome:** Jim Coker

**Pilgrim's Praise:** Chris Taylor

### Communion

**Talk:** Gordon Jantz

### Shepherd's

**Prayer:** Brent Dittmeyer

### Sound Booth/

**Slides:** Robb Mills

**Nursery:** Cheryl Kent

### Greeters For

**August:** Jamie Barr  
Linda Swart

### Fill Communion

**For Aug:** Reeta Williams

### Wash Baptismal Garments for

**Aug:** Jovita Lang

## The Battle for our Children and Grandchildren's Hearts and Souls

A recent article in *Power for Today* titled "It Takes an Army," motivated me to write this. Please read the article below, followed by some thoughts of my own.

"As a young girl, our daughter was extremely susceptible to peer pressure. All anyone had to do to insure her unquestioning cooperation was to threaten, 'I won't like you if you don't....' As we disciplined her for her childish misdeeds, our minds boggled and our hearts quailed at the prospects of the more serious peer pressure of the teen years ahead."

"I confided my worries to my mother, who, without a word, undertook to pray for our daughter, specifically by name. She prayed our daughter through the 'mean girl' years of middle school, through the insecurities of junior high, and the pressures of high school and college. Our daughter developed into a strong, godly woman, and she will tell you it is, in part, my mother's doing. She says, 'I wanted to do all those stupid things that teenagers and college kids do, but I couldn't. Grandmother was praying for me.'"

"The battle for the souls of our children is real and serious. Enlist every soldier in your army that you can, and volunteer to be in the armies of others." – Article by Bill Moudy of Shallowater, Texas.

This article caused me to think about how concerned I have been that Americans are letting sports become their idol. Look at how much time people spend talking about sports with their children and adults. Think about how parents are so busy getting their children back and forth to sports games and practices that the whole family is stressed out. Consider how much money people spend to attend college and professional games. Don't get me wrong, there are some great lessons for children to learn by being involved in sports: working well with others, self-discipline, being a good loser (or winner), and so much more.

However, many Americans have somehow decided that sports is their top priority and that their children have to become "the best" at whatever sports they are involved in. So they start them young and spend lots of money and time to help them get so good they can earn scholarships for college (or even get into the pros). Meanwhile, their souls are being neglected.

I pray that each of you are putting your priorities where they need to be: in the battle for your children and grandchildren's hearts and souls. Ask other Christians to be part of your "army" in this battle.

**Pam Denney**

## Ice Cream Supper

The Watonga Church of Christ is hosting an Ice Cream Supper August 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. Chris Taylor will be driving the bus if you are interested in going. Please let him know if you need a ride or have any questions.