



Our Vision Statement: NEWCASTLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH STRIVES TO BE A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS EAGER TO TELL PEOPLE ABOUT JESUS.

## **CHRISTMAS**

#### **COOKSON GIFTS**



Delivery, Mon. Dec. 8th

If you've never been to Cookson,
it is quite a wonderful operation!

Last year, we got to tour the
school, while they were in session. They do such a great job, a
very God-centered, and Godblessed operation. Let Chelsea
know if you'd like to go along this
year. We have room for you!

# CHICKASHA TESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

WE'LL SEE THE GIANT LEG LAMP, EAT AT A PIZZA PLACE, AND SEE THE LIGHTS. TAKE THE VAN FROM CHURCH, OR MEET AT 5 PM AT THE GIANT LEG LAMP (at 1st St. & Chickasha Ave.) Sign up in the alcove to indicate which.

TUES. DEC. 9TH, 4:30 pm

ALL CHURCH DINNER OUT IN

CHICKASHA.



"It's a Major Award!"

#### ADULTS CHRISTMAS PARTY



Sat. Dec. 13,

6 PM

Bring your

friends and

family, a

snack to

share, and a

White Elephant gift (< \$10, please). (Man for man gift, and woman for woman gift)!! We'll have some fun snacking and playing Dirty Santa!

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#### **WOMEN'S MINISTRY**



We'll have a wonderful potluck brunch, followed by an interesting presentation by <u>Natanya Reinke</u>, Director of The Church Ladies Ministry. We will of course have our traditional ornament exchange game, so bring a wrapped ornament along with a delicious brunch dish to share, and of course all the ladies (of any age) in your world, all are wel-

come!! Sign up in Alcove for # of guests, what you plan to bring, and plan to help. There is also a sign up to decorate a table or 2. THANK YOU!!





NEW YEAR'S EVE GAME NIGHT—6<sup>PM</sup> Bring a snack to share, and come welcome the new year together!



# **Be Fruity**

Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered. – Matt. 21:19

I think trees can be the most beautiful things in all of creation. I also think they can be the ugliest as well. When I lived in Shreveport, I had 18 TALL pine trees. They were beautiful. They would sway in the wind. It almost looked like they were dancing and having a good time with each other. But other than the beauty of them, there wasn't anything more. Plus, I never want to rake over a hundred bags of pine needles again.

When I lived in St. Cloud, Florida, I had six palm trees in the front yard and two in the back. We moved there in October so the trees out front were "wow" to me. I mean me, an Okie, with palm trees IN MY YARD! But eventually you stop seeing them because...well.. everyone has them and they don't do anything. They don't even dance.

But the two in my backyard became my favorites. One was a grapefruit tree and the other an orange tree. Remember, I moved there in October so they were just bare trees at first. But then it started. Small, green nubs began popping out on the newly leafed limbs. And they grew. And grew. Then, almost like overnight, I saw orange and yellow start peeking through. Before long, I had trees that were right out of the old orange juice and grapefruit juice commercials I had seen when I was a child. An Okie child.

And their taste! Just overwhelming. So sweet and full of juice. You had to have a napkin with you while you ate them. It seemed that when you bit into one, juice seemed to multiply. It was as close to heaven in a fruit that I had ever had. And there were so many. Perhaps sixty, seventy or even more... on each tree! I found myself drawn to them every day until I moved in May. Just thinking about it now, I've had to wipe my mouth twice. Fruit, good fruit does that to you.

So I can understand why Jesus was so upset with His fruitless, fruit tree. And it was His tree. It just wasn't an obedient tree. It promised one thing but did not deliver. It claimed sweet fruit but produced dry leaves. It looked the part but didn't have the fruit.

What about you? Are you producing fruit? Do people recognize in you, the sweetness of Jesus? Are they attracted to you because the Holy Spirit (fruit) is blossoming from you? It's sad when Jesus doesn't find fruit in our lives. But I believe (my opinion) it's just as bad if not worse when non-believers don't find fruit either.

Be fruity.

From My Heart,

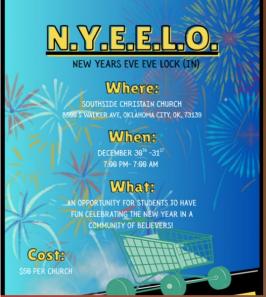
Billy



# December 2025



Let's Go Ice Skating!
December 12th, 530pm-930pm
\$12 to skate. You will pay the
church. Sign up with David today
Bring money for food!





Christmas Lights in Yukon,
December 19th 5pm-9pm. Bring
money for food. Sign up with
David today!



Youth Group Christmas Party December 21st, 5pm-8pm Guys bring snacks, Girls bring drinks.

Everyone bring a wrapped gift for the gift exchange. (\$10 limit on gift)

It's that time of the year!!! It's the season we celebrate the Birth of the Messiah!! We puts lights on our house and on our trees, we get all kinds of stressed about gifts and food and parties. We rush around and become frantic because we won't make it to every timeline we set for ourselves. All of this hustle and bustle sure does put you in a festive spirit doesn't it?

I don't know if you are aware, but Joseph had to be one of the most "go with the flow" type of guys. Joseph had to adjust from wanting to divorce Mary to continuing to be faithful to Her and to God. Joseph went from traveling to his hometown and thinking he would stay with a family member for a bit, to having to sleep in a cave where his Son would be born. oh, then random shepherds show up to pay homage to the Son which was born in a manger.

After all the dust has settled Joseph is looking to make sure his family is taken care of and then Magi show up to also pay homage to his son. To make matters worse now the King is looking to kill Joseph's son. Suddenly and angel shows up to Joseph and tell him to move his family to Egypt. Talk about a crazy couple of years. Joseph was in the thick of it. But, there must have been something that motivated him to push on. It must have been the reminder that the son born to his wife would save people from their sins.

This same son of Mary should still be the motivation that motivates us to carry on. Why? Because we are the recipients of being freed from sin. So this son of Mary is worthy of your time and dedication this season, don't get bogged down.

Merry Chistmas, David

# Castle Kids

**DECEMBER 2025** 



#### **The Grinch**

I think the Grinch is my favorite Christmas movie. I even painted a wood cutout of him to set outside our house during December to look like he's stealing the lights. He's disgusting, don't get me wrong. There just is something so captivating though, about a grumpy, hurt heart finding peace and turning towards love. You know where I'm going right?

His heart had shrunk because he had shut off all the goodness in the world around him. I understand why he ran from it all. It breaks my heart, but I get it.

Every day we are going to come into contact with others who have been hurt and are carrying the weight of that hurt like a big, grumpy, big green belly full of glass and onions.

That is not how it has to stay though!

Hope is here! Joy has come!

This Christmas season isn't just about all the lights, presents and feasts. They are wonderful, don't get me wrong. However, this Christmas what would happen if we all loved like Cindy Lou Who? Go to the ones who are hurting and love them till their hearts are full again! The only way that can happen? If we tell them the good news of the precious baby who came to the world to save us from all the pain, sin and hurt in our lives. It's only through him that our hearts can be full.

So be Cindy Lou Who...go love someone who is kind of mean and hairy and smelly, with cold and clammy hands...you might find something sweet.

Join us for our Christmas Special December 21st
10:30 am
Students be here at 9:30!





Thank you to everyone who has so lovingly supported me and the Castle Kids ministry this past year. It blesses my heart more than you can ever know.



2200 North Main Street Newcastle, OK

**Church Office:** Phone: 405-387-4100 Website: nccok.com Email: ncc@nccok.com

**Office Hours** Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm

> Billy Collier, Minister billy@nccok.com

David Martinez, Associate & Youth Minister

david@nccok.com

MaLinda Martinez, Children's Director malinda@nccok.com

Cheryl Millican, Ellen Storey, **Secretaries** ncc@nccok.com

> **Elders** Rick DeWeese

**Garland Hawkins** 

Deacons Alan Allison **Robert Elliott Cody Lee** 

#### **SERVICE TIMES**

Sunday School Sunday 9:30-10:15am **Worship Service** 

10:30 am

Wednesday Dinner @ 5:30 Bible Studies 6:30 pm

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

Call or email the church office, 405-387-4100, ncc@nccok.com.

**Submit prayer requests** to the church office anvtime. They will be added to the weekly list, emailed out each week, or emailed immediately if its urgent.

#### Important Dates in DEC

3— Wed. night dinner 5:30 & Bible Study 6:30

5-6—Joplin trip to "Christmas Carol"

5-6—Winter Camp

7—Sleigh Bells Mkt 12-5

8—Cookson Gift delivery 9am-7pm-ish

9—Dinner & Lights in Chickasha 4:30

10— Wed. night dinner 5:30 & Bible Study 6:30

11—Praying Sisterhood—10 am

13—Women's Christmas Brunch—10am

13—Adults Christmas Party—6 pm

14—Gingerbread Bash—2-4

17— Wed. night dinner 5:30 & Bible Study 6:30

19—Pantry/Christmas Baskets 9-10:30am

19—Youth to Christmas Lights 5:00 pm

21—Castle Kids Christmas Program—

morning worship 21—Youth Christmas party—5pm

24—Christmas Eve Service—5:30 pm

24-26—Church Office Closed

25—Merry Christmas!

30-31—NYEELO—Youth NYE lock-out

31—New Year's Eve Game Night—6 pm 31-1—Church Office Closed—Happy

New Year- 2026!



12/7—Billy & Michelle 12/14—Ellen S 12/21—Cody Lee 12/28-Ron & Jan Y

## **FAMILY SUNDAY**



## DEC 2025 - Communion Thought

12/7	12/14	12/21	12/28	5th
Ed Harris	Garland Hawkins	Mike Aston	David Martinez	N/A

#### **TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Offering plates are passed each Sunday, or you may use the giving box in the fover for your checks or cash (in an envelope please). Giving is also available through the church website at www.nccok.com on any of your devices. If you need help, just call the church office.

#### DEC. FOOD PANTRY/CHRISTMAS BASKETS



NCC's Food Pantry. There will not be a regular distribution in December, just the Christmas baskets on Dec. 19th, 9-10:30am. Regular monthly distributions will start up in January, on the second Fridays. Christmas Baskets - We are taking donations for the Christmas Baskets,

suggested \$50 per basket, but any amount helps. The contents of each Christmas Basket provides the components of a holiday meal for a needy family. At this time of uncertain income and benefits, we are giving out this full holiday meal to families in need so that they can enjoy a good meal together as they celebrate the birth of Christ, our Savior.



Last Sunday of the month—watch for info