

this week

Sunday, January 8

8:30 a.m. Worship
 9:00-9:30 a.m. Library Open
 9:00 a.m. Early Sunday Bible Study Group
 9:40 a.m. Sunday Bible Study
 10:50 a.m. Worship
 12:00-12:30 p.m. Library Open
 12:00 p.m. Mission Belize Lunch, Children's Choir Leadership Planning Meeting
 2:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Leadership Mtg.
 4:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision, Committee on Committees Meeting
 6:00 p.m. January Bible Study-Malachi, Student Worship, Bible Drill & Bible Skills
 7:00 p.m. Wolff Family Reception

Monday, January 9

1:30 p.m. GriefShare
 2:00 p.m. Howard Chapman Funeral Service
 6:30 p.m. GriefShare

Tuesday, January 10

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program
 10:00 a.m. Mothers In Prayer

Wednesday, January 11

9:00 a.m. MOPS
 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Library Open
 1:00 p.m. Faye Hicks Funeral Service
 4:15 p.m. Children's Handbells
 4:30 p.m. Children's Chimes
 4:45 p.m. Fellowship Dinner
 5:30 p.m. Children's Choir, Youth Choir
 5:45 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer
 5:45-6:45 p.m. Library Open
 6:30 p.m. Youth Bible Study, GA, RA, Mission Friends
 6:45 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, First Smiles Mtg.
 7:30 p.m. Orchestra, Boys Basketball

Thursday, January 12

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program, Precept *Isaiah Part 1*
 10:00 a.m. Adult Game Day
 7:00 p.m. Men's Basketball, Precept *Isaiah Part 1*

Friday, January 13

9:30 a.m. Early Learning Program

Saturday, January 14

8:00 a.m. Deacon's Meeting

WEDNESDAY DINNER

January 11, 2017

Hamburgers, French fries, salad, dessert and beverage.

Adults \$5, children \$3.50, family max \$18.
 Please call the church office, 918-299-0904 to make your reservations by Tuesday at noon.

southtulsa
 BAPTIST CHURCH

10310 South Sheridan Road | Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133
 918.299.0904 | southtulsa.org

Sharing the
 Good News about
 Jesus in our
 community and
 around the world

more

MUSIC MINISTRY LADIES NIGHT OUT - January 12, 6:30 p.m., the home of Shelly Davis. Come and enjoy an evening of food, fun and fellowship as we play bunko and meet new friends

BIBLE ART JOURNALING WORKSHOP - Thursday, January 26, 6:30-8:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall. Contact Denise Curtiss for more information.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR LEADERSHIP PLANNING MEETING TODAY, 12:00-2:00 P.M. - Just after the Belize Mission Lunch leaders will meet in room D268-269 to receive spring literature. Preschool and grade one choir teachers will then move to D267 for a special teaching time with Janice Herrington. Then we will meet in individual choir rooms to plan for the first day of choir, January 11.

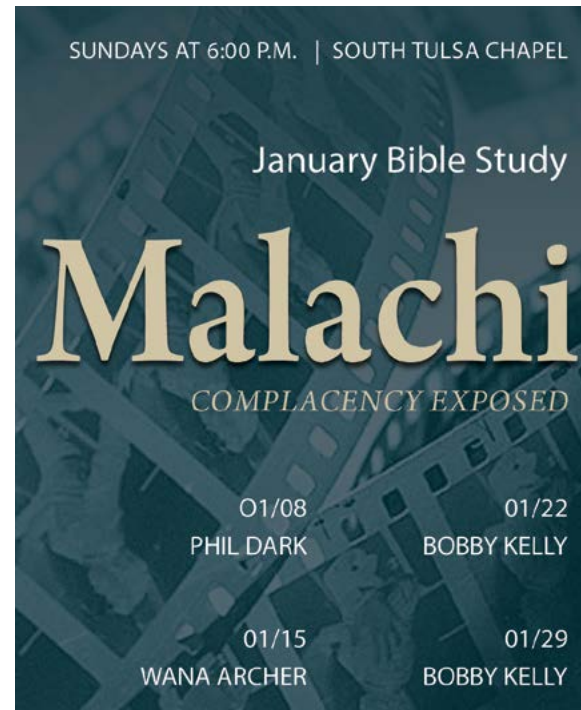
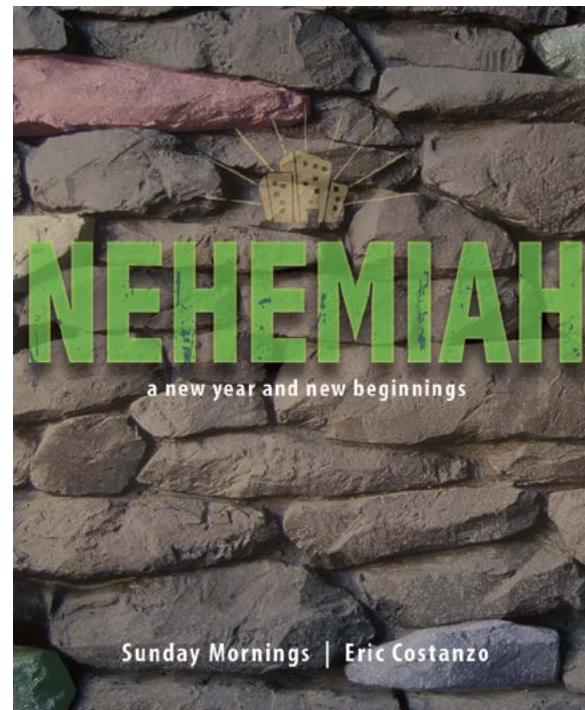
GRIEFSHARE - New session begins January 16, groups meet at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. on Mondays in the South Tulsa Conference Room.

PRECEPT: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - Mondays beginning January 9, at 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Workbooks \$27. Please complete lesson one prior to first class. Contact Patrick Lovelace at patricklovelace@cox.net, 918-286-3226 for more information or to enroll.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MUSIC AND MISSIONS ACTIVITIES RESUME - Children's Handbells, Chimes and Choirs, Youth Choir and RA, GA, Mission Friends resume on January 11. Girls in Action begins the year with the International Mission Study: Norway. This week only GA will conclude at 7:30 p.m.

GROW BLITZ: JANUARY 17 - All teams will meet at 6:15 p.m. as GROW Outreach resumes.

(For more information about upcoming events please go to southtulsa.org)



the channel

01.08.17

volume XXVII, no. 2
 southtulsa.org



8:30AM Worship

Blessed Be Your Name
Nothing But the Blood
Welcome
The Same Love
Revelation Song
Church Matters Eric Costanzo
Greeting One Another
Scripture Reading Courtney Osborne
Message Nehemiah 1:11c-2:10
Response *How Deep the Father's Love For Us*
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

10:50AM Worship

Open the Eyes of My Heart
Be Thou My Vision
Prayer and Welcome
Crown Him with Many Crowns | He Is Exalted
I Exalt Thee Solo - Laura Dart
Church Matters Eric Costanzo
Greeting One Another
Find Us Faithful
Scripture Reading Courtney Osborne
Message Nehemiah 1:11c-2:10
Response *Without Him*
Giving *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*
 Laurie Lightbody
New Commitments - New Members
Blessing

Wait, Pray, Act

by Dr. Eric Costanzo

In the last 25 years, the number of Americans who claim “no religious affiliation” when surveyed has more than doubled. That should be surprising, considering people in our culture have more “religious” choices than they could possibly entertain. There are more options for religious expression than ever, and yet people seem to be less satisfied than ever.

People are not less interested in the spiritual, however. On the contrary, we hear less about atheism in these days and far more about personal choice when it comes to faith. More people than ever are pursuing a church-less spirituality. You might call it postmodern, post-Christian, post-theist, irreligious, or – gasp – the end of Christian America. More on that last thought next week...

Nehemiah is a great example for all of us in these regards. Nehemiah was a man with significant influence in a prestigious position of power. He was cupbearer to King Artaxerxes I of Persia. At this point in history, Artaxerxes was not only king of Persia, he was the most powerful king in the known world. The king was not vulnerable to many people, but certainly his cupbearer was near the top of the list of those who must be completely trustworthy.

Nehemiah, too, was troubled by the lack of genuine worship and commitment to God’s Word in his culture and in the Holy City of Jerusalem. Rather than picking a fight, however, Nehemiah waited patiently until God commanded him to act. And then he acted. As we will see in the weeks to come, Nehemiah followed God’s plans with incredible strategy, but also with prayerful humility. As we consider our own culture’s spiritual condition, prayerful humility is the best place to start making an impact.

“The gracious hand of my God was on me...” (Nehemiah 2:8)

NOTE: For those of you who were blessed by “The Art of Advent” that we used in worship at the end of 2016, you can view each painting and my descriptions on my personal site: <http://ericcostanzo.me>.

Thank You Melanie

We would like to express our deep appreciation for Melanie Ketchum and her more than 11 years of service to our church. Melanie has been a joy to work with and a model of excellence. We join her in celebrating this new opportunity and season of her life!

Equipped by His Word

2017 is off and running for Jerri and me. We will have a very busy winter and spring. Thank you for praying for us. Your prayers for us mean more than you can know. Visit our website for more information, **equippedbyhisword.com**. ~Only by His grace, Pastor Ted and Jerri

Belize Missions Lunch Today Following the 10:50 a.m. Worship Service

Refugee and International Ministry Meeting

Pastor Eric will update on opportunities to minister to international and refugee families here in South Tulsa Sunday evening, January 22 at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel. We will discuss lots of great things that have been happening and community connections that are developing with Jenks Public Schools and others. Please pray about joining us!

Perspectives

Begins at First Baptist Tulsa on Wednesday, January 11, 6:00-9:00 p.m. This non-denominational, 15-week course presents the biblical, historical, cultural, and strategic aspects of fulfilling the Great Commission. Anyone in the area who is serious about gaining a deeper understanding of God’s ultimate purpose globally and locally is encouraged to attend this course. Come check it out, the first week is free. Visit **www.perspectives.org** for more information on this course and to enroll.

Thinking Christian

by Dru Finley

Go to the Father

With a new year comes the excitement of new things, but the unknown can also bring with it a little anxiety and uncertainty. The good news is that along with uncertainties there are always many wonderful certainties! And, there is no greater certainty than knowing that God is in control, and that He is the Father of those who place their faith in Christ!

In an ever changing world we all need a little assurance, and there is no assurance like knowing that the creator of the world is a Father. A Father who is not distant, but who is always there when we need Him. God is approachable! He wants you to come to Him! He wants you to pray to Him and to pour out your heart to Him!

Jesus said in Matthew 7, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.” The point is not that we have a blank check to get anything we want, rather that God’s children should come to Him as the good Father who loves and takes care of His children. Not only do we have the privilege to speak to the creator but we have the invitation! God does not dread when we come to Him, He longs for us to come to Him!

So in the new year that is full of both hope and the possibility for a little anxiety, go to the Father. In all you do this year make sure that the one thing that is constant is that you go to the Father in all circumstances because He is both approachable and the loving Father!

(Read Dru’s full article at southtulsa.org or watch the video under the resources tab.)

Youth Evangelism Conference

Students, join us as we head to Falls Creek on Sunday, January 15 for YEC! We will leave immediately following Sunday Bible Study. You will need a change of clothes, toiletry items, bedding and pillow. Plus bring \$20 for meals. We will be back Monday at 6:00 p.m.

“Nehemiah Wall” of Food *for the Ministry Center*

Please join us throughout the months of January and February as we collect non-refrigerated foods (canned goods, boxed goods, jarred goods, etc.) to build our wall for families served by our Ministry Center as we study Nehemiah on Sunday mornings. Make sure and walk down the Jesus hallway each week to see our building progress!

Reception for Matt Wolff and Family Tonight 7:00 p.m.

Malachi

Tonight we begin our January Bible study on Malachi in the Chapel at 6:00 p.m. Please make a commitment to join us for all four Sunday nights as our top-notch “guest” teachers lead us through this incredible book together. *The teaching schedule is as follows:*

1/8 Phil Dark 1/22 Bobby Kelly
1/15 Wana Archer 1/29 Bobby Kelly

Ladies Bible Study

The Sermon on the Mount

A video driven, 9-week course by Jen Wilkin begins Wednesday, January 18, from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. in rooms D165-166. Please contact Debby Arnold, 918-639-5777 or darnold@cap-mgtco.com so that a workbook can be ordered and available to you on our first class meeting.

2-6 Grade Choirs

The 2-6 grade Children’s Choirs are beginning to work on the musical drama, *Promise U*, each Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. *Promise U* teaches children about famous followers like Martin Luther, John and Charles Wesley, Harriet Tubman, missionary Gladys Aylward and Billy Graham who believed God’s promises and sang His praises. Come and join us each Wednesday evening beginning January 11.

last week

GIVING	
Ministry Financial Plan	1,976,296
Actual MFP Receipts	1,913,996
12.31.16	
General Fund	139,831
Building Fund	7,751
01.01.17	
General Fund	24,145
Building Fund	1,255
Lottie Moon to date	70,269

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY	
Adults	
Youth	
Children	
Preschool	
Unclassified	
Total	

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES	
<i>Adult, Youth, Precept</i>	

THE MINISTRY CENTER	
Volunteers	10
People Helped	121
Salvations	1

WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE	
LIVE Views	6,611
<i>(U.S. 2,617; International 3,994)</i>	
Retirement Center Ministry	118
<i>(10 locations)</i>	
ON DEMAND Views	1,834
<i>(U.S. 726; International 1,108)</i>	

MINISTRY STAFF

Dr. Eric Costanzo, Pastor eric@southtulsa.org	Debbie Steen, Minister to Families with Preschoolers debbie@southtulsa.org
Philip Stephens, Minister of Music philip@southtulsa.org	Mary Ann Stephens, Music Ministry Associate maryann@southtulsa.org
Dave Bender, Minister of Administration & Media dave@southtulsa.org	Karen Pirtle, Youth Ministry Associate karen@southtulsa.org
Dru Finley, Minister of Discipleship & Development dru@southtulsa.org	<i>Please email all Channel submissions to Kim Hayes at kim@southtulsa.org by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays</i>
Matt Wolff, Minister to Families with Students matt@southtulsa.org	ON THE COVER Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Connie Faurot, Minister to Families with Children connie@southtulsa.org	