

# The Witness

Volume XXIII, Issue II

Newsletter

February 2025

## Choosing to Move Forward

Already 2025 is upon us. A whole month is gone. Many resolutions are already broken. The coldness and darkness of winter has set in. This can be a time that can result in depression and withdrawal. But it doesn't have to be that way.

Winter can be a time that new life is nurtured. A mother bear withdraws and in her den gives birth to new cubs. Winter wheat is developing roots that will allow it to produce next year's crop. A caterpillar withdraws and in its cocoon, it is transforming into something altogether different and wonderful. Tulip bulbs are preparing within to burst forth in brilliance. Creation makes use of the quietness of the season.

What if we used this time with purpose? Perhaps we can begin to pray to seek God to work afresh in our lives this year. To bring revival to our church. To enable us to reach those we love for Christ. To change us in areas that we desperately need transformation. To grow us spiritually in our knowledge and understanding of Him.

Paul reflected in way that is relevant at this time. (NLT) Philippians 3:12 -14 says "I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that per-

fection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us."

The Christian life must be intentional. The Lord created most of the world to automatically reset. To renew itself. But we have a choice. We can drift. We can fill our time with useless fillers. Or we can take these opportunities to move forward. The choice is ours.

Pastor Danny

### At-A-Glance:

December's Gifts: \$28,814.<sup>00</sup>  
2024 Gifts : \$259,189.<sup>62</sup>  
2024 Budget: \$287,270.<sup>00</sup>

### February Outreach

Hope you had a chance to participate in our after church 2025 event overview last week. It was well attended and we have some excellent input. As always, feel free to continue that input to the appropriate ministry leaders. Together we make better decisions about activities/events/outreach. February is light on activities, as winter and unpredictable weather

limit our plans. We will have a cooking video on February 20th at 11:00.

And be aware of early March events. A Heart-to-Heart Ladies Event will be on March 1 at 10:30. It will include brunch, fellowship, games, worship, and speaker, Tracy Kelley. That will be followed by another Ladies event as Rehoboth Baptist Association will host a mini women's conference on Friday March 7 at the FBC Sulphur Springs ROC building. These events kick off a flurry of activities that will occur later in March, including Dennis Wagner's ordination.

Pastor Danny



**Cooking  
Video  
February  
20th  
11AM**

### Music Ministry

We had some great singers/musicians in January. Pat Brown started the month on the 5th, then Sherri Jackson on the 12th, then

on the 19th Carolyn Selby, and Jesse Rhodes sang and played his fiddle on the 26th.

In February we are looking forward to Wayne Miles, Cristina Bowers, Sam Wagner. They are the ones scheduled to sing so far.

We really appreciate everyone who brings the special music.

### Senior Adult Ministry

Also this year the FBC Cooking video will be held on a quarterly basis beginning February 20th. Be sure to put the dates on your calendar.

Thanks  
Bro. Steve Couch



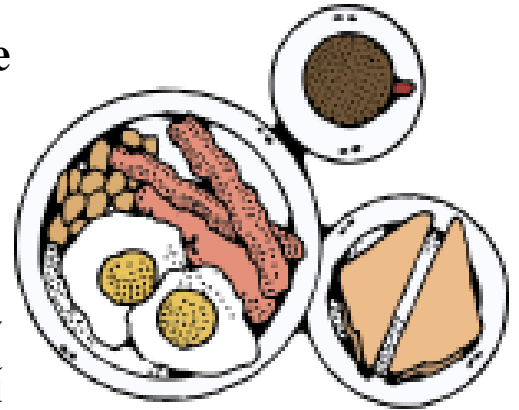
## Men's Breakfast Quarterly!

### Next breakfast will be February 1st at 8am With speaker Austin Baxley, Principal of Yantis High School

This January, our youth ministry kicked off the new year with a fresh start and a new series called "Card Declined: How Not to Get into Heaven." Through this series, we've been tackling common misconceptions about salvation and learning what God's Word says about how we are truly saved. It's been a great time of reflection and discussion as we guide our students to better understand the gospel.

I am so thankful for our dedicated leaders, Christine, Keith, Sam, Stephanie, and Wayne, who faithfully invest their time and energy into discipling our students and loving them like Jesus does. Please continue to pray for us as we seek wisdom in leading and pointing our youth to Christ throughout 2025. Your prayers and support mean so much as we work together to help the next generation grow in their faith. Here's to a year of growing deeper in Christ and stronger as a community of believers!

In Him,  
Dennis Wagner



### Your Church Staff...

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Secretary: **Mrs. Elizabeth Smith**

In the office Mon. - Thurs.,  
8:30am - 2:30pm

**Church Phone: 903-383-2393**

**Church Fax: 903-383-2384**

**Church Email:**

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**Church Website:**

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**Total  
Lottie Moon  
Collected:**

**\$2,505.<sup>59</sup>**

100% goes to the international mission field.

## Heart to Heart Ladies' Ministry

**Next Event:**

**Saturday,**

**March 1st**

**10:30am-Noon**

**Brunch, games,  
worship, fellowship!**

**With speaker Tracy Kelley**

