

SOUTHWEST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Chintzia Phan (10), Steven Petrosky (11)
John Powell (11), Betty Kellsmurphy (13)
Valerie Lloyd (13)



THIS MONTH'S ADMINISTRATING ELDER

Brett Gerhardt-brettgerhardt15@gmail.com

VACUUMING SCHEDULE

Feb 12: Curtis & Karen Jones
Feb 19: Adrian & Carolyn Coward

WEED-EATING SCHEDULE

Feb 26: Bryce Mayfield & Mark Speir

WORSHIP & STUDY OPPORTUNITES

SUNDAY: Bible Classes 9:30 AM, Worship 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM
TUESDAY: 10:00 AM (Sept.-May), Men's & Ladies' Bible Classes
WEDNESDAY: Bible Classes, 7:00 PM

RECORD FOR 2.1.2026

BIBLE CLASS: 190
AM ASSEMBLY: 254
PM ASSEMBLY: 153
WEDNESDAY: 204
CONTRIBUTION: \$17,129

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ELDERS:

Brett Gerhardt
David Hopkins
Keith Siebert
Mark Speir

PREACHER:

Ross Haffner
ASSOCIATE PREACHER:
Bryce Mayfield



Trent Kennedy, Director
Steven Lloyd, Assoc. Director



I CAN'T BE SAVED LIKE THE THIEF ON THE CROSS

Ross Haffner

Many people look to the thief on the cross next to Jesus as an example of how to be saved today. Is this reasonable in light of scripture? Can I be saved like the thief on the cross?

We don't know a lot about this man who joined Jesus in paradise on the day of His crucifixion (Luke 23:43). Jesus obviously forgave the thief's sins but unanswerable questions abound. Had he believed in Jesus before this interaction? Was he present at any of the miracles Jesus performed? Was he previously baptized by John or one of Jesus' disciples (John 1:28; 4:1-2)? We simply cannot know.

One thing I can be certain about is the dispensation the thief lived in. When Jesus walked the earth He lived under the Mosaic law. The thief grew up and lived under the same law. This was a law given to the Jews only and created a separation between Jew and Gentile (Eph. 2:13-16). This ended at the death on the cross (Col. 2:14). Most people tacitly understand that we do not live under this law any more because they do not travel to Jerusalem for feast days, offer animal sacrifices, or worship through the priesthood. I cannot be saved like the thief on the cross because it would be comparing apples and oranges. He lived and died under a different law.

During Jesus's earthly ministry he forgave sins frequently (Mark 2:5; Luke 23:43). He had every right to

do this because of His deity (Mark 2:7, 10). Only He can forgive sins, but He has ascended to Heaven (Acts 1:9-11). How can we know who is forgiven of their sins today? While a man is alive on earth he can give his money to anyone or any cause he wishes. However after death a man's money can only be given according to the terms of his last will and testament (Heb. 9:11-17; 10:1-5). I can't be saved like the thief on the cross because Christ's last will and testament is now in effect.

Jesus left his apostles to teach how one could be forgiven of sins. Peter taught that you must repent and be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21). Philip preached to and baptized people in Samaria and later the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:12, 27-39). Saul of Tarsus was baptized for the washing away of his sins (Acts 9:18; Acts 22:16). The Philippian jailor and his household were baptized (Acts 16). Under the New Testament, which was enacted at Jesus' death, the baptism of a penitent believer is essential to salvation.

Romans 6:3-4 teaches that we are baptized into Christ's death. I cannot be resurrected like Christ unless I have been baptized (Rom. 6:5). Baptism is not a work claiming to earn salvation, it is the operation of God (Col. 2:12-13). The thief could not be baptized into Christ's death because he died before Jesus. After Christ died He stated, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved..." (Mark 16:15-16). His New Testament was at that time in full effect.

Podcast – The Word of Life | online at swcofc.org/word-of-life

February 8, 2026

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.”

Colossians 3:23-24

WORSHIP	MORNING	EVENING
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Keith Siebert	Keith Siebert
PRAYER	Keith Siebert	
SONG DIRECTOR	Steven Petrosky	Ty McClellan
PRAYER	Roger McCown	Matthew Brooks
SCRIPTURE	Russell Haffner	
POWERPOINT	Carson Siebert	Carson Siebert
SERMON	LIVING FOR CHRIST IN MARRIAGE	FAITHFULNESS DEPENDS ON LEADERSHIP
SCRIPTURE	COLOSSIANS 3:18-25	
	Ross Haffner	Ross Haffner
LORD'S SUPPER	Ed Grumbles Randle Harris Branden Shelton Jonathan Smith Jack Tisdale David Crouchet Tom Genduso David Nuckels Jimmy Xie Mike Parks	Ed Grumbles David Crouchet
CLOSING PRAYER	Jerry Hopkins	Adrian Coward

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS & SHUT-INS

Joyce & Rusty Altizer, Jacquelyn Fox, Tom Hanks,
Martha Smith, Mary Jo Stewart, Clarence Whetstone

CONGREGATIONAL WORKS: VISITATION PROGRAM

Opportunities to engage visitors, look for needs and potential Bible studies.

- 1st Sunday Lunch
- Card Writing
- Greeter

COORDINATOR:
Bryce Mayfield

ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMING WEEK

SUNDAY: **9:30 AM** Bible Class
 10:30 AM Morning Worship

6:00 PM Evening Worship

TUESDAY: **10:00 AM** Men's & Ladies' Bible Classes

WEDNESDAY: **7:00 PM** Bible Class & Devotional
 Songs: **David Nuckels**
 Devotional: **Justice Imhoff**
 Prayer: **Branden Shelton**
 PowerPoint: **Carson Siebert**

SATURDAY: **9:00AM** Youth Valentines' Exchange & SLY Prep

UPCOMING EVENTS

- FEBRUARY:**
- Youth Valentines' Exchange & SLY Prep (14th)
 - Somebody Loves You Luncheon (15th)
 - ARISE! Workday (24th)
 - ARISE! Spiritual Growth Workshop (26th-1st)
- MARCH:**
- ARISE! 1st Sunday Worship & Fellowship Meal (1st)
 - Congregational Game Night (20th)
 - CONNECT Young Professionals & College Devo (26th)
 - SWSBS Finals' Week (30th-2nd)