

News and Notes

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Patrick King - Neurological problems. Numbness on one side, difficulty walking.
Lee Moses - Suffered a seizure last week and is on medicaation and in therapy..
Pam Patrick - General health problems. Now undergoing treatment with new medicine.
David Brown - Spring, Texas preacher, blood clots in his leg.
Sandy Craig - Ongoing kidney problems. No word on recent tests.
Jo Ann McLerran - Doing better/Back problems.
Glenda Marble - Faithful Christian at Lexington, Okla. Heart problems.
Debbie Post - Wife of Doug Post, preacher in Salisbury, Maryland - Cancer.
Sissy Craig - For spiritual and emotional strength.
Charles and Linda Pogue - Congestive heart failure.
Nancy Verkist - Ellensburg, Washington. Suffering from Von Hippel Lindau disease.
Don Smith - Faithful brother in Christ persecuted for teaching fellow inmates in an Ohio prison.

GONE THIS WEEK - Jerry is in Odessa, Texas this week for a gospel meeting with the Parkview church. Earl and Nancy are gone, visiting their son’s family and celebrating their grandson’s birthday. Patrick will preach here.

HEALTH UPDATE - Patrick King suffered a great deal of numbness in his side and has tingling in his fingers. Last week he walked with a cane. He does not know the cause of his problem, but is looking into it. Brother Lee Moses reported that his seizure *may* have been epilepsy, but no final diagnosis has been received by us yet. Dub McClish reports very fine progress following his eye surgery for cataracts.

KENYA REPORT - Contributors this week to the Kenya Fund are the Bellview church of Christ, Pensacola, Fla.; Gary and Jacque Rogers, Quanah, Texas; Harold and Ruth Tydings, Broken Arrow, Okla.; the East side church of Christ, Lexington, Okla.; and Holley Brewer, Noble, Okla. Forty copies of Jerry’s book, *Unto The Churches of Galatia: A Commentary on Paul’s Epistle To The Galatians*, were mailed to Benard this week for preacher students in Kenya.

New Website - Jim Miller of Gray, Maine is in the process of designing Northeast a new website. It should be up and running in about three weeks and will be a vast improvement over the old one.

Our building is located at East Avenue C and North Locust in Elk City, Oklahoma, one block east of Van Buren on Avenue C. You are invited to visit with us at any of our meeting times.

Weekly Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes.....9:30

Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30

Sunday Afternoon Worship.....5:00

Visit Us on The Web

You Tube - www.youtube.com/channel/UCjd5rSEV1vXCNx52ouOrXoQ

Website - www.necoccec.org

Face Book - www.facebook.com/nechurchofchristecok



Sound Doctrine

“But speak thou the things that become sound doctrine” (Titus 2:1)

Published Weekly By The Northeast church of Christ
P. O. Box 267, Elk City, Oklahoma 73648

Volume 12, No. 27

Sept. 10, 2017

New Internet Bible Class

Jerry C. Brewer

The internet provides a tremendous tool for reaching the lost with the gospel of Christ. It is now possible for someone in Western Oklahoma, or Maine, to sit at a computer and teach the word of God around the world. That is precisely what we propose to do in a new Bible class over the internet.

The brainchild of brother Jim Miller of Gray, Maine, he and I will begin teaching this class Sept. 28. It will be a study of first principles of the faith which will enable those who are not Christians to know the saving gospel of Christ—with an added advantage. It will be an opportunity for Christians to have their faith strengthened by participation in it as well. Please share this information with your friends and loved ones who are out of Christ and who may have an interest in Bible study. This is your chance to do personal work and perhaps lead a soul to Christ.

Jim and I will be live in the class and there is a chat window for students to participate and ask questions. Lessons will also be archived on Jim’s YouTube Channel, so they will always be available for viewing. In order to participate, students will need to download a program from this website: <https://zoom.us/j/641473816>. When you go there, you will be prompted to download and install the program. It is free of charge and McAfee has designated this as a safe site for downloads. Jim and I have both downloaded it. This program that will take you to each of the classes, which will be conducted each Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m., Eastern Time (5:00 p.m. Central Time) and will last for 30 minutes.

This internet program can accommodate up to 100 people, so there is plenty of room for everyone. If you need help in getting this program or have any questions about it or the class, Jim and I will be happy to assist you. See you in class, Sept. 28th!

Church Support Of Colleges Is Unscriptural

Jerry C. Brewer

It is not the function of the college to train workers in the vineyard of the Lord. Foy E. Wallace, Jr. addressed that proposition in 1948 and what he wrote in 1948 remains relevant today:

The source of “Christian Education” is not the college—it is the church. The edification of Christians is Christian education. The churches are engaged in Christian education in Bible classes on Lord’s Day and through the week, in prayer and study meetings, in gospel meetings, wherever the gospel is preached and whenever the Bible is taught. Christian teachers in various schools and colleges are merely (or should be) exercising their rights and prerogatives as individuals to teach the Bible in the schools they are conducting. But when these colleges are turned into seminaries, schools of theology, and become the organized agencies of the church for its work of “Christian education,” they do not differ from a missionary society either in principle or in practice. In so doing the very purpose of such schools is perverted, and they forfeit the right of even the individual support of those who ‘believe that the work of the church belongs to the church and cannot be delegated to boards or done through human institutions. (“A Distinction With A Scriptural Difference,” *The Bible Banner*, Vol. 10, No. 1, Jan., 1948, p. 7).

College officials are swift to point out that “the college isn’t the church,” when questioned about their school’s use of false teachers in a lectureship. That was the reply of officials at Oklahoma Christian University of Science and Arts when faithful brethren objected to speakers on that school’s lectureship in 2004. While it is true that the college isn’t the church, colleges have a propensity to dominate and usurp the function of the church by considering themselves as adjuncts of it—or as OCUSA says on its website, “At the very heart of this university is a desire to be a friend, ally and resource for churches of Christ.” On its website, Abilene Christian University calls itself a “church related” college, and Pepperdine University says it is “affiliated with the churches of Christ.”

Abilene Christian University was established in 1906 by members of Churches of Christ and has been closely affiliated with this body for nearly a century. The university is committed to biblical principles. Historically we believe these principles were reaffirmed through the Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement begun in early 19th-century America and expressed today through Churches of Christ. Defining ourselves as a “movement,” we are constantly in the process of articulating the basic elements of our biblically-based faith for our times—all without the involvement of denominational hierarchy. As an institution of Christian higher education within the movement, we are called to examine how our theological perspectives shape our educational philosophy. We also recognize that the church-related colleges in the Restoration Movement (and ACU in particular in the 20th century) have played a major role in forging our identity as Churches of Christ (www.acu.edu/faith.html).

Pepperdine University is religiously affiliated with the Churches of Christ, of which Mr. Pepperdine, university founder, was a lifelong member. Faculty, administrators and members of the Board of Regents represent many religious backgrounds, and students of all

racess and faiths are welcomed (www.pepperdine.edu/welcome/about/faith.htm)

By describing themselves as “an ally and resource for churches of Christ,” a “churchrelated school,” or “affiliated with the Churches of Christ,” these schools deceive naive and gullible members of the church into thinking that they are adjuncts of the church. That continues to foster the false notion that colleges may be funded from the church’s treasury and that is absolutely false. Of this matter, brother Wallace also wrote,

Back of much of this doctrinal softness is the influence of some of the colleges among us. They have harbored teachers of error; they have promoted a spirit of worldliness; they have manifested an air of superiority; they have conducted campaigns among the churches to affiliate church and school which will eventually, if continued, result in college domination and control in the church. The college domination danger is not imaginary. The current campaign to put Abilene Christian College in the budget of the churches of Texas is one example of it. When it is said that “the church that does not put the college in its budget does not have the right preacher,” that is college domination. It means college control of preachers, with a threat. When the hint of boycott is placed on gospel preachers who do not “cooperate” with the college, or who criticize anything the college does, and who oppose the church budget scheme of linking the church and college together—that is college domination with a vengeance. When the president of the college can sit in his office and dictate letters to young people in various churches who belong to “The Ex-Student’s Association” and through them influence the policies of a congregation on certain issues, even to the point of who shall or shall not preach in certain places, that is college domination [This is equally applicable to schools of preaching, JB]. When these young people in the church, whether preachers or not, feel that they are obligated to the institution that graduated them, and they become virtually an auxiliary of that college in the church where they are that is college domination. In other words, when it comes to pass that “Our Alma Mater which art in Abilene” can command the loyalty and devotion from alumni equal to the homage due “Our Father which art in Heaven,” that is college domination plus. There are those who measure a man’s loyalty to Jesus Christ by his loyalty to the college. This attitude is tested by the fact that he may criticize the church and bring no censure from college devotees, but if he criticizes the college, let him be anathema! (“Jehovah Nissi-The Lord My Banner,” *The Bible Banner*, Vol. 1, No. 1, Aug., 1938, pp 2, 3)

Things have changed little in the last two centuries. The historical road that churches of Christ have traversed on the North American continent for about 200 years is littered with the wreckage of apostate congregations, led away in large numbers by colleges that purported to be, and do the work of, the church without a scintilla of Scriptural authority. Those same schools, which began with high and noble purposes, became forums for the propagation of doctrinal error with the aid of many of those very churches they destroyed. Whenever congregations look upon schools as works of the church, they launch into a stormy voyage that will eventually dash them to pieces on reefs of error. Schools are adjuncts of the home, first, last and always. They are neither the church, nor a work of it.