

Class 2: Our Principled History

Why care about Sunnybrook's history?

Our history is important to remember and know because it helps us understand and appreciate where we have come, who we are and where we are going. History is our teacher, holding us accountable to the God who brought us here. Knowing our history keeps us on track with our mission.

Why does Church history matter?

- We are part of a story that begins with Adam in the Garden and runs through John on the island of Patmos. (Gen. 1.1- Rev. 22.21)
- We are part of a story that continued after the New Testament stopped recording and will not stop until Jesus returns. (Matt. 16.18)

What is the Restoration Movement?

- We are part of a movement of churches that looked at the Bible and the condition of the church and were convinced something needed to change.
- We are part of a non-denominational collection of churches.

What are the principles of the Restoration Movement?

- The Bible is our final and greatest source of truth and practice. (*"No book but the Bible and no creed but Christ."*)
- The unity of believers will help bring about the evangelization of the world (*Not the only Christians, but Christians only.*)

"I have no idea of adding to the catalogue of new sects. I labor to see sectarianism abolished and all Christians of every name united upon the one foundation upon which the apostolic church was founded."

- Alexander Campbell

What about the specific history of Sunnybrook?

We are grateful for those who have loved God and helped us get here. We intentionally pick up the challenge to continue the mission of Jesus in Stillwater through this fellowship of believers. We are not interested in maintaining our heritage for its own sake. We believe the Spirit of God will continue to work through us and so we accept our responsibility to sacrifice for the continued cause of Jesus.

What is Sunnybrook committed to?

- We believe Jesus commands us to glorify God and fulfill our mission by making disciples who make disciples. (Matt. 28.18-20; Col. 1.27-29)
- We believe Jesus has called us to care about the work of the Spirit in Stillwater, Oklahoma, America and the World. (Acts 1.5-8)
- We believe God has called us to submit to leaders who guard our mission and doctrine for the glory of God and growth of his Kingdom. (Mt. 28.18-20; Col. 1.27-29)

"Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age..."

- Jesus