

December 28, 2025

Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

Take the Harder Road

by Doug Wells

Building godly character is hard work. "Make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love" (2 Peter 1:5-7). It takes disciplined training to make these qualities a part of our lives. Breaking bad habits and creating new godly ones requires a daily focus for a long time. It takes the help of other Christians and accepting that help takes humility. There are many who would much rather focus on the flaws of someone else.

There is more than one way to build up confidence in who you are. You can work, grow, and daily reflect the light of Christ. Or you can focus on the shortcomings of those around you. "Well, I know I need to change but at least I'm not as bad as ol so and so." "Yes, I know I don't know my Bible well enough but at least I'm doing better than ol so and so over there who doesn't even know about repentance!"

Yes, that's certainly one way to feel better about yourself but unfortunately, cutting someone else's legs off doesn't make you one inch taller. Looking down on others doesn't make you a better person.

It is better to take the harder road. Take a moment today and examine your own life. (Matthew 7:1-5; 2 Corinthians 13:5). What are some areas that you can improve? What in the 2 Peter 1 list do you need to add to your character? What are you currently doing that God would like you to change? Are your prayer and reading habits what they should be? Do the hard work of asking yourselves these kind of questions and seek to improve the answers. Then you can have the confidence of knowing that you are doing what you can to be the person God wants you to be. That's a much more satisfying way of being happy about who you are.

The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!

**Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.
Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.**

Visitors, please take a card from the back of the pew, fill it out, and put it in the offering tray. We are glad you're here and want you to know that you're welcome in the family of Christ that meets here!

Listen to sermons at Melbournechurchofchrist.com

Elders

Danny Brightwell 291-3439
Shelby Qualls 291-7424
David Brightwell 307-5714
Alan Love 870-243-4608

Deacons

Joe Cooper 291-4653
Dalton Grigg 421-6240
Rusty Treat 373-1884

Minister

Ryan Lloyd
217-1109
Melbourne CoC
Box 267
Melbourne, AR

Family News

- Tim Vest's back surgery went well. He is now at Pioneer for physical therapy and would love to have visitors stop in and say hi. He's in room #313.
- The Encouragement Group will resume meeting on Thursday, January 8th
- There will be a New Year's Eve party at the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, December 31st from 6pm to 12am. Not everyone will make it to midnight so bring a finger food and go home when you're ready :)
- There will be a meeting to discuss VBS on Sunday, January 18 @ 5pm in the Fellowship Hall

Opening Prayer.....David Brightwell
 Communion Reading.....Alan Love
 Closing Prayer.....Chip Master



DECEMBER

**Joe Cooper
Britan Treat**

**Rusty Treat
Zach Harber**

JANUARY

**Kelley Don Webb
Danny Brightwell**

**Randy Haney
Brad Sipe**

Sunday Morning Bible Classes at 9:15 am

2-4 Yr Old	Sandra in Toddler Classroom #1
K-3rd	Jasmine in Classroom #5 & #6
4th-8th	Sally in Classroom #3
9th-College	Ryan in Classroom #7
Adults	David in the Auditorium

Children's Bible Class During the Sermon for 2026

Month	2-5 Yr Old Rm #2	6-8 Yr Old Rm #5&6
January	Lexi & Shayann	Betty
February	Diana	Tamra
March	Rory & Zori	Jamie
April	Zori & Harris	Natalie
May	Brittany	Valerie
June	Brittany	Christie
July	Brittany	Lacey
August	Anita	Trena
September	Lacey	
October		Abby
November		
December	Zori & Harris	Diana

Titus 2:11-12, "The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age."

Prayer List

Military: Derek & Allison Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson

Nursing Home: Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman, Shirley Hill, Imogene James

Boyde Martin Wilma Cooper Phyllis Gilbreath Dorothy Teague
 Ruby Patillo Joe Guiltner Cornelia Summers Tim Smith
 Joanna Smith Wayne Crosby Brooke Partin Joe Anne Hendrix
 Sanyia Austin Charlotte Cooper John Young Regenia Gillihan Regina Master

December Birthdays

Danny Brightwell 3rd Danny Runion 6th Callen Cooper 6th
 Roger Humphrey 10th Earlene Martz 11th Brad Teague 11th
 Kylea Morgan 14th Minnie Dutton 14th Shelby Qualls 14th
 Paulette Jubela 14th Kaden Williams 16th Tamra Brightwell 20th
 Shirley Guiltner 22nd Wanda Dill 23rd Rose Irvin 24th
 Darla Weaver 24th Deedra Watts 28th Abby Everett 28th
 Lavonia Roland 28th Brandy Kelly 29th

December Anniversaries

Rhett & Kiley Carter 16th

Dates to Remember

Ladies Bible Study will resume in the spring.
 Men meet the 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.
 Potluck every 5th Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

Manna House Items Needed Year Round

Canned Tuna and Canned Chicken
 Items can be placed in the foyer in the green and blue plastic tubs.

For online giving go to <https://get.tithe.ly/>



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