

Hohenwald Church of Christ Family News

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Shepherds

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Minister:

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Deacons

Tom Gosser

Jon Jones

Billy Don Jackson

Steve Selby

Jeff Peery

Check out our website:

hohenwaldchurchofchrist.com

Phone: 931-796-3167

Honored to Serve in January:

Announcements:

Ryan Couch

Song Leader: Jerry Mercer

Preside at Lord's Table:

Jon Jones

Lord's Table:

Scotty Duncan/Jeff Holbrook/Darrell Hinson/Paul Brown/Scottie Bass/Steve Scott

Wing: Shane Baker

Prepare Communion:

Amber Bastin

Deliver Communion:

C.W. Carroll

Sunday, January 6:

Opening Prayer: Rick Jones

Closing Prayer: R.E. McDonald

Sun AM Bible Study: 9:30 a.m./Worship:

10:30 Sun PM: 6 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 7 p.m.

The Gift of Grace and the Power of Testimony

This past week I was sitting at my desk working on the January SOAP List (a daily scripture that usually follows a theme or focus for the month) and was also making preliminary plans for my Friends and Family Day message which will follow the same theme as the SOAP handout. Part of my preparation involved watching a brief video on YouTube. At the conclusion of the video, another video launched. This is how YouTube operates: When a video has finished, another video with a similar theme starts playing. The first video was an author talking about sin. The subsequent video was of a young man giving his testimony.

I don't like long videos any more than most of you like long sermons. Of course, what many of you say on the subject of long sermons is, "I don't care how long you preach as long as you've got something to say." And yet another reason I love the HCoC: You don't bring a stopwatch to God's house when you worship. So this brings us back to the video. I had no intention of watching a 17 minute video. I had already viewed a seven minute video that was pertinent to my task at hand. But this young man got my attention—and kept it.

The young man, Micah Wilder, was discussing how he had grown up in a devout Mormon home in Indiana. The family later moved to a town in Utah whose population was 99% Mormon. His mother was a faculty member at Brigham Young University, a private Mormon college. Like other Mormons, when Micah was 19 he left home for a two year mission. His assignment was Orlando, Florida. In his efforts to convert people in Florida, he and his missionary partner encountered people who were secure in their Christian faith. Some of them were also willing to sit down with a couple of young guys and have a discussion about their faith.

Hearing this brother in Christ share his story was moving and exciting. He came to know Christ, not because of works, as the Mormon Church teaches, but because of God's love and grace. Micah became a Christian, his girlfriend (now his wife) became a Christian, his three siblings and even his parents all became adherents to the gospel and left the Mormon Church. It was an amazing testimony. Oh, and the missionary he was partnered with also embraced the true teachings of God's word and left the Mormon Church. While sharing his story, Micah talked emotionally about finding truth in simply reading what the Bible said and ignoring everything he has been taught as a Later Day Saint. Micah learned to embrace how we cannot earn our way into heaven, we can simply accept God's glorious gift.

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Let's learn two things from Micah Wilder: The truth that is taught in our Bible, and the power sharing our own faith journey with others.

Keep the faith,

Greg

Continue to remember in prayer:

Howard Spears, Bill Skelton, Sarah Hallman, Jason Fite, Arelus Dye, Jenny Carroll, Harper Bastin, Judy Burton, Emily James, Bettye Ammons, Barbara Eglinton, Dawn Darden, John Beard, Lovada Burklow, Raylan Carroll, Emerie Mitchell, Ronnie Belew, Dana Shanes Lynch, Matthew Jones, Austin Duncan, Beverly Malone, Iva DePriest, Steve Hopper, Debbie Durham, Glen Garrison, Jim Webb, Darrell Potts, Connye Karpel, Louise Tatum, Janie Ellis, Waylin Spears, Jane West, Mary Lou Morton, Doris Gildersleeve, Jimmy Griner, Barbara Nixon, Stephanie Fielder, Simon McBride, Patrick Landers, Alan Kimbro, Ada Shelborne

Upcoming Events:

Today: Devo @ Lewis Co. Nursing & Rehab @ 2:00

Wednesday: Classes at 7:00 p.m.

The January SOAP List is available on the table in the lobby. This month's theme is: Rewire your Heart



We will gather together for worship & prayer tonight at 6:00.



Friends and Family Day

Make plans to join us and invite others for this year's Friends and Family Day on February 3. Greg is already planning his message: *Rewire Your Heart*

²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Colossians 3:16

²⁶ What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

1 Corinthians 14:26

¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Pantry

This week's items are:

Spaghetti noodles, Hamburger Helper, macaroni & cheese