



Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."-Ecclesiastes 12:13



www.kcofc.org

**VOLUME 30
NUMBER 5**

JANUARY 29, 2023

SHEPHERDS

*Lee Fisher
Zachary Petties*

DEACONS

*Roger Deem
Paul Portley
Gaylen Williams*

PREACHER

Phil McIntosh

TREASURER

Gaylen Williams

MONTHLY SUPPORT:

*Cherokee Home
For Children
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &
Family Services
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home
For Children
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen
Children's Home
San Benito, TX*

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

Know the Facts

By Phil McIntosh



We live in a wonderful age of advanced technology, digital communication and entertainment, lightning-fast internet, and a seemingly endless supply of information. For all the complaints one *could* begin to compile and list, what we *should* do is count our blessings and show gratitude to the Almighty for the age of the world in which we live. Anybody can complain. It doesn't take an advanced degree, a love of God, or even an 6th grade education to formulate a complaint and announce it to all the ears within reach of our voice. It does, though, take purpose, thought, maturity, and reflection to be grateful. The apostle Paul wrote to the Lord's church in Thessalonica and told them to give thanks "in everything" (*1 Thess. 5:18*).

While our fiber-optic age offers us innumerable benefits, advances, and opportunities, it also is fraught with peril. Though we could discuss this in broad spectrum, let us tighten the circle of consideration to the information we have at our fingertips. In bygone ages information was just as true or false as it is today, yet it traveled at a significantly slower pace. In the ancient days information was dispatched on a scroll perhaps, sent by an emissary or messenger. If the information was supremely impactful or groundbreaking, there might even be a convoy sent along with said messenger, accompanied with gifts or tribute. Information in the years following the life of Jesus was inscribed onto various mediums- word of mouth, to scrolls, to even an antiquated form of book. If we fast forward about a millennium and a half, we find America in her infancy, with information literally racing across the vast expanse of the country on the back of a horse, in some kind of a satchel, at the whim of a rider employed in the service of what we know as the Pony Express. According to the National Park Service, the Pony Express (which operated for 18 months between April 1860 to October 1861) could deliver a letter over 1,800 miles in 10 days. If there was something urgent that needed to be relayed, it would take quite a distance and time to reach its destination. With the availability and popularity of the telegram and telephone such information significantly accelerated in delivery. Today though, we are able to communicate, read, learn, and be educated in seconds. We literally have information at our fingertips.

Information has never been more accessible to us. This is accurate of true information, as well as false. Through television and the internet, information is disseminated faster than ever. As advantageous as this might be for those in pursuit of knowledge, it is equally destructive for those relaying incomplete, misleading, or flat-out wrong information. If you notice when there are public speeches or debates by our nation's politicians, the speeches are "fact-checked." That means someone comes along and attempts to verify the information that was delivered based upon true record or published fact. However, in many cases, the damage is already done; the poor or misleading or false information is already being consumed by the public. The general public in America frequently believes or repeats information that is factually inaccurate. The internet is full of false, misleading, or incomplete information that is, too often,

believed as true and shared widely. If we are to make informed decisions, we have a responsibility to ensure the information we're consuming is true and accurate.

Why should it *really* matter though? So someone believes something that didn't really happen. So what if someone chooses to believe in a conspiracy theory? It matters, for one, because it impacts how we interact with our government and each other. Personal and familial relationships can be fractured (sometimes permanently) over bad information one person refuses to release from their firmly held position. It matters more greatly though because of this: the same ease of collection and disseminating bad information applies to religion, God, and His Word. If you type something about religion into Google (or your preferred search engine) there is no telling what you will read. If you type a question about God or the Bible into the internet search bar you are virtually guaranteed to find false doctrine, condemnable heresy, and misleading theologies masquerading as "fact." The primary voices on television, radio, and internet who speak of God are not speaking *for* Him. The Bible not only told us many would leave the pure word of God (*2 Tim. 4:2-4*), but that there would be those who would convince others of false teaching (*2 Cor. 11:12-15; Acts 20:29-30; Gal. 1:6-9*). Paul urged the evangelist Timothy to ensure he stayed loyal to the word of God and to avoid "*profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge*" (*1 Tim. 6:20*). Paul said those who believe such "false knowledge" left the faith (*v. 21*). Read a verse from one of the church's first elders, the apostle Peter:

"But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. ²And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed." -**2 Peter 2:1-2**

As much false information as might be available at our fingertips regarding government, covid, history, et.al., the false information regarding God and His truth outpaces it all. The devil wants people to be blind; he is actively trying to keep them blind to Jesus (*2 Cor. 4:3-4*). One of the ways in which he can do that (and has done so effectively) is to present an altered or otherwise incorrect version of what is true and factual. You might not be able to fact check every speech a government official makes or every news story on your tv, but you *can* fact check the religious and doctrinal ideas you hear and share in life. Do what the Jews in Berea did- go to the only true source, the word of God, and see if it's in there or not (*Acts 17:11; Jn. 17:17*). There, and only there, can people find the information that can make them free (*Jn. 8:32*). And guess what? It's available at our fingertips too.



PICTURES



If you do not see your picture on the picture board, please see Zack Petties or Victoria Polanco to have one taken.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Saturday, February 4th, the men of the congregation are invited to a breakfast and fellowship at 8:30 am in the fellowship hall.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Please make plans to attend the fellowship luncheon on Sunday, February 5th, following morning worship service. Please bring meats, casseroles, sides, and desserts (Kitchen Group #3 will have kitchen duty: Carla Heginbotham, Janet Bass, Joyce Brown, Natalie Fisher, Beverly Williams, and Marcella Williams).

LADIES: There is a sheet posted on the ladies bulletin board to place your vote for our upcoming Ladies Day on October 14th. We will read the results at our next Ladies Breakfast & Workday, on February 11th.



CHURCH COMMUNICATION:
Please check your email for the
Monday Morning Message!



February Nursery Schedule

Jan. 29-Natalie Fisher
5-Victoria Polanco
12-Josephine Spear
19-Nichole Williams
26-Gayle Wilson
*Substitute or Assist:
Victoria Polanco

*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!

February Cleaning Calendar

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

Jan. 29-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda	12-TEAM JAMES Kim-Marie Xavier Jaden Kingsford Barbara	26-TEAM LEE Natalie Derek Ken Tim
5-TEAM ZACK Amanda Diedre Paul Ruby	19-TEAM PHIL Michelle Beverly Josephine Yvonne Lois Marcella	

ORDER OF SERVICE
SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023:

- ANNOUNCEMENTS: REGGIE BASS
- 1ST PRAYER: JAMES SEAY
- SONG: IVAN MCINTOSH
- SCRIPTURE READING: MICHAEL ROGERS
- SONG: IVAN MCINTOSH
- SERMON: PHIL MCINTOSH
- INVITATION SONG: IVAN MCINTOSH
- SONG BEFORE COMMUNION:
IVAN MCINTOSH
- COMMUNION:
GAYLEN WILLIAMS & PAUL PORTLEY
- SONG: IVAN MCINTOSH
- OFFERING:
GAYLEN WILLIAMS & PAUL PORTLEY
- CLOSING SONG: IVAN MCINTOSH
- CLOSING PRAYER: KINGSFORD ASARE
- AUDIO/VISUAL: PATRICK SELLERS
- SECURITY: TIM MATTER & ROGER DEEM
- NURSERY: NATALIE FISHER

SCRIPTURE READING
“Contrary to Sound Doctrine”
1 Timothy 1:8-11

“⁸ But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

⁹ Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

¹⁰ For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

¹¹ According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.”

