

Thursday, March 20, 2025

03.16.25 Pastor Joseph Dodson *Notes by Pastor Ashley Dodson*
Mark 2:13-17

(Levi) Matthew was a tax collector. The Jews did not like tax collectors because they worked for Rome. Religious leaders would not call a tax collector to follow them. They would not have been allowed.

An invitation to follow Him is an invitation to change and an invitation to observe the truth and love in action.

The scribes described what disqualifies you. According to the law, if you want to be accepted means you have to change first.

The law can accuse but it cannot transform. The heart doesn't change just by someone telling you what's wrong with you.

The law just accuses. The law lets you know you need to change but can't show you how.

Jesus showed acceptance leads to change. Until Jesus Noone ever invited Matthew to see and learn how to change.

Jesus says to Matthew, "follow me."

Many sinners and tax collectors were eating with Jesus, the invitation and acceptance spread to others he knew. He isn't changed yet but he's positioned to change. Make a move to position you to learn for when change comes.

To Matthew and his connections, this is evangelism.

Not telling them how wrong they are but grabbing someone who needs the same thing you need and getting them to Jesus with you.

Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners. "If they really knew who Jesus was", they should be asking why they aren't sitting at the table too. It goes against all they have been taught. Jesus and His disciples have an open table.

People who have never been accepted from the Pharisees and Scribes now feel invited and accepted.



**ACTS OF SERVICE
NEXT WEEK (Sun Mar 23)**

Cleaning (wk of 3/17 - 3/122) :
Wells Family

Communion: Rick Matlock (Mar 23)
Loren Graves (Mar 30)
Nursery: Stephanie Adee
Greeters: Ryan Millar & ???
CC Kids: Ghendi Essington & Deanne Foster (Mar 23)
Katie Ewert & Michael Lamendola (Mar 30)

Jesus is the expressed image of the invisible God, and He's willing to call those who don't have it figured out yet and accepts them before he transforms them.

Scribes asked the disciples, not willing to ask Jesus directly. When Jesus heard it, those who are well have no need of a physician. Those who are sick do.

God's perspective of sin in a person's life. The way He addresses sin is to bring people close, he sees sin as a sickness. Behavior is a symptom of a greater sickness. Treating symptoms doesn't cure the sickness. If you can get them to Jesus, He is the cure.

"Lord, I'm never going to do this again."

People come to church with a cough and we try to give them a cough drop just to keep the cough away or to quiet the cough; instead of getting them close to God for Him to heal the sickness. The prescription from the Physician is to "Follow Me."

You must renew your mind. Discipleship is a healing journey. You're caring your stuff with you. Forgiveness is automatic but transformation is a process.

As I'm following, I am making a move towards Him but also away from the sin.

If we're going to be changed and be the people Christ is revealed through, we need to get ahold of the understanding that change comes after acceptance not before.

His invitation to "Follow Him" leads to change.

Sinners are attracted to Love.



BIRTHDAYS:

Piper Essington (3/20)
Greg Byars (3/20)
Landon Arnold (3/21)
Ezra Dodson (3/29)
Crystal Cefarelli (3/31)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Garry & Kerry Lambert (3/18)

**No Christ Church
Connection Newsletter
Next Week March 27, 2025
Sorry!**





THANK
YOU

Dear friends of Peggy Cheshier,

Thank you all so much for your thoughtfulness and kindness during this difficult time.

Several of you came by the house for a visit and/or brought food and gifts. Your caring presence has been much appreciated!

To those of you who wrote tributes to Peggy on social media and on the Loran Fawcett web page, thank you for taking the time to write such kind words.

Please know, if you bought flowers for the funeral and/or gave money to the Christ Church benevolent fund in honor of Peggy, that your generosity means a lot to all of us.

Many of you came to Peggy's celebration of life at the church and we consider it an honor that you attended. Words cannot express how you all lifted our spirits that day. Special thanks to Shawn and the others who lovingly carried out Peggy's funeral service arrangements. Also, thank you to our Christ Church family for cleaning the church, preparing and serving the lovely family dinner, running sound and media, and creating the slide show. We also appreciate all who participated in the service, officiated the service, sang or played music, read or shared scriptures and memories, and stories. We are overjoyed and so grateful!

Sincerely,

The family of Peggy Cheshier

CAVETIME



STONE 3:
PRAYER

David's Model Prayers
From the Psalms

Page 135 - 137

- ☐ 18: 1 - I love you, Lord, My strength
- ☐ 23: 1 - The Lord is my shepherd
- ☐ 27: 1 - The Lord is my light...
the stronghold of my life
- ☐ 34: 1 - I will extol the Lord at all times
- ☐ 59: 9, 17 - O my Strength, ...
O my Strength
- ☐ 145: 1-2 I will praise your name
for ever and ever.
Every day I will praise you
- ☐ 18: 46 - The Lord lives!
Praise be to my Rock!
Exalted be God my Savior!
- ☐ 27:6 - I will sing and make music to the Lord
- ☐ 34:8 - Taste and see that the Lord is good

Cefarelli, Crystal

to me


Mar 13, 2025, 3:13 PM

Northlawn Attendance Incentive Event.
Kane Miller is the Watch Dog Volunteer.




March 2025


Case of Water for Spark Wheel.
Crystal Cefarelli 620-252-9333.



Water Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3			5	6	7
		8				9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
						17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
						25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Prayer Focus



Upcoming Dates:

Cindy Murphy – surgery April 14

Harold Robertson – upcoming back surgery

Cheryl Agosto – surgery

Dennis Wright – appointment 3/25

Just Keep Praying

Kris VanNice – kidney (Matt Arnold)

Jude Watkins (Shirley Drawdy's Friend)

Gene Fulghum – Jen Millar's dad

Rhemy Martin

Brad Anson

Jeeter (Natasha's grandson)

Kelley Powell

Shawn & Alli Bennett

SoHome!

Deb Wetmore – back

Louis Vincent

Tom & Linda Wheeler

Kylie – Ashley Dodson's friend

Kristen Bellar

Tim Adey – knee

Barb Howell – health

Connie Essington – health

Bill & Lynda Faught – Travel to Europe

Greg Byars – had surgery 3/11 (NO CANCER!)

Greg Buster – surgery; he is home!

Loren Graves – home!

Katelynn – Jerry's daughter & new grandbaby

Rick Matlock – procedure this week

Gary & Linda Kentch

Michale Eichhorn – court for kids 3/26

Michael Hatcher – more surgeries

Malachi Cousin's aunt – went home with the Lord

Family of Jan Snyder

Family of John & Annette Daniel

Pastor Susan Hood's Family – her mother went (U. Methodist Church) home with the Lord

Toby Lavine – health

Lindsey Arnold's family

Travels for spring break



Neodesha High School Students received awards at the 57th annual Keith Hersch Scholars Banquet



Sophomores: Dharmonie Drawdy, Caylee Eggers, Madison Harvey, Aiden Johnson, Savannah Kelly, Anthony Landry, Colton Newton, Addison North, Madilyn Vai, **Kenzie Van Nice**



Seniors Maggie Chandler, Darcie Dyke, Rose Imhoff, Tucker Leck, Samantha Stover, **Bailey Van Nice**

- Photos by Rob Morgan

Christ Churcher Shoutouts!

Christ Churcher Shoutouts!

THE NEODESHA DERRICK NEWS

March 20, 2025 Page 1



Ezra Dodson

The Blue Tunes perform at the spring concert last Thursday evening in the auditorium at Neodesha High School.

- Photo by Rob Morgan

Facebook Live & Christ Church YouTube Page Update

Facebook has announced that all of our (actually all videos) over 30 days old will be removed from their platform. Also, as an ongoing basis all future Facebook live videos will only be available for only 30 days before they will be removed from the Facebook platform. So, what this means for us, we will continue to video our Sunday morning worship services as Facebook Live videos as much as possible as we have done in the past. However, those videos will only be available for 30 days from the day they were filmed. This is a Facebook policy and thus there is nothing we can do about it.

HOWEVER, Pastor Ray has been working diligently to get our camera back on operation that can put videos to our YouTube channels. That should be ready to go in the near future. There are already several videos and historical audios of Pastor Dave's sermons out there and we encourage you to subscribe to our Christ Church YouTube Channel.

It's easy, follow the link below.

If you are already subscribed, you will see this



Subscribed ▼

you don't have to do anything!

Otherwise click on this icon

Subscribe

to subscribe and you are done!

Look around to see what content you might have missed from the past.

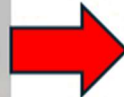
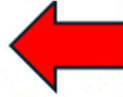
Christ Church of Neodesha

@christchurchofneodesha2284 · 91 subscribers · 123 videos

<https://www.youtube.com/@christchurchofneodesha2284>



A March 2025 update from
Jim and Marlene Koslowsky



Honoring Faithfulness in Ministry

In 1981 Ben and Diane Goldsmith moved from Atlanta to begin the ministry of Cru Inner City Jacksonville, Florida. After **36 years** leading the ministry, they passed the baton in 2017 to Tony and Connie Johnson. Now the baton has passed again, this time to James Burden.

To honor the service of the Goldsmiths and the Johnsons, one of my colleagues on the Expansion Team, Derrick, and I put on a ministry celebration brunch. Ben and Diane and Tony and Connie were each presented crystal awards, with inscriptions detailing their faithful service to Jacksonville. Ben and Tony each spoke and thanked supporters and ministry partners in attendance and shared what the ministry meant to them. They also spoke of James' involvement as a volunteer and the faithfulness he showed to helping bring the gospel to inner city Jacksonville. All that eventually lead him to join Cru Inner City Staff full time.

James was then introduced as the official Cru Inner City representative. He shared a bit of his heart for the ministry and where he sees it going in the future. We then had a ceremony where Ben passed an actual relay baton to Tony and they both passed it to James. After James was prayed over the event concluded.

It was very fitting to honor these faithful men and women. I felt privileged to have been a part.



James and Friends

Here are some prayer requests for our team

Our team has been dealing with several serious issues. We would appreciate prayer for our friends.

New York – In July 2024 our colleague Glen's wife, Carole found out she has pancreatic cancer. She has gone through several rounds of treatment which are difficult but she remains in good spirits.

Tampa – In September 2024 Jackie's husband, Ricky, was bitten by a mosquito and contracted equine encephalitis and sadly, passed away. Our team has had the privilege of walking with Jackie and her family through this huge change in her life. It is very hard but she is holding tight to Jesus and growing through this difficult time.

For me, Jim - I have had dizziness for most of last year related to my Meniere's Syndrome. About five weeks ago the dizziness intensified. It is not vertigo, but it does make me very tired as I expend energy to keep my balance. I would appreciate prayer for it to end. Or that I cope with this "new normal".

Jacksonville – James' wife Tomilko has been diagnosed with a tumor on her kidney. The treatment is yet to be determined.

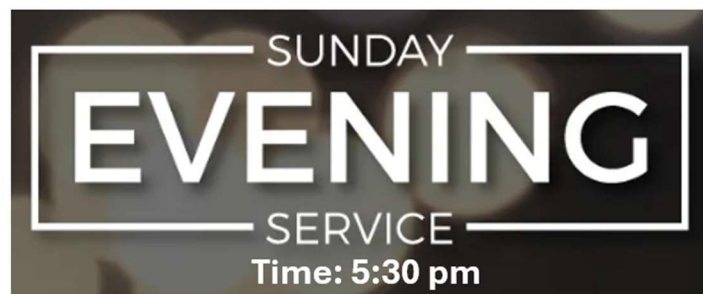
Wait a minute - Just as I was writing this, I got a call from James. (I am coaching him in support raising and he had a question.) After we discussed his question, he said he had great news. Tomilko had gotten a second opinion, and the doctor ordered another scan of her kidney. What they found was the tumor had shrunk to almost nothing and was no longer a problem! We are so relieved for Tomilko and James and are grateful for the good news.

Jim and Marlene Koslowsky
250 Windsor Dr., Fayetteville, GA. 30215

jim.koslowsky@cru.org * marlenekoslow@gmail.com
Jim's Cell 404-783-0978 * Marlene's Cell 770-906-7825

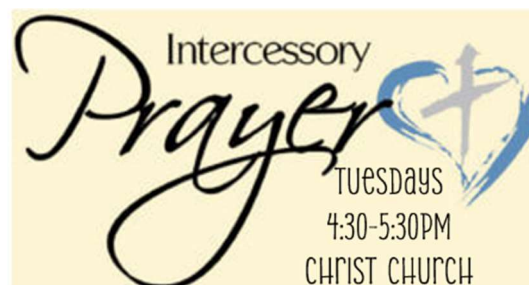
Thank you for your prayers that help us fight the spiritual battle,

Jim



CaveTime and Women's Bible Study Wednesday Nights at 6:00 pm.
See you there!

Women's BIBLE STUDY



Neodesha Christian Recovery
Thursdays 6:30pm
Lord's Chapel

SUNDAY 7 PM YOUTH GROUP

If you want something in the **Christ Church Connection** Newsletter, send an email to:
christchurchneody@gmail.com;
subject: Connection Newsletter as early in the week as possible!



Just sayin', this is the best way to get something in the newsletter. Telling, texting or a scrap of paper is relying on an old man's sketchy memory. Thanks. Gene.



This tree is on the church property katty corner northeast of the church building. **Dennis Wright** talked to the city and if we can get the main trunk close to the curb, the city will haul it away for us. We are trying to get a working group of guys to meet there at 10:00 a.m on Saturday, March 22. Bring chainsaws, chains, tractors (?), etc. and we will formulate a plan to get that trunk moved the few feet to the west to be closer to that curb. THANKS!

The City of Neodesha has already removed the tree!
Thank you so much city crew!!!



E A T I N G S M S Z O D T D R
T D T I N R O E M U P I S R O
C H F L E J E S U O H S G I T
K G G N F S E U E A K C K N C
K C N U I O D S R R P I L K E
G I I R A I L W U O M P Y I L
S H A S N T N L A S R L E N L
G H I I Y O V G O E O E I G O
P A N G P R H D N W H S V W C
X G S E D U T I T L U M E V X
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A N A I C I S Y H P T O O E K
J T A X R R I G H T E O U S Y
S E B I R C S X A T S T U S S
T A F X P B I M W D R M S P R

Arose		
Disciples		
Follow		
Levi	Collector	
Pharisees	Drinking	
Scribes	House	
Sinners	Matthew	Dining
Together	Physician	Eating
	Sea	Jesus
	Taught	Multitude
		Righteous
		Sick
		Tax

Upcoming
EVENTS

April 13, 2025

6:00 pm



**Neodesha Ministerial
Alliance**

Community Worship Service
1st Southern Baptist Church



PRAYER
Worship Weekend
FRIDAY - SUNDAY
MARCH 28TH - 30TH 2025 |
FRIDAY NIGHT 6:00 PM
SATURDAY 10AM AND 6PM
SUNDAY 10AM  NEODOSHA NAZARENE

 **CHAD
SEABRIGHT**  **CONNOR AND
AUTUMN PATRICK**

April 17, 2025

7:00 pm



**MAUNDY THURSDAY
SERVICE**

United Meth.
Church