

The Paradox of the Cross

The cross of Christ is the greatest of all paradoxes. It was the most tragic event in the history of the world, yet the most wonderful thing that ever happened. It was the saddest spectacle man ever beheld, yet it was the most stunning defeat Satan ever suffered and the most glorious victory Christ ever won. He won by losing. He conquered by surrendering.

The cross was the greatest exhibition of divine justice in condemning sin, yet the most wonderful demonstration of divine mercy in pardoning sin. It was God's greatest manifestation of hatred for sin, yet His supreme proof of love for the sinner.

The cross was the darkest hour in history, yet it was the time of greatest light. Though the sun refused to shine, and God hid his face from Christ, the cross was the means by which Christ became "the light of the world" (John 8:12).

In the cross we see man's hatred for Christ, yet we see Christ's love for man. There we see human vengeance as the crowds cried for His blood, yet we see divine forgiveness as Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" (Luke 23:34).

The cross portrays man's sinfulness and God's holiness; human weakness and divine strength. It demonstrates man's inability to save himself, and God's ability and power to do this for him.

The cross, from the human standpoint, is foolishness; yet it is a revelation of the highest wisdom of God.
—Eugene Britnell

"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" 1 Corinthians 1:18.

Some Unusual Things for Which to be Thankful

- ✦ Be thankful for the lady behind you in church service who sings off-key . . . it means that you can hear.
- ✦ Be thankful for the piles of laundry and ironing . . . it means your loved ones are nearby.
- ✦ Be thankful for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day . . . it means you have been productive.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—Ephesians 5:20

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Sue Hambelton. She died Wednesday night after a short stay at the Hospice House. Her service is Monday here at church at 1:00 for visitation and 2:00 for the service. Burial is at Smith Chapel.
- ◆ Bryce Hambelton had successful knee surgery Wednesday.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—D. E. Pleasant, Dorlene and Larry Butler, Aleta Collins, Vernon James, Mary Morrison, Ruth Strain, Steve and Diane Siebels, Bob Robbins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Lisa Langston, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.

Unite to Worship Here
Monday Night
6 p.m.
Supper After Service
Please Bring Desserts

Thanks to everyone who helped with the glow party and pumpkin carving yesterday and also to those who donated candy for treats.

START WITH
JESUS
STAY WITH
JESUS
END WITH
JESUS

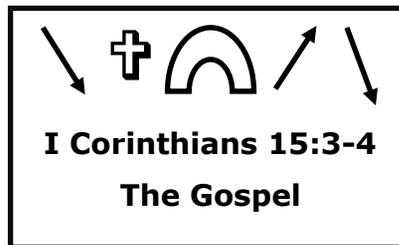
A relationship
with God is
the best
relationship
you can have.

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
10-1	Matthew Burton	10-19	Mark and Nichole Lane
10-4	Mary Ann Reynolds	10-19	Chris and Kelly Lemberg
10-7	Tristan Goodman	10-26	Jason and Julie Schofield
10-10	Aubree Schofield (3)	Birthdays	
10-13	Vernon James (95)	10-24	Paisley Goodman (1)
10-15	Darren Crisp	10-24	Addilyn Strong (8)
10-16	John Abraham	10-26	Casey Hambelton
10-19	Debra Lane	10-30	Karin Reynolds
10-21	Amy Myers		

Jessica is serving something yummy for our Wednesday night fellowship meal at 6 p.m. Come join us!

Date	Event	Details
Oct. 20-24 6 p.m. Supper after lesson	Unite to Worship— <i>Jesus Is . . .</i> Tuesday —Frontier Thursday—1st Baptist Friday—Lilly Ridge	Monday night we host. We will have party sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, macaroni salad, and chips. We need desserts brought.

Congratulations to Dylan Abraham and all the student leaders at the Fields of Faith service Wednesday night. They had a great crowd and everything went well.



October Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

10-19 John Abraham
10-26 David Stevens

Communion & Closing Prayer

D. E. Pleasant
Titus Smith

Song Leader: Dylan Abraham
Greeters: Tinker and Karen Langston

The Family News

October 19, 2025

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655
www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Relationship in Christ***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages Downstairs

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up Front

Worship God by Singing Praises

Communion Service

Song before Sermon

Sermon and Invitation

Invitation Song

Closing Song and Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace,

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604
Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us