

August 2026

THE MESSENGER



Tween Service Day at The Well Outreach!

ASSEMBLIES:

Sunday Mornings

Worship	9:00
Coffee Fellowship	10:10
Bible Classes	10:30

Sunday Evenings

See inside for details

Wednesday Evenings

Bible Classes	6:30
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Spanish Speaking Assemblies:

Sunday Morning	
Bible Classes	10:30
Worship	11:30

Staff

Barry England	Marriage/Family
Nathan Graham	Student
Randy Owens	Preaching
Suzi Parrett	Children
David Ward	Facilities

Online Giving QR Code



Spanish Speaking

Elyar Sanchez 615-853-4627

931-388-6514

office@w7church.org

w7church.org

West 7th Church of Christ

West Seventh Street Church of Christ

405 West 7th Street Columbia, TN 38401

Techhelp@w7church.org or 931-225-HELP (4357)



West Seventh
Church of Christ

Striving to be completely committed
followers of Jesus.

Discipling . Equipping . Serving . Loving

ELDERS

Bill Alsop	505-2282	Chris Shrader	334-9977
Steve Cofer	615-519-1228	John Simmons	626-5524
John Corn	540-230-8713	John M. Smith	388-5841
Marty DeJarnette	797-2387	James Thomas	698-8014
David Hendrixson	256-303-3115	Jeff White	615-828-3509
John Law	698-2236		

DEACONS

Seth Anderson	Mike Forsthoff	Bobby Kennedy	Troy Rubert
Brett Basham	Josh Howell	Jim Knight	Elyar Sanchez
Jon Bennett	Jamie Hubbell	John Kodatt	Rickey Savage
Billy Brooks	Jacob Hunnicutt	Jacob Love	Tyler Sells
Eric Bryant	Calvin Jackson	Darrel Marlin	Bill Stevens
Chris Carroll	Hunter Johnson	Michael Marlin	Jordan Tatom
Rob Cofer	Rob Johnson	Tommy McEwen	David Ward
Richie Estep	Ted Johnson	Eric Nash	Joe Westmoreland
Steve Estep	Ben Jones	Kent Pardon	Chad Williams



HOW IS THE OUTREACH CENTER BEING USED?

By John Simmons

The opportunity to purchase the building that has become our Outreach Center was truly a gift from God. Although we prayed for additional space, our efforts had been repeatedly thwarted to the point that we gave up and settled for what we already had. Then, one day, Centerstone Counseling knocked on our door and asked if we would be interested in purchasing their building. Because of COVID, they discovered they could effectively provide counseling virtually. God heard our prayers, saw our discouragement, and in His perfect timing, answered them.

Since renovating the Outreach Center, one of our primary goals has been to reach into our neighborhood and community in meaningful ways that demonstrate the love of Christ and His concern for people. While our congregation envisioned many ways the Outreach Center and Family Center could be used, we have also had the privilege of welcoming numerous community organizations that serve the common good.

The American Red Cross has used the Outreach Center as a training facility and recognizes it as a potential resource during times of community emergency. The Maury County Prevention Coalition has held programs focused on substance abuse prevention and mental health awareness. The Tennessee Children's Home and the Kiwanis Club have both hosted events there. The African American Heritage Society of Maury County has used the facility to celebrate and preserve our community's rich history. Columbia Academy and Maury County Public Schools have held meetings, training sessions, in-service events, and driver's education classes. The Pregnancy Center of Middle Tennessee has hosted community awareness luncheons and even used the Outreach Center as temporary office space while its building underwent mold remediation. CASA and the County Foster Care Board also use our facility to minister to children and families in difficult situations. Our local SWAT teams have also utilized the Outreach Center and our other facilities multiple times for specialized training. The building's multiple entrances, levels, and interconnected spaces provide an ideal environment for preparing officers for the complex situations they may encounter in the field.

The Outreach Center has also become a blessing to our own church family. Members have used it for birthday celebrations, family reunions, graduation parties, bridal and baby showers, teas, anniversary celebrations, and many other gatherings.

Beyond these community events, the Outreach Center has expanded our ministry opportunities. Barry England's counseling offices have been relocated there, providing a more welcoming setting that also offers the privacy and confidentiality so essential to that ministry. Our growing Young Families' Class, Sewing Ministry, and Food Pantry have also moved into the facility. These relocations have allowed us to repurpose space in our existing buildings, creating additional room for our rapidly growing preschool ministry and opening the door for even more ministry opportunities.

God is good, and He faithfully provides what is needed for His purposes to be fulfilled. The Outreach Center has given us countless opportunities to welcome our neighbors and partner with organizations that are working to strengthen our community. It has allowed people to see firsthand that the West 7th church is committed to being the salt, the light, and the leaven Christ calls us to be.

Has it been worth it? Absolutely—yes!

And we believe God is just getting started. Even greater opportunities for ministry and service lie ahead.

Let's Start Talking

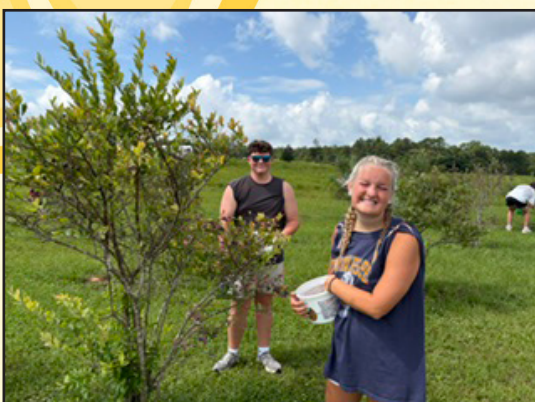
By Linda James

On June 26, Barbara Thrasher and I traveled to West Springfield, Massachusetts, for a two week Let's Start Talking project. The Springfield area of Western Massachusetts has a large population of immigrants from all over the world, and the minister of the local church of Christ there teaches English as a second language at the local library as an outreach. Several years ago, he learned about Let's Start Talking, and the congregation began partnering with LST as a way to go beyond teaching English. For several weeks each spring and fall, his students have an opportunity for English conversations with native English speakers discussing passages from the Bible. LST materials are taken from an easy-to-read version of the Bible and include lessons from Luke, John, Acts, James, Genesis and more.

We had readers from many countries including Haiti, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Brazil, Congo, Syria, Afghanistan, Turkey, Yemen, Russia, Poland, Ukraine, Moldova, and Thailand. Their religious backgrounds varied. Some knew nothing about God and heard about Jesus for the first time. Every immigrant had a different story, but all had left family, friends, and homeland to come to the United States to escape religious persecution, political oppression, war, or some other dangerous circumstance. Some were professional people: a doctor, a pharmaceutical toxicologist, a college professor, a former UN employee, artists, and students. They all had a strong desire to learn English, find community, and gain employment. Often through LST they develop a deep hunger to learn about God and study His word. It was a blessing and privilege to work with them, and we are grateful for the support and prayers of our West Seventh family.



W7SM Growing in Faith & Fun





Who Is Ready for an Inductive Bible Study?

By Randy Owens

"I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways." Psalm 119:15

With an inductive Bible study method, there is no middle man telling you what the Bible says or teaches. These studies help people to engage the Word for themselves. You will "Discover truth for yourself – but never by yourself." That statement was repeated during my training to facilitate these studies. Now, I cannot imagine Bible study without the inductive approach.

Different from other approaches, inductive Bible studies direct each person to study the text of Scripture first and refer to the opinions of others second. Individual time spent observing Scripture by using sound principles of interpretation along with classroom discussion culminate in personal application. Confirmation, clarification, or correction is made in the fellowship of others who have also studied. These discussions help to seal truths in our minds and sharing application encourages us to greater obedience and holiness.

Precepts is among the best ways to study the Bible, I believe, because the study is not about the skills or presentation of the teacher. It is about each person learning Scripture with the Holy Spirit as the teacher. Precept Upon Precept textual studies lead each student through about three to five hours of study - before the class discussion. However, students are encouraged to attend class even if they are not able to complete the homework that week.

The workbooks walk you through the following steps:

- PRAYER - each personal lesson and group discussion begins with prayer
- OBSERVATION - examining what the text says
- INTERPRETATION - understanding what the text means
- APPLICATION - relating the meaning of the text to your life

- KEY WORDS & PHRASES – marking certain key words or phrases
- CROSS REFERENCES – observing related texts
- WORD STUDIES – noting how a Greek or Hebrew word is used in the text
- COMMENTARIES – while they can be useful, reading commentaries is done *after* the other steps are completed

These steps move one from passive learning to meaningful participation and increased retention. An inductive study is not hard, but it does require effort and time.

The next study will be the book of Romans. It will begin on September 23 and continue through May. (However, there are four sections of the study and last section will continue the

next fall.) The class will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Class size is limited. However, if needed, a second class on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. will be considered.

For those who are new to an inductive study, there will be a "Welcome to Precepts" class on Sunday, August 16, in the Fireside Room. This will help you learn how to do an inductive study. Afterwards, you may decide to join the study or choose to select another class. You may register for the class and pick up the first

workbook at the Information Center. The Romans Part 1 workbook fee is \$15. Complete Lesson 1, bring your workbook fee, and be prepared to discuss on the first class. Bring exact cash or a check made payable to W7Church.

I would love to talk with you personally about this type of Bible study. But don't just take my word for it. Consider talking with anyone who has been part of these studies or contact me with any questions.

ROMANS!

For those who are new to an inductive study, a "Welcome to Precepts" class will be held **Sunday, August 16**, at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room. You may register for the class and pick up your workbook at the Information Center. This study begins **Wednesday, September 23**.

AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Elijah Carroll
2	3 Tammy Kodatt Karen Sartain Robert & Kerma Parrett	4 Molly McDonald Kerma Parrett Tyler Sells	5 Dane Bennett Jan Jefferson Bowen Loftis Sadie Todd Ted & Marnie Johnson Tommy & Peggy McEwen	6 Kaitlyn Fleenor Jessica Parker Perry Pugh Maverick & Ashley Dickinson David & Amy Hendrixson	7 BlakeLea Jackson	8
Hospitality		Maury County Schools Begin		CA Begins		
9 Kendall Cole Kensley Cole Anne Claire Hubbell Tamara Trulove	10 Parker Shirley Wayne & Maria Alderson Mike & Jan Jefferson	11 Bethany Capps Kate Yokley Rick & Donna Rickman	12 Henry Petrochko Bobby & Lauren Kennedy Kelly & Sheila McDonald	13 LeAnne Church	14 Jon Bennett Kaylyn Dillard Eric & Jami Karkau Lee & Diane Lantzer Joe & Judy Roberson	15 Michelle Oakes Steve McEwen
Heartfelt Registration						
Home Devotionals						
16 Kevin LoRe Richard Taylor Olivia Whiteside Randy & Celia Owens	17 Abner Morrison Tod Trulove Tom & Jade Anderson Shannon & Katrina McMurtry	18 Cade Jackson Ken Jackson Erica Williams	19	20 Landon Prentice Poppy Williams	21	22 Colton Cole Shirley Freeland Rachel Thomas Deborah Wilson
Heartfelt Registration						
Hospitality						
23 Joyce Jackson	24 Lyndell Fox Ellen Miller Caleb Thomas Olivia Todd	25 Beverly Richardson	26	27 Rachel Rivers Armando Sanchez	28 Mia Corn Linda Kirk Robert Parrett Phillip Young Jr.	29
SGBS Registration Youth Led Service						
30 Lillie Pharr	31 Kacy Brown Lottie Umstead					
Hospitality						

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT

CONTACT

BIBLE CLASSES

CLASSES & MINISTRIES

Adult Bible Classes	John Corn, Steve Estep
Small Group Bible Studies	Jon Bennett
Children's Ministry/Faith Farm	Suzi Parrett
Tween Ministry Grades 5-6	Suzi Parrett, Steve & Vickie Cofer
Student Ministry Grades 7-12	Nathan Graham, Jacob Love, Ben Jones, Eric Nash, Jacob Hunnicutt
Lads to Leaders/Bible Bowl	Josh & Lindsey Howell, Jordan Tatom
Men's Ministry	Eric Nash, Tyler Sells, Ben Corn
Women's Ministry	Beverly Simmons, Sharon Greene
Spanish Speaking Ministry	Elyar Sanchez, Orlando Valverde
PrimeTimers (Senior Adults)	Barry England, Faye Kinzer, Barbara Thrasher
Counseling & Family Ministry	Barry England
GriefShare/DivorceCare	Barry England
Widow's Ministry	Faye Kinzer, Sandy Lee
Next Step	John Law, John Simmons
Tech Ministry	Delonia Lawrence, Danetra Hodge, Vickie Cofer

MISSIONS & SERVING

Missions	Steve Cofer
Healing Hands International	Jim Knight, Dale Huckaby
Local Outreach	Chris Carroll
Disaster Relief	Jim Knight
FriendSpeak	Linda James
Service Station	Mike Forsthoft
Sewing Ministry	Faye Kinzer
Food Pantry	Tommy & Peggy McEwen
Beneficence - Members	Joe Westmoreland, Ted Johnson
Beneficence - Community	Tom Anderson
Baby Showers	Beverly Simmons
Bridal Showers	Beverly Simmons
Food for New Moms	Amy Hendrixson
Food for Illness/Funerals	Ramona Ward, Tamara Trulove
Fellowship Meals	Tyler Sells, Bobby Kennedy, Josh Howell
Event Set-Up	Seth Anderson, Richie Estep

WORSHIP & FACILITIES

Baptism Preparation	Tommy & Peggy McEwen
Broadcasting	Calvin Jackson, Troy Rubert
Van Drivers	Steve Cofer
Mobility Assistance/Valet	Bill Stevens, Jacob Hunnicutt
Open/Close Bldg.	Steve McEwen
Greeters	Darrel Marlin, Eric Nash
Ushers	Darrell Marlin
PA System/Powerpoint	Eric Bryant
Coffee Fellowship	Chris & Michelle Shrader, Troy & Lori Rubert, Ken Eubank
Finance/Contribution Count	Chad Williams
Nursing Home Communion	Kent Pardon
Security	Ben Jones, Tyler Sells
Facility Maintenance	David Ward

Sunday 10:30 a.m.

College Age **Christian Disciplines** **OC-Columbia Room**
John Law **How to have a good daily spiritual rhythm at college**

Young Professionals "Unexplainable Jesus" **Room 306**
Marty DeJarnette **What Made Jesus Appealing**

Young Marrieds **Men & Women of the** **Room 307**
David Hendrixson **Old Testament**

Young Families **James** **OC - Tennessee Room**
Barry England
Tyler Sells

Homebuilders **Acts** **TV Studio**
Jon Bennett
Rush Holladay
David Esslinger

Adult Class **God is Light** **Auditorium**
Tom Anderson

Adult Class **Biblical Teaching on** **Room 214**
John Simmons **Contemporary Issues**

Adult Class **Genesis** **Chapel**
Joel Oswalt

Spanish Speaking **Room 212**
Elyar Sanchez
Orlando Valverde

Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Adults **Survey of the New Testament** **Chapel**
Various Teachers