

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of June 16, 2024 -

Sunday School	-----	27
Sunday Morning Service	-----	45
Sunday Evening Service	-----	28
Wednesday Eve., 06/19/24 Service	-----	14

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of June 16, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,417.21
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/16/24:	\$	1,417.21

- Week of June 9, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 853.31
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/09/24:	\$	853.31

- Week of June 2, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 3,169.51
Sign Repair	-----	\$ 2.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 06/02/24:	\$	3,171.51

- Week of May 26, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 715.93
Sign Repair	-----	\$ 2.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 05/26/24:	\$	717.93

- Week of May 19, 2024 -

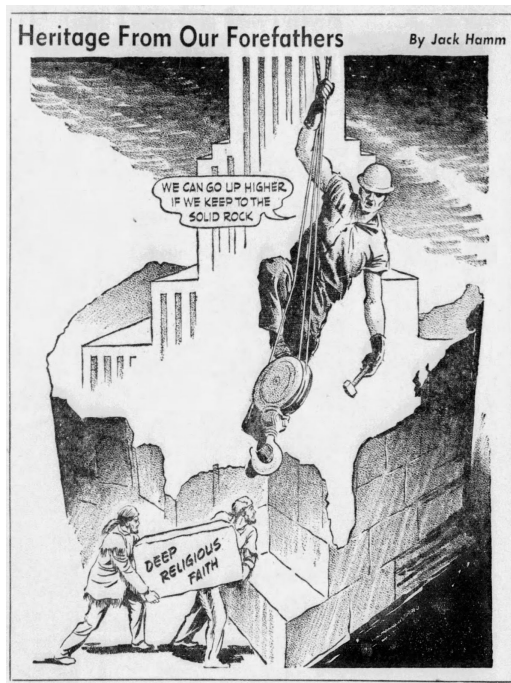
<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,269.92
Sign Repair	-----	\$ 2.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 05/19/24:	\$	1,271.92

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed for church operating expenses **EACH WEEK, as a minimum** = \$ **1,600.00**



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. Admit that you are a sinner.
2. Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.
3. Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.
4. You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).
5. By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, Who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.



Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Debra Carlton, Mickie Shatwell, Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianists
 Derek Quinnelly ----- Greeter
 Kim Phillips; Shirley White/LeAnna White; Berdena Bergman/Debra Carlton; Daniel Avery/GiGi Avery; & Keith Shufelt ----- Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars ----- Outreach
 Keith Shufelt ----- Men's Prayer Group
 GinaMarie Shufelt ----- Ladies Bible Study/Flowers
 Seth White ----- Sound/Video
 Larry Byars, Derek Quinnelly, David Smith ----- Trustees

REMINDER

Modest or Immodest Dress?

As Summer temperatures rise standards of modesty seem to fall. Very few people, including many who claim to be Christians, are concerned about modesty.

We live in an age that glorifies immodesty and immorality. On almost every commercial advertisement, whether it be on a billboard, television, or in a magazine, and regardless if the advertised product is food, clothing, perfume, or automobiles, the allurements are not the product itself, but men and women who are dressed immodestly.

Thus, immodesty has become so commonly excepted that it doesn't bother most people. Most people feel no shame if they see someone on television or in public who is dressed immodestly, and wouldn't have any problem dressing the same way.

The Israelites were condemned by God through the prophet Jeremiah because they no longer had any shame. **"Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore shall they fall among them that fall: in the time of their visitation they shall be cast down, saith the Lord."** (Jer. 8:12). Are you able to blush at that which is sinful? Do you blush at the shame of immodest dress?

Immodest dress is the type of dress that brings attention to one's body, to expose one's nakedness either by thin, tight, or revealing clothing. Immodest dress has always been sinful in the sight of God. When Adam and Eve's eyes were opened to sin and shame they realized their nakedness and made for themselves aprons of fig leaves and covered their loins and hid from God. But those little aprons they made for themselves, which probably covered up more than many popular swimsuits of today, were not enough to satisfy God; for we are told, **"Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them"** (Gen. 3:7-21). With what they had on, God did not consider them to be clothed. What they were wearing was shameful and they had reason to hide. Many today could learn a lesson from Adam and Eve and clothe themselves, covering their nakedness and shame.

Styles of clothes are not specified in God's Word. We don't have to wear tunics and turbans today-- styles change and they are different from nation to nation, age to age, and even person to person. Each person can enjoy different styles of dress as long as they do not violate the principle of God's Word.

However, just because something is "in style" doesn't mean that it is modest. Just because it is hot outside, or because one may be involved in a certain activity doesn't change God's principles and standards. The standards of God never goes out of style-- **"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away"** (Mat.24:35). The Scriptures declare in I Tim. 2:9, **"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel..."** (These principles also apply to men as well).

If you ever have any trouble choosing proper clothing to wear in public just ask yourself, **"Would I want to be wearing this if the Lord returned? Would I want to be wearing this as I stood before God in judgment?"** Knowing that nakedness is shameful and immodesty is sinful, you should be able to dress in a manner pleasing to God regardless of the activity in which you will be involved, or what the temperature is.

- Pastor Paul Smithson

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ON WEEKENDS, AMERICANS SPEND MORE TIME WITH SCREENS THAN PEOPLE

An “introvert economy” has come to define America’s

post-lockdown culture, according to the Manhattan Institute’s Allison Schrager in *Bloomberg Opinion*.

“The time at home made Americans less fun,” Schrager reported Monday. “In general Americans are going out less. And odds are it will stick: It is the youngest adults who are going out less, and when they do go out, it is earlier.” Even when they do go out, she notes, “the data show they are also less likely to drink.”

“Gen Z is shaping up to be the most sober generation in US history,” Schrager wrote. “Singles are also less likely to approach each other in public, preferring the anonymity and clear social boundaries of online meeting. This means less need to be out.”

When making plans for the weekends, more Americans are trading real-life social interactions for at-home digital entertainment, whether it be video games or television, according to Labor Department data Schrager cites.

The data reflects an accelerating trend since lockdowns: more and more Americans are seduced by cheap dopamine hits from the couch. Americans emerged from government-mandated lockdowns feeling more isolated and depressed. They were left to cope with the comforts of Netflix and an easy stream of addictive ready-to-eat ultra-processed food. According to the Shelby Report, a Georgia-based publication for the food and grocery industry, snack sales on items such as cookies, crackers, chips, and more jumped \$10 billion from 2020 to 2022.

Are Americans happier as a result?

Research published in 2021 suggests no, with study findings that “indicate that the rate of serious mental health issues such as depression and anxiety have more than doubled in the USA during the pandemic.” In May last year, a Gallup poll revealed Americans are more depressed than ever, with nearly 1 in 3 reporting a diagnosis at least once in their lifetime.

In November 2022, Harvard University clinical psychologist Christopher Palmer published a book offering a new framework to understand the nation’s mental health crisis as primarily driven by poor diet, sleep, and exercise. In *Brain Energy: A Revolutionary Breakthrough in Understanding Mental Health — and Improving Treatment for Anxiety, Depression, OCD, PTSD, and More*, Palmer highlights similarities between mental disorders as “metabolic disorders of the brain.”

“Mental disorders — all of them — are metabolic disorders of the brain,” Palmer wrote. And “metabolism,” he explains, “is the same.”

A problem in one area of the body will often spread over time. Why? Because metabolism is highly interconnected. It relies on feedback loops all over the body. So, if one area is not doing well, the rest of the body can be affected.

Loneliness is associated with metabolic challenges ranging from

mental illness to insulin resistance. According to Harvard research, 43 percent of young adults aged 18-25 reported an increase in loneliness since lockdowns began. Recreational screen time also jumped among adults after lockdowns.

- *The Federalist*, 01/26/24

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

□ **THE REJECTION OF PRE-TRIB RAPTURE’S ROLE IN THE DOWNFALL OF CONSERVATIVE BAPTISTS** - In his history of the downfall of the Conservative Baptists, Richard Clearwaters emphasized the importance of the Pre-Tribulation Rapture several times. He showed that one of the principles of both theological modernism and New Evangelicalism is the denial of the imminency of the return of Christ and a replacement of a concentrated focus on the Great Commission of world evangelism with a kingdom building emphasis. Clearwaters observed that one of the elements of the downgrade was “a more tolerant attitude toward varying views of eschatology.”

In 1956, he wrote, “Students have gone from Northwestern [founded by W.B. Riley and Pre-Trib from its inception] and other similar schools to these schools [Fuller Seminary and Denver Conservative Baptist Seminary] with a simple faith in the Word of God about the Rapture of the Church and the Second Coming only to later come to me disturbed, not knowing whether they were now looking for Christ to rapture His Church or for Anti-Christ; whether the ‘blessed hope’ of the church was half or all of the Tribulation; whether Christ was coming with His Church or for His Church” (The Great Conservative Baptist Compromise, chapter 3, “The Bible, the Unchanging Evangelical,” p. 48). Clearwaters observed, “The only contribution made by rethinking eschatology has been a glorified question mark” (p. 49). Clearwaters emphasized that the dispensational pre-tribulation doctrine is established by a consistent literal method of interpretation (p. 50) and the early Christians believed in and were looking for the imminent return of Christ (p. 197).

The prominent role of post-tribulationism in the downfall of the Conservative Baptists was emphasized in the report “*Conservative Baptist Cross Currents in Colorado*,” published in May 1962 in the *Baptist Missionary-Evangelist*. Written by four preachers who had been active in Conservative Baptist work in Colorado since the 1940s, it documented the invasion of new evangelicalism. They emphasized that one of the ways the new evangelicalism showed itself was in the rejection of dispensational pre-tribulation theology.

“By 1954 it was evident that the [Denver Baptist Theological] Seminary had introduced a doctrine foreign to Colorado Conservative Baptists--the accepted dispensational premise was being abandoned in favor of reformation theology. In relation to this position is the theory of the post-tribulation rapture of the church. Dr. Burdick is reported to hold strongly to this ‘post-trib’ position, and President Vernon Grounds has stated, ‘As for myself, I am in a state of indecision. ... I will not say that I am a pretribulationist. ... I simply do not know, though I incline toward the ‘post’ view’” (from “Divided We Fall,” page 5, compiled by

Wayne Musson, Lake Crystal, Minnesota). In 1962, it was estimated by a Denver Seminary graduate that ‘half of the graduates now take the post-trib position, about 25% take the pre-trib position, and the other 25% are so confused they do not know what to believe.’”

□ **SOCIAL MEDIA THE GREAT VOYEURISTIC TALEBEARER** - “*Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied*” (Proverbs 27:20). “*Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth*” (Proverbs 26:20).

Among other things, social media is a massive forum for voyeurism. This word is from the French *voir*, meaning *to see*. It has a large sexual element (i.e., Peeping Tom), which is evident throughout social media, but it is by no means limited to that. It refers to “a fascination with the private lives of others.” It is “the practice of taking pleasure in observing something private, sordid, or scandalous” (Merriam-Webster). It is associated with talebearing, gossip, tattling, rumor-mongering, busybodiness, and character assassination. It is an appetite of the fallen nature or “old man,” which is a bottomless pit of depravity.

Mankind tends to think of itself as basically good, with some “bad apples,” but God’s Word paints an entirely different picture. Every single individual, apart from the new birth, is described like this: “*Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them*” (Romans 1:29-32).

Jesus gave the same description: “*For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness*” (Mark 7:21-22). Since all of these evils are in man’s heart, he derives endless enjoyment from seeing and hearing these things.

The psalmist said, “*I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me*” (Psalm 101:3). The day he decided not to do this was the day he damaged his good reputation.

□ **MICRO-SCHOOLS GROWING IN POPULARITY** - In our perspective, anything that reduces the power of America’s public school system, which is a totalitarian, hyper-leftist, ungodly brain-washing institution, is probably a good thing. The following is excerpted from “*The Rise of ‘micro-schools*,” Fox News, June 16, 2024:

“Dwindling confidence in public education across the United States has pushed some parents to enroll their children in ‘micro-schools,’ an alternative learning center that gained steam following the COVID-19 pandemic.

... Micro-schools, also known as learning pods, offer students

schedules and curriculum tailored to their individual needs. These schools are often viewed as a middle ground between traditional schooling and homeschooling. Academic Influence Senior Vice President Dr. James A. Barham, who has worked closely with public and private schools, said micro-schools’ choice and flexibility are a big reason for their growing popularity. Families are increasingly interested in options that go beyond standardized testing and the one-size-fits-all model. While many micro-schools are parent-led, some are affiliated with a micro-school network. Some are tuition-free, while others are fee-based, like a private school.

... ‘Their close-knit approach proved very conducive to virtual learning and addressing students’ social-emotional needs. I expect their student-centered philosophy will continue drawing more families who want education optimized for every child,’ Barham noted.”

□ **POPULAR TV SERIES, THE CHOSEN, PARADES CAMERAMAN DECKED OUT IN PRIDE GEAR DURING RECORDING** - The popular television show, *The Chosen*, claims to be biblically based but is anything but Christian. Dallas Jenkins, the show’s creator, has claimed that Christians and Mormons worship the same Jesus—an absurd claim that even the most dishonest God-hating pagan can see right through.

In one clip a few years ago, a pride flag appeared on the set of a recording. At the time, Jenkins and his colleagues dismissed and even defended it as just the recording crew doing their job. Yet, Jenkins, who claims to be a Christian, allowed it on his set.

But now, *The Chosen* is doubling down. On June 13, during a daily reel on Facebook which has since been deleted, a cameraman decked on in pride gear was paraded across the set and published for the world to see.

So, sure, one can argue that this is just a cameraman for a hired position doing his job. But then, one must ask: *why would a Christian production surround themselves with flaming homosexuals during the recording of an ostensibly Christian television show?* Then, one must ask, *even if The Chosen producers were simply hiring a cameraman without regard to his sexuality, why not have standards in place for dress and conduct at least around other Christians?* And then, final question: *What exactly is the point of parading this imagery, especially during “pride month,” across social media, unless one wants to virtue signal their “inclusiveness” and bent for sexual diversity?*

In the end, *The Chosen* serves up a diluted version of Christianity designed to appease Pagans and lukewarm believers. Serious Christians should be appalled by the show’s portrayal of a flawed Jesus who committed transgressions, as well as its promotion of LGBTQ symbolism.

The Chosen is religious propaganda that deceives rather than edifies, appealing to those who prefer a sanitized, feel-good version of Jesus over the uncompromising, sovereign Saviour revealed in the Bible. ■