

TAKE AND EAT, TAKE AND DRINK

When Jesus wanted to give his followers - then and now - a way of understanding what was about to happen to him, he did not teach them a theory. Theories about how Jesus' death dealt with our sins have come and gone throughout church history. Many of them are profoundly moving, drawing together deep spiritual insight, remarkable theological understanding, and a commitment to bring God's love to a needy world. Many of them have inspired Christian people with a new view of God's grace and mercy. Theories have their proper place. But they weren't the main thing that Jesus gave his followers.

He gave them an act to perform. Specifically, he gave them a meal to share. It is a meal that speaks more volumes than any theory. The best way of finding out what it says is of course to do, not to talk about it but do it.

*Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread,
and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said,
"Take, eat; this is my body."*

Matthew 26:26

Jesus used the Passover meal to teach us what he has done for us. Jesus has done for the whole world what God did for Israel through Moses and Aaron. Jesus has rescued us from the powers that seek to enslave and destroy us.

When the powers of evil that were enslaving God's people were at their worst, God acted to judge Egypt and to save Israel. And the sign and means of both judgment and rescue was the Passover: the angel of death struck down the firstborn of all Egypt, but spared Israel as the firstborn of God, "passing over" their houses because of the blood of the lamb on the doorposts. Jesus' own death enables his people to escape.

*And he took a cup,
and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying,
"Drink of it, all of you,
for this is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*

Matthew 26:27-28

We who come together to obey Jesus' command, to break bread and to drink fruit of the vine in his memory, find ourselves drawn into that salvation, that healing life. The powers may still rage, like Pharaoh and his army pursuing the Egyptians after Passover. But they had been defeated, and rescue is secure. (Adapted from Tom Wright)

**Grace & Peace
Derek**

Sunday Conference call:

To listen to our Sunday morning service live,
call 1-800-914-8405 followed by 4896244

YOU MUST MUTE YOUR PHONE

Family News & Notes

- **Betty Walker** has an aggressive leukemia and opted for no treatments.
- **Larry Mehr** will have surgery soon.
- **Dean Hasler** will be a bone marrow donor for his brother Mike in December.
- **Herman Davis** has cancer in his lungs, brain and liver.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

HEALTH ISSUES: Joe Albritton, Cindy Caldwell, Herman Davis, Jim Hertter, Ken Joines, Misha Kimbell, Peggy McGowen, James Neal, Jerry Richardson, Jamie Vorhof, Betty Walker, Linda Weatherford, Eddie & Margaret Whalen, Lula Whittle, Jane Winstead

HOSPICE CARE: Katie Culley, Robert Coleman

REHAB: Margaret Whalen

SHUT-INS: Valeria Canada, Lorene Edge, Cora Epperson, FM Hylander, Evelyn Fowler, Sallye Giles, Irmagene Hall, Margaret Jones, Jackie Lorensen, Dot McEwen, Billy & Betty Moore, Dorinda Murphy, Louise Schmittou, Helen Weathers

FAMILY: Jeanette Barnes, Maxine Drewery, Mike Hasler, Zayden Huffman, Melanie Keffer, Terrance Simmons, Ray Yearwood

SYMPATHY

Goodman Oaks would like to extend our sympathy to **Ann Walker and family** at the passing of Ann's brother, Tommy McGovern.

BAPTISM

Congratulations to **Lizanne Ales and family**. Lizanne was baptized **Monday, November 13, 2017**.

EL SALVADOR DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Please support the Goodman Oaks team traveling to El Salvador in December by attending the lunch and silent auction following the morning service **today**. Menu includes chili, Mexican soup (vegetarian and gluten friendly), cornbread / crackers, and dessert. There will be corndogs and chips for the children. The price will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for ages 5-10.

ENCOURAGEMENT CLASS

There will be no Encouragement Class on **Tuesday, November 21**. We will resume on **Tuesday, November 28**.

MIDWEEK THANKSGIVING SERVICE

We will meet on **Tuesday, November 21, at 7:00PM** for a time of congregational thanksgiving. There will be **no service on Wednesday**. Have a safe and blessed Thanksgiving.

Reminders . . .

- ☞ Remain cautious in construction areas.
- ☞ SHARE will meet today at 3:45PM.
- ☞ Evening Services tonight will be in the auditorium.
- ☞ TLC's have breakfast at Hazel's @ 8AM 11-21-17.

INVITE A FRIEND TO WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

MAKING A MEANINGFUL LIFE

Has life ever been more convenient for humans than it is now? Curbside pickup, text messaging, GPS directions, and so much more have cut corners in life and made life easier in some ways. But are there fewer struggling marriages today? Are there fewer families facing chronic sickness? Are there fewer parents praying fervently about their children's mistakes? No, there aren't. Whether you've signed up for Auto-Pay or not, life is still hard.

Dave Bland said, "We live in technologically advanced but character challenged times ...Thanks to technological advancements, our culture does better at providing skills appropriate for a successful career or comfortable home than it does for making life more meaningful."

Starting in December, our **Wednesday night adult classes** will be studying how to make life more meaningful. Using the tools God gave us in the books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, we are going to have a three month training session in character development. Our mission is to make and mature disciples and these two books of wisdom will help us mature as disciples and bring God's kingdom into DeSoto County and deeper in our own lives. **Marty Brownfield (room 24) and Matthew Crowe (room 20)** will be leading this exercise in wisdom. We look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday, December 6**.

PARAGOULD'S ANGELS

Saturday, December 9, from 11:30AM until 3:00PM Santa will be here when our kids from Paragould's Children's home come to receive their angel tree gifts. Please have your angel's gifts in one LARGE gift bag with their names on the front. Have them here no later than **Wednesday, December 6** and place them on the stage in the auditorium.



YOUTH NEWS

TEEN GROUPS

Next Sunday, November 26, we will have our teen groups at the McCormick's house. Teens can show up as early as **4:45PM** and we end at **7PM**.

AREA WIDE

Our next area wide will be **Sunday, December 3**, at the Friendship Church of Christ. The plan will be to meet at their building. The area wide starts at **5PM** and will end around **7PM**. If you need a ride please let **Jared** know.

WINTERFEST

The dates for **Winterfest** are **February 16-18**. The \$51 deposit will cover your registration fee, your t-shirt and it will get your name on the list of those attending. The total cost will be \$125. All money is due **February 1**.

