

8:20 & 10:30 AM SERVICES

Song: Shout Hallelujah.....
 Welcome
 Song: O Come Let Us Adore Him
 Song: All Hail The Power of Jesus Name
 Scripture: Psalm 148:1-6James Burnett/Kyle Schaper
 Prayer: Mike Kelso/Keith Woods
 Song: The First Noel
 Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me.....
 CommunionBen Schaefer/Bradley Maddox
 Contribution/Budge Presentation
 Song: Tell Me The Story Of Jesus
 Sermon: "Celebrate" David Duncan
 Song: There's A Stirring
 Shepherd's Prayer: Frank Devine
 Song: O Praise The Name
 Song Leaders: Matt Hoffmeister/Tucker Harding

SERMON NOTES

CELEBRATE

_____ is celebrated
 in the New Testament.
 _____ of Jesus celebrated.
 Luke 2:8-14
 _____ of Jesus celebrated.
 Matthew 2:10-11
 Who else celebrated?
 Joseph & Mary
 _____ & John the Baptist

 They celebrated at the _____
 of Jesus.
 _____ & the other women
 Matthew 28:5-9
 They celebrated when _____ returned.
 Luke 15:18-24
 We will celebrate when Jesus _____.
 1 Thessalonians 4:15-17
 If I'm not moved to celebrate, _____?

6:00 PM SERVICE

Song: He Keeps Me Singing.....
 Song: How Can I Keep From Singing?.....
 Welcome
 Prayer:Gilbert Alderete
 Song: O Come All Ye Faithful
 Song: O Come Let Us Adore Him.....
 Song: Heaven Came Down.....
 Sermon: "Tidings Of Comfort And Joy: Joy" David Duncan
 Song: The Joy Of The Lord.....
 Prayer: Jerry Gerlich
 Song: Joy To The World.....
 Song Leader: Wade Price

TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY

Joy

What is joy?
 Let the _____ describe it ...
 Joy came from John the Baptist's role with the
 _____.
 Luke 1:11-14
 God amongst _____
 is a source of joy.
 Luke 2:8-11
 Being in the _____ of Jesus brings joy.
 Matthew 2:10-11
 Joy is produced when knowing the
 _____ Jesus.
 Luke 24:50-53
 Joy comes from being _____
 into Jesus.
 Acts 8:39
 Luke 15:3-7
 How do I get joy?
 Joy is an _____ in Jesus
 that comes from a relationship with Him.
 Joy completely trusts God to make
 all things _____.
 What do I need _____ to have joy?

Love.Lead.Live.Jesus.

Ministry Staff

David Duncan Preaching	Mike Avery Youth & Family	Shawn Freeman Youth & Bridge	Quincey Spurlock Resident Intern	Laura Norwood Elementary
Spencer Prather Preschool	Jack Prather Technology	Wayne Roberts Connection	Jessica Fuller Friendship School	

Family Shepherds

Bill Burdette **Daron Cathey** **Frank Devine** **Jerry Gerlich** **Greg Hughes** **Tom Messick**
Terry Montgomery **Alan Pence** **Robby Robinson, Jr.** **Craig Schuster** **Chris Shanks**



December 15, 2024

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Penelope Jenkins was alone on the train. It was meandering through the wheat fields of Kansas to a small town she had never heard of. This was going to be her first teaching job, having recently graduated from a prestigious ivy league school in the northeast. A one room school with all 11 grades together would be a challenge.

The next morning she met with the school trustees, a banker and two farmers. They explained that they wanted her to "learn" the kids "Readin, Riten and Rithmetic." "Oh, by the way, you're responsible for the Christmas Pageant. Every child must have a part. The teacher you are replacing didn't do a very good job, but don't worry, the props are all made and there are books with all the words. It is the story about the birth of Jesus."

School started the next week and while teaching the "3 Rs" she was constantly thinking about "Who should I cast as an angel? Who could be a shepherd?" By October she had identified someone for all the parts... except for Johnny.

Johnny was a 5th grader, described by his parents as a "slow" student. He had difficulty speaking, remembering things, couldn't sing and was allergic to wool. She finally settled on him being the inn keeper, with only one line to learn and deliver; "There's no room in the inn." Johnny was thrilled! He had never been in a play with a speaking part. He practiced every day.

The night of the pageant, the one room school was packed. Johnny, behind the inn door, had been listening to the Bible readings, the angels singing, the shepherd's excitement and Joseph and Mary's talk of having a baby.

There was a knock on the inn door. Johnny opened it and said, "There's no room in the inn." Joseph said "Please sir, my wife is expecting a baby and it is so cold." "There's no room in the Inn."

Joseph turned to walk away. Johnny, caught up in the moment, with tears in his eyes shouted "Wait! You can have my room!"

The curtain came down. Penelope cried and so did others who realized they had witnessed the meaning of Christmas.

- Adapted, Jerry



Jerry Gerlich
 Memorial
 Shepherd

Holiday Schedule

Sunday

December 22 & 29

8:20 am Worship

9:30 am coffee/donuts

10:30 am Worship

No Bible Classes, Nursery,

Toddler Time, or Bible Hour.

Unattended nursery open.

Note: No PM service

Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday

December 24 | 7 PM

No class or small groups

Christmas Day

Wednesday

December 25

No services

New Year's Day

Wednesday

January 1

No services

WiFi: MCoC Guest
 Password: mcoc1234

Members:

Check in via your Elexio app

Guests:

We are so glad that you are here.

We'd love to stay in touch with you.

Check in here.



UPCOMING EVENTS

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 22/29

8:20 am Worship/10:30 am Worship/9:30 am coffee/donuts
No Bible Classes, Nursery, Toddler Time, or Bible Hour
Unattended nursery open. Note: No PM service.

Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24; 7 pm; No class or small groups

Note: No meeting on Wednesday, 12/25

Christmas Day; Wednesday, December 25

No services

New Year's Day; Wednesday, January 1

No services

The church office will be closed **December 24, December 25, and January 1.**

BOOKING NOW; The Ark Encounter & Creation Museum Trip

March 29-April 6, 2025

\$1150 per person/double occupancy
9 days, 8 nights; Add \$319 for single occupancy.
Deposit: \$75/Final payment due January 22.
Contact: **Amy LaMore**

DECEMBER

December 19; 11:30 am; Oak View Room

Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon

Open to all 55+. Catered by Natalias. Santa will be there and seasonal songs will be sung. No cost to attend but please let **Amy LaMore** know by 12/15 if you will be there.

New! December 20; 7:00 pm; Family Center Game Night honoring Patrica Berry-Jones

Bring finger foods & games to share as we gather with Patricia's family and remember her life.

JANUARY

January 12; Baby Blessing; We will honor all of our 2024 babies! Contact: **Spencer Prather**

January 12; 11:30 am; Family Center Leadership Training for Christ Kick-Off

Informational luncheon with sign-ups for students (ages 3rd grade and up) and volunteer coaches for puppets, drama, speech, chorus, Bible reading, and more! LTC will be held April 18-20, 2025 in Dallas. Contact: **April Sprott**

January 15; 6:00 pm; Family Center Family Fellowship Meal

Adults: \$5/Kids: \$3; Sign-up requested.
Contact: **Shawn Freeman**

FEBRUARY

New! February 1; 8:30 am-1:00 pm
Oak View Room; February 2; 9:30 am-10:30 am; 12:00 pm-1:30 pm;
Chapel/Oak View Room

Empowering Subjects Evangelism Training

The purpose of Empowering Subjects is to equip subjects of the King to change the world like Jesus and so experience the sacrifice, fulfillment, and joy of cooperating with God to grow His kingdom among us. Contact: **Larry Phillips**

New! February 2; Blood Drive; Contact: **Daniel Allen**

February 7-9, 2025; "Called Up"

Men's Retreat; Trinity Pines Conference Center, Trinity, TX; Open to Men 18+
Cost: \$100/person; Registration deadline: January 22, 2025; Contact: **Jeremy Sprott**



BIBLE CLASSES; Sun. - 9:30 am; Wed. - 7:00 pm

December 18; 5:00-7:00 pm
Movie In The Pews - The Star; Open to ages 2-4th grade. Bring your child's dinner.

December 18; 7:00 pm; Preschool Pajama Party

Wear your pajamas to Bible Class!

New - January 10; 9:30 am; Indoor Playground Mochas with Moms

January 12, 2025; Baby Blessing

If you have had a baby in 2024 and would like to participate in Baby Blessing Sunday, please contact Spencer Prather at spencer@mcoc.org or look out for an email from her for more information.



7th-12th



5th-6th

BIBLE CLASSES Sun. - 9:30 a.m. Wed. - 7:00 pm

Small Groups; Every Wednesday night; 7:00 pm
Open to grades 7-12!

Tonight; 4:30-7:00 pm

Home of Alice Kate & Gibson Allison

Bridge Christmas Party; Bus will leave MCOC at 4:00 and return at 7:30 pm. Bring a \$10 White Elephant gift.

January 31-February 1, 2025; Bridge Retreat

MARK YOUR SUMMER 2025 CALENDARS!

Mission Houston - June 9-12 (completed 5th-7th)

Trek - June 15-21 (completed 8th-12th)

Bandina - June 29-July 5 (completed 5th-12th)

MCOC VBX - July 13-16 (completed 4th-5th)

Impact VBS - July 20-24 (completed 5th-12th)

FOCAS

College Age Singles
Sundays - Family Center 309
Single Adults (20's/30's)

December 31; 7:00-10:00 pm

New Year's Eve Party

home of Zachary, Emily, & Laura Burdette

YEAR END GIVING NOTE

When making your year-end charitable contribution, checks are considered to be received on the date given, regardless of the date on the check. Checks mailed to the church office are considered given on the date of the postmark. Postdated checks mailed & postmarked in 2024 will be considered given in 2024. Online giving is available at mcoc.org and in the Elexio app.

FAMILY NEWS

Need something included in the bulletin? Email jshanks@mcoc.org by Wednesdays at noon.

CONGRATULATIONS

Baby boy, **Asher James Garay**, was born December 5 to proud parents, **Eddie & Allie**, and big sister, **Emmy**, weighing 8 lbs., 1 oz, and measuring 21 in.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Donna Ballard, sister of **Debbie Landes**, has been moved out of ICU into a regular room.

Jo Gonzales requests continued prayers.

Diane Holleman, grandmother of **Stephen Holleman**, has been moved to a skilled nursing rehab facility.

Chris Jones, the son-in-law of **Jim & Darlene Welborne**, entered MD Anderson last week to begin the process of receiving a stem cell transplant. He could remain there for up to a month.

Charles Lewis, the brother of **Christopher Lewis**, is in need of continued prayer.

Naomi Maxey, mother of **Jeff Maxey**, is in need of prayers for comfort as she struggles with dementia.

Paula Pierce received good reports from the doctors and continues to improve. She is thankful for the prayers.

Ledger Robertson has returned home from the hospital following his surgery. The family requests prayers for healing & wisdom as he enters his treatment phase. You may follow his progress at "Ledger's Warriors," found on Facebook.

Rowan Stokes, has returned home from the hospital.

John Watkins is home following surgery last week.

SYMPATHY

David Mahaffey passed away December 5. We express our deep sympathy to **Barbara**, their son, **Mark**, daughter, **Summer**, and all other friends & family.

Gary Young, brother of **Amy LaMore**, passed away December 8 in Tampa, FL. Our sympathy goes out to **Amy**, Gary's young daughter, **Amanda**, his nieces & nephews, as well as his friends.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

We express our appreciation to **Pam Blythe, Dick & Ruth Anne Casci, Brad & Taylor Colliander, Jeremy & Laura Hardegree** and their children, **Ava, Noah, & Micah, Devan & Deena Mitchell, Leane Hance, Wayne & Tami Roberts, Susan Schuster, and Jack & Spencer Prather**, for all of the help they gave with our beautiful Christmas decorations. Thank you!

2025 Mission trips to South Africa

April 2-15 and July 30-August 8; Needed: Bible class teachers, organizers, servants of all kinds. Contact **Kirk Eason**

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

All are invited to find their place at Memorial as we seek to share the love of Jesus and serve others.

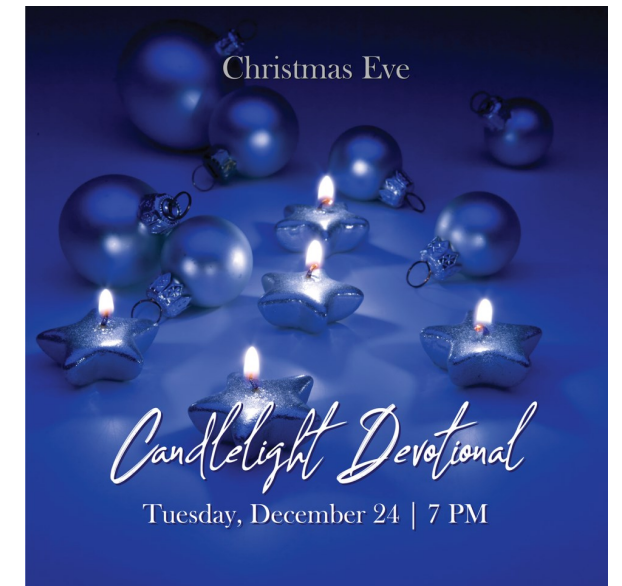
New! Christmas dinner for Ukrainian refugee families

December 21; 2:45 pm; Family Center

We need your help! Please donate a traditional American Christmas dish (like ham/turkey, casseroles, or desserts) to the Family Center by 2:45 pm on December 21.

Contact Yulia at 832-541-6915 to let her know if you are able to donate a dish.

It's an amazing opportunity to reach out to new refugees and show them the love of Jesus and Memorial.



FAMILY RECORDS

CONTRIBUTION

12/8/24 Offering - \$58,981
Weekly Budget - \$62,503
YTD Budget Deficit - **(\$145,516)**
Kids' Contribution - \$103.33



TO GIVE

ATTENDANCE - 12/8/24

8:20 am - 210 10:30 am - 522
AM Total - 732
6:00 pm - 79

2024 BAPTISMS - 34

Follow us



Prayer Requests

Public - jshanks@mcoc.org
Private - prayer@mcoc.org