

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## Don't Leave Out the Most Important Part

I have often heard folks tell their friends, “You need to be baptized...” It is certainly true that immersion is necessary (Acts 8:38; Romans 6:3; 1 Peter 3:21; cf. 2 Kings 5:13-14). Despite what denominationalists say to the contrary, baptism is essential for salvation (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Titus 3:5). But I fear that, at least at times, *we have not said nearly enough* when we tell people, “You need to be baptized...” Hear me out.

*Simply getting in the water is insufficient.* Yes, I said insufficient.

If there was something miraculous or holy about the water in and of itself, we could just strong-arm folks up to the baptistry and force them under. But there is no inherent power in the water itself. Water is water—whether it’s in a baptistry, a swimming pool, a Jacuzzi, a pond, creek, river or ocean.

An individual has to be buried (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12; cf. Acts 8:38), but sometimes well-intentioned church folk stop *there at the water* and in so doing, stop short of their responsibility (cf. Matthew 28:19-20). They push the *action* of faith without first properly and fully emphasizing the *person* of faith. They fixate on the water without focusing upon the One who mandates the water in the first place.

But beloved, without Christ, baptism is simply a bath; the removal of the filth of the flesh (1 Peter 3:21). Christ is center, the beginning and the end, and He is why water is important in the first place!

Through the years I have watched us (i.e., the church) baptize folks in numbers I cannot recall, both stateside as well as on foreign soil. *And I have also watched many of those folks who went down into the water leave the church soon thereafter because even though they got the water right, they never got the Savior right.* They heard, “You need to be baptized...” and, “You’ll be lost in hell if you don’t get baptized.” they were told and heard “water” and perhaps wanted an insurance policy against eternal fire.

Our Baptist friends sometimes accuse us of what they call, “water salvation.” On occasion, I suspect, they may actually be right.

Christ is everything!

- We are saved by Christ (1 Timothy 1:15)
- We are saved by faith in Christ (John 8:24).
- We are saved by repenting of sins committed against Christ (Acts 23:38; 3:19; 17:30-31).
- We are saved by confessing Christ (Mt. 10:32-33; Romans 10:10).
- We are saved by baptism into Christ (Galatians 3:27).
- We are saved by the name of Christ (Acts 4:12).
- We are saved by the words of Christ (John 6:63).
- We are saved by the works of Christ (John 30:30-31).
- We are saved by the blood of Christ (Romans 5:9; Eph. 1:7).
- We are saved by the death of Christ (Romans 5:10a).
- We are saved by the perfect life of Christ (Romans 5:10b).
- We are saved by the resurrection of Christ (Romans 4:25).
- We are saved by hope in Christ (Romans 8:24).
- We are saved by calling on the name of Christ (i.e., baptism) (Acts 22:16; 2:21).
- And at baptism God adds us to the body/church of Christ (Acts 2:41, 47; 5:14; 11:24; Romans 16:16).

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## ***Response***

**Jackie Perkins** responded to the invitation last Sunday morning coming forward requesting our prayers that his faith in God and Christ becomes stronger and he also expressed a desire to focus his attention on leading his children and grandchildren to Christ. Please continue to keep both Jackie and Wanda in your prayers that they become even stronger Christians in the Lord especially now during this sad time for them and their family.

## ***Prayer Request***

**Glenna McCarty** will have an Oblation surgery on her heart, September 12th in Austin. If everything goes okay, she will be released within 2 to 3 hours, but Glenna plans on staying overnight in Austin and come home the next day. She is requesting our prayers.

There are several of our members that have been diagnosed with Covid...

**Bill and Vickie Ryan, Elaine Huntington, Bill Tolbert and Josh Wells** all have Covid. Please keep all these individuals in your prayers that they receive effective treatments for this virus and they all get well soon.

**Jaxon Straw** (son of Scot and Johna Straw) fell at work and injured his right elbow last week. X-rays were taken and he is waiting on the results to show the extent of his injury.

Also, prayers have been requested for...

**Arely Martinez** who is seriously ill.

**Zulema Morales** who is in need of prayers.

**Deysi Lopez** who has end-stage renal failure.

And, **Mario Carmona**, who is fighting cancer.

## ***Concerns Update***

**Terresia Weaver** had her 16th chemo treatment last Tuesday. The report showed that her magnesium was low so they gave her a magnesium infusion along with her chemo treatment. Terresia was scheduled for another magnesium infusion the next day. Her cancer marker was 4.8. Keep Terresia in your prayers that she wins this battle.

**Brinlee Duron** (Linda Tate's great granddaughter) who had her bone marrow biopsy done at Cooks Children's Hospital on September 2nd, came through the procedure okay. They are waiting on test results.

## ***Prayer List***

Dr. Hank Abrams; Sheila Alcazar; Wayne Anderson; Betty Branson; Bill and Mary Brown; Glenna Callendar; LaDonna Chism; Debbie Cox; Catherine Eastwood; Dana Erwin; Mark Erwin; Philip Garza; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Elaine Huntington; Mildred Lee; Jason Moore; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Richard Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Chassidy Rayos; Carlos Reyes; David Ryan; Lisa Salas; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Darryl Williamson; Bill Wood; Charles Wood; John Wood, Aaron York, Julia York.

## ***Eisenhower's Shut-ins***

Glenna Callendar; LaVerne Couch, James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Hillis; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

## ***Events***

Watch "***In Search of the Lord's Way***" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

This year the "**24th Annual Lubbock Lectureship**, hosted by the Southside Church of Christ in Lubbock, will be held October 9-12, 2022. Their flyer showing all the speakers and topics is posted on our bulletin board in the east foyer. The theme is "The Word of God". Please try to set aside some time to attend one or more if you are able.

## Youth

Bible Knowledge .... Who said it?

Rebekah said to Abraham's servant, "I'll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking."  
(Genesis 24:44)

## Food for Thought...

The things that count most in life are the things that can't be counted.

Blessed are those who give without remembering. And, blessed are those who take without forgetting.

It is wise to remember that you are one of those who can be fooled some of the time.

## Office News

The items requested for our "Food Pantry" for the weeks of 9/4 and 9/11 are: **cornmeal, vinegar & mustard (plastic bottles only)**

## Don't Leave Out the Most Important Part (Continued from page 2)

Let me say it here—and please do not wrest my words out of their context. *It is not the water in and of itself that saves. It is Christ who saves and He graciously does so through obedient faith that accepts His Word and goes down into the water* (Mark 16:15-16; Ephesians 2:8-9).

In Christ alone my hope is found.  
He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground.  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All.  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

Mike Benson

## September 11th, 2022 A.M.

Announcements	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Oliver Hernandez
Sermon	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Travis Ruckman
Second Prayer	Larry May
Closing Prayer	Tommy Garcia

## P.M.

Allen Weakland
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Isaiah Armendarez
Jeff Wesson
Caleb York

Lords Supper

**Scripture Reading**

Don Easlon  
David Ryan  
Josh Wells  
Cody Wesson

Bill Ryan

Communion  
(In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Allen Weakland—254-8209 *Deacon:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 *Pulpit:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332—*Table:* Bill Ryan 352--4871—*Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 —  
*Recording Sermons:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Collections:* Tommy Garcia

**Sunday AM**

*“Soft Targets”*

*(Judges 18:1-10)*

**Sunday PM**

*“Pilgrims Faith”*

*(Hebrews 11:11-12)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 73*

*Morning Worship...102*

*Evening Worship ...62*

*Wednesday...57*

*Contribution...\$5,662.00*

*Special Contrib... \$2,367.00*