

**AND THE PEOPLE CAME...**

- Week of February 18, 2024 -

Sunday School	-----	29
Sunday Morning Service	-----	43
Sunday Evening Service	-----	28
Wednesday Eve., 02/21/24 Service	-----	13

**AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...**

- Week of February 18, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,244.70
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/18/24:</b>		<b>\$ 1,244.70</b>

- Week of February 11, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 1,229.93
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/11/24:</b>		<b>\$ 1,229.93</b>

- Week of February 4, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 2,268.68
Church Sign Restoration Fund	-----	\$ 5.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 02/04/24:</b>		<b>\$ 2,271.68</b>

- Week of January 28, 2024 -

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 967.19
Church Sign Restoration Fund	-----	\$ 7.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/28/24:</b>		<b>\$ 974.19</b>

- Week of January 21, 2024 -

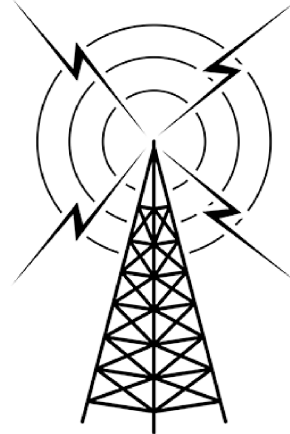
<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings	-----	\$ 657.58
<b>TOTAL RECEIVED FOR WEEK OF 01/21/24:</b>		<b>\$ 657.58</b>

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.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR  
UPCOMING RADIO  
STATION MINISTRY -  
THAT THERE WILL  
BE NO "HANG UPS"  
WITH THE CITY OF  
SAPULPA IN GETTING  
EVERYTHING  
APPROVED SO WE  
CAN BEGIN  
CONSTRUCTION.**

Thank You!

**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**

**A Life-Changing  
Conversion Experience**



Noah Webster - 1833

**B**iblical salvation is a conversion experience that changes the life (John 3:3; Mat. 18:3; II Cor. 5:17). Every salvation recorded in the New Testament involves a life-changing conversion experience (e.g., the woman at the well, Zacchaeus, the Jews on day of Pentecost, the Ethiopian eunuch, Lydia, the Philippian jailer).

An interesting example of a biblical conversion is that of Noah Webster, famous author of The Blue-Back Speller and the American Dictionary of the English Language.

His conversion occurred in 1808 during the Second Great Awakening. The revival began in Kentucky and soon spread to all parts of the young nation. In 1807, the revival came to Webster's church, First Congregational Church of New Haven, Connecticut, pastored by Moses Stuart.

Webster made a public profession of faith in April 1808, together with his two oldest daughters.

It was life-changing conversion experience. Following is a description by Alan Snyder, Webster's biographer:

*"Webster's conversion was the intellectual and moral watershed of his life. As such, it provided him with a spiritual and intellectual framework which extended into every sphere of life, including perceptions of and judgments about man, morality, government, education, and the very purpose of being. ...*

*"Internal conversion results in a profound alteration of an individual's conception of the nature of God, man, sin, and brings a transformation in both thought and action. ... conversion is a return t God, a restoration of the relationship God originally had intended to have with man, through a turning away from sin (i.e., rebellion against God's commands) and a turning to the mercies of a forgiving Father. ...*

*"Having once read it [Webster's testimony], one can have no doubt that Webster's conversion was authentic and produced a basic reorganization of his entire life. In Webster's world, God moved from the periphery to the center, providing him a new purpose and focus" (Snyder, Defining Noah Webster: Mind and Morals in the Early Republic, pp. 221, 222).*

**Consider some details of Webster's life prior to his conversion:**

- He was an active church member.
- From age 20 he had resolved "to pursue a course of virtue through life, and to perform all moral and social duties with scrupulous exactness."
- He believed in God and was thankful to God. "... for some years past, I have rarely cast my eyes to heaven or plucked the fruit of my garden without feeling emotions of gratitude and adoration."
- He believed that Christ died for man's sins, but he also believed that good works are necessary for salvation.
- He doubted some doctrines of the Bible, being that religion should conform to man's reason and if something wasn't "reasonable," it could be rejected.
- He believed that one should not be passionate about religion. When the Second Great Awakening first came to his town, he was opposed. "I felt some opposition to these meetings, being apprehensive that they would by affecting the passions too strongly, introduce an enthusiasm or fanaticism which might be considered as real religion."

(continued inside)

**LISTEN TO -**



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

Following is Webster’s own fascinating account of his spiritual conversion, written in response to a letter from his brother-in-law, Judge Thomas Dawes of Boston, who had written to Noah in opposition of the revival:

“My wife [Rebecca], however, was friendly to these meetings and she was joined by my two eldest daughters [Emily and Frances] who were among the first subjects of serious impressions. I did not forbid but rather discouraged their attendance on conferences. Finding their feelings rather wounded by this opposition, and believing that I could not conscientiously unite with them in a profession of the Calvinistic faith, I made some attempts to persuade them to join me in attending the Episcopal service and ordinances. To this they were opposed. At some times I almost determined to separate from my family, leaving them with the Congregational Society and joining myself to the Episcopal.

“During this time, my mind continued to be more and more agitated, and in a manner wholly unusual and to me unaccountable. I had indeed short composure, but at all times of the day and in the midst of other occupations, I was suddenly seized with impressions, which called my mind irresistibly to religious concerns and to the awakening. These impressions induced a degree of remorse for my conduct, not of that distressing kind which often attends convictions, but something which appeared to be reproof.

“These impressions I attempted to remove by reasoning with myself, and endeavoring to quiet my mind, by a persuasion, that my opposition to my family, and the awakening was not a real opposition to a rational religion, but to enthusiasm or false religion. I continued some weeks in this situation, utterly unable to quiet my own mind, and without resorting to the only source of peace and consolation. The impressions grew ever stronger till at length I could not pursue my studies without frequent interruptions. My mind was suddenly arrested, without any previous circumstance of the time to draw it to this subject and as it were fastened to the awakening and upon my own conduct. I closed my books, yielded to the influence, which could not be resisted or mistaken and was led by a spontaneous impulse to repentance, prayer and entire submission and surrender of myself to my maker and redeemer. My submission appeared to be cheerful and was soon followed by that peace of mind which the world can neither give nor take away.

“I now began to understand and relish many parts of the scriptures, which before appeared mysterious and unintelligible, or repugnant to my natural pride. ... In short my view of the scriptures, of religion, of the whole Christian scheme of salvation, and of God’s moral government, are very much changed, and my heart yields with delight and confidence to the divine will.

“I am taught now the utter insufficiency of our own powers to effect a change of the heart and am persuaded that a reliance on our own talents or powers, is a fatal error, springing from natural pride and opposition to God, by which multitudes of men, especially of the more intelligent and moral part of society are deluded into ruin. I now look, my dear friend, with regret on the largest portion of the ordinary life of man, spent ‘without hope,

and without God in the world.’ I am particularly affected by a sense of my ingratitude to that Being who made me, and without whose constant agency, I cannot draw a breath, who has showered upon me a profusion of temporal blessings and provided a Savior for my immortal soul. To have so long neglected the duties of piety to that Being on whom I am entirely dependent, to love whom supremely is the first duty, as well as the highest happiness of rational souls, proves a degree of baseness in my heart on which I cannot reflect without the deepest contrition and remorse. And I cannot think without trembling on what my condition would have been had God withdrawn the blessed influences of his Spirit, the moment I manifested opposition to it, as he justly might have done, and given me over to hardness of heart and blindness of mind. I now see in full evidence, the enormous crime, the greatest, man can commit against his God, of resisting the influence of his holy Spirit. Every sting of conscience must be considered as a direct call from God to obey his commands; how much more then ought man to yield to those pungent and powerful convictions of sin which are unequivocally sent to chastize his disobedience and compel him to return to his Heavenly Father.”

We don’t look for a certain type of conversion experience. The details of conversion can differ dramatically from person to person. Some experience feelings of elation; some don’t. Some conversions are more instant and dramatic than others. In some cases, the conversion might seem to happen over a brief period of time, from the standpoint of the one being converted and those observing the conversion, and it might be difficult or impossible to pinpoint the exact time.

- David W. Cloud

## ***NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS***

☐ ***INDIANA CHILD REMOVED FROM HOME WHEN PARENTS REFUSE TO SUBMIT TO TRANSEXUAL AGENDA*** - The following is excerpted from “Indiana parents warn nation,” Fox News, Feb. 20, 2024:

“In M.C. and J.C. v. Indiana Department of Child Services, Mary and Jeremy Cox are appealing to the Supreme Court after they were investigated by Indiana officials for refusing to refer to their son using pronouns and a name inconsistent with his biological sex. Becket is pursuing the case on behalf of the Coxes, arguing state courts allowed Indiana to keep the child from living in his parents’ home due to their disagreement with the child’s gender identity because of their religious beliefs. Notably, upon completing the investigation, the state determined the allegations of abuse against Mary and Jeremy were unsubstantiated, but still argued that the disagreement over gender identity was distressing to their child.

... In 2019, Mary and Jeremy’s son told them that he identified as a girl, but in line with their Catholic religious beliefs that God created human beings with an immutable sex, male or female, they did not believe in referring to him using pronouns and a name inconsistent with his biology.

... in 2021, Indiana officials began investigating the Coxes after a report found they were not referring to their child by his

preferred gender identity, removing the teen from their custody and placing him in a ‘gender-affirming’ home. ... ‘This is what every parent is afraid of,’ Mary and Jeremy Cox said in a press release. ‘We love our son and wanted to care for him, but the state of Indiana robbed us of that opportunity by taking him from our home and banning us from speaking to him about gender. We are hopeful that the Justices will take our case and protect other parents from having to endure the nightmare we did.’”

☐ ***MS SOCIETY REMOVES 90-YEAR-OLD FROM VOLUNTEER POSITION FOR NOT AGREEING WITH HOMOSEXUAL PRONOUNS*** - The following is excerpted from “MS Society,” ABC 15 News, Feb. 16, 2024:

“A 90-year-old volunteer at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society was recently asked to ‘step away’ from her role for not aligning with the organization’s inclusion standards, The National Desk confirmed Thursday. Fran Itkoff, whose late husband reportedly suffered from multiple sclerosis, had been volunteering for the MS Society for nearly six decades. The non-profit’s request for Itkoff to step away was first revealed in an interview with the popular social media account Libs of TikTok. During the interview, Itkoff explained she didn’t understand why people were listing their pronouns on letters and asked someone at the MS Society what it meant. Itkoff was allegedly told that pronouns were meant to help the MS Society be ‘inclusive.’

‘At the end of the day, end of the week, I got an email from [an MS Society representative] saying that they were sorry but had to ask me to step down as a volunteer for the MS Society,’ Itkoff said. The decision sparked widespread backlash after the Libs of TikTok interview was released. Hundreds of people flooded the reply sections on the MS Society’s X, formerly Twitter, posts. Many pledged to stop donating to the organization.’

☐ ***MSNBC CONTINUES THEIR ATTACK ON CHRISTIANITY*** - This seems to be a common theme on the network, as it is far from the first time, and certainly won’t be the last time where Christians are purposely mischaracterized over at MSNBC.

A guest on the left-wing network, Heidi Pryzbala, who is also an investigative reporter for Politico, said:

*“The one thing that unites all of them because there is many different group orbiting Trump, but the thing that unites them as Christian nationalists, not Christians by the way, because Christian nationalist is very different, is that they believe that our rights as a Americans, as all human beings don’t come from any earthly authority. They don’t come from Congress, they don’t come from the Supreme Court - they come from God.”*

They float the term “Christian nationalist” to scare the public from those who believe their Lord and Savior is Jesus Christ, and that, yes, our rights do come from God. The majority, if not the overwhelming majority of Christians believe that, whether they identify as nationalists or not.

This seems to be an ongoing occurrence on the left-wing network. Pryzbala is not the only person who attacks Christians and Christianity on MSNBC. Joy Reid, one of MSNBC’s famous

hosts, once said Evangelical Christianity is “Talibanism.”

Another MSNBC host, Alex Wagner, who replaced Rachel Maddow, attacked Gov. Ron DeSantis (R-FL), and went on Seth Meyers’ late-night show, claiming that DeSantis’ education policies are “the way we re-indoctrinate people to sort of a white Christian nationalist agenda.”

These people have no shame and don’t care if they blatantly lie, as long as they trash Christianity, and make their viewers feel like those who go to church, read the Bible, and pray are “scary.” The reason they think they can get away with it is because they rarely ever get any pushback, making them think that their stance is something that most agree with.

☐ ***JOHN MACARTHUR BLASTS THE GOSPEL COALITION: “WOKE,” “USELESS ENTITY,” “LIKE CHRISTIANITY ASTRAY”*** - In a recent Q&A, John MacArthur called out The Gospel Coalition. When asked by a member about it and organizations like it, he said that when they started out, they seemed to have noble intentions to bring people together and unite them around the gospel. He said that when they “bought into the deceptiveness of the woke movement and the racial baiting that was going on a couple of years ago,” that it “quickly put them out of business.”

He also blasted T4G for honoring Martin Luther King alongside R.C. Sproul a few years ago:

“I was thinking the other day how interesting it was that the last panel discussion that I was on at a T4G event was to honor R .C. Sproul who had died. And I spoke at his funeral, that this was, I think, 2017 or 2018. So the T4G guys wanted to honor him with a panel, and we spent an hour and 15 minutes. And it was just beautiful tributes to R .C. from all of us who knew him so very, very well.

“And the strange irony was a year later they did the same thing for Martin Luther King, who was not a Christian at all, whose life was immoral. I’m not saying he didn’t do some social good, and I’ve always been glad that he was a pacifist, or he could have started a real revolution. But you don’t honor a non-believer who misrepresented everything about Christ and the gospel in an organization alongside honoring somebody like R .C. Sproul.”

He said that when TGC reached out to him a few years ago wanting to hold a conference at his church, he agreed. But when he saw the list of speakers, he backed out, noting that some of the speakers at the conference were incompatible with their mission.

“And so we said, well, we’ll certainly consider that, send us the program that you would like to have here. And I remember they sent us a program of speakers that we would never, ever, ever have here, dealing with issues of gender and all that kind of thing.”

He concluded by stating that these “amorphous evangelical organizations without diligent, fastidious, vigilant leadership to keep them faithful to the truth of Scripture, just wander off into everything and they become, I guess in a sense, useless as an entity,” and compared them to the organization Christianity Today, calling them “Christianity Astray.” ■