



Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."-Ecclesiastes 12:13



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SHEPHERDS

*Lee Fisher
Zachary Petties*

DEACONS

*Roger Deem
Paul Portley
Gaylen Williams*

PREACHER

Phil McIntosh

TREASURER

Gaylen Williams

MONTHLY SUPPORT:

*Cherokee Home
For Children
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &
Family Services
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home
For Children
Stephenville, TX*

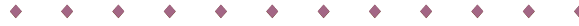
*Sunny Glen
Children's Home
San Benito, TX*

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM
SUNDAY AM WORSHIP - 10:30 AM
SUNDAY PM WORSHIP - 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

Stick to Your Guns

By Phil McIntosh



Guns are a hot topic in America today. One's geographical location often lends a particular perspective on the issue. Some people hate guns, a few might be afraid of them, and many people might simply have had no exposure to them in their lives. Others still were raised around them and cannot imagine their life without them. While the debate continues to dominate modern American politics, there is one type of "gun" that is universally agreed upon as being acceptable and valuable. This "gun" is one's opinions, beliefs, or convictions.

It is to this "gun" of established conviction that most periodically retreat and entrench themselves. The phrase "stick to your guns" is actually a funny phrase if you think about it. It does not evoke imagery of holding onto one's gun, but rather a stickiness like glue. The phrase itself dates back to the 19th century, where it was then stated as "standing to one's guns." The idiom implies that someone is refusing to desert their beliefs or compromise their convictions. This can be difficult to accomplish when surrounded by those who disagree. The will of peers and superiors can be difficult to deny or rebuke. That inherent difficulty is what makes "sticking" to one's guns all the more respectable. One stalwart defender of his intellectual and philosophical guns was a man named Pelagius who lived about 1500 years ago, in a land far from here.

If you don't know who Pelagius is, you're in good company. The church historian Peter Brown said that little is known about the man. Even the Encyclopedia Britannica can only state that he was a monk who was "probably" from Britain. There is enough known though to find him in the midst of a controversy with a well-known figure in church history. Pelagius lived during the end of the fourth and the beginning of the fifth centuries. He was a religious man who emigrated to Rome in AD 384. He made waves when he provoked two giants of what is referred to as "Latin Christianity." These giants were Augustine, the bishop of Hippo, and Jerome (who translated and produced the Latin Vulgate Bible). He disagreed with things they taught, and he did so publicly. The whole ordeal is somewhat tedious and too extensive to discuss in detail here, but the essentials of the story are that he held beliefs in regard to the Bible, God, and the nature of human beings that those men did not. Two of his beliefs were that 1) human nature was not evil and that 2) newborn babies did not bear the depravation and stain of Adam's sins. Those were good beliefs to hold, since the Bible supports them (*Ecccl 7:29; Ezek 18:19-20; Rom 5:12*). However, Augustine and Jerome, both of whom were more influential and more politically powerful than Pelagius, soured many against him. So successful was their attack on Pelagius that over 1,500 years after his death people still cast out his name as anathema. Under intense scrutiny and pressure, Pelagius stuck to his guns. He believed that his conclusions were correct, and he continued to teach them.

If Pelagius were alive today he would still have detractors. His belief that compelled him to reject the doctrine of original sin would be argued against even in modern time. There are belief systems circulating still (stemming from elements of some Catholic Church and Calvinistic teachings) that claim mankind is wholly separated from God and devoid of any good from the time of birth. Such doctrines are not in agreement with the Bible. Jesus said to allow the little children to come to Him (*Mk 10:14*), and that one must become like little children to enter the kingdom of Heaven (*Matt 18:3*). That wouldn't make much sense if they were essentially depraved heathens in the sight of God. No, rather the Bible teaches that God makes us pure and innocent at birth, but we defile ourselves by sin (*Rom 7:9; Jms 1:13-15*).

So what is to be done in light of unbiblical doctrines that are popular? If Pelagius spoke out against them amidst opposition, so can you. Our ultimate example, of course, is the Lord Jesus (*Phil 2:5; 1 Cor 11:1*). Jesus stood against the strongest opposition the world has ever seen. Jesus refused to compromise a single letter of God's message. The apostles Peter and John told the Jewish leaders that they could only "speak the things" they had "seen and heard" (*Acts 4:20*). If we aim to walk in the ways of Jesus, we too should be willing to stand upon the words of God and "stick to our guns" amidst opposition. Even if we cannot convince everyone of the truth of God, we can be confident that our work is not in vain (*2 Cor 2:14-17*).

NEW YEARS EVE FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON:

Join us for a New Year's Eve Fellowship Luncheon following morning worship on Sunday, December 31st. Please bring meats, casseroles, side dishes, & desserts. Kitchen Group #4 will have kitchen duties: (Michelle, Lex, & Ivan McIntosh, Alexis & Juelz Gaither, and Briana, Gianni & Brittini Griffith).

NO EVENING WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 31ST:

We will not have an evening worship on Sunday, December 31st. We will have an afternoon singing devotional instead, following the fellowship luncheon, at 2:00 pm.

We rejoice for Justina Young, who obeyed the Gospel last Sunday. Please welcome her and keep her in your prayers.



SHEEP KEEPER ASSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER

♦Group # 1-NEW CONVERTS

Team Leader: Paul Portley

♦Group #2-VISITORS

Team Leader: Roger Deem

♦Group #3-DELINQUENT MEMBERS

Team Leader: Gaylen Williams

♦Group #4-WIDOWS

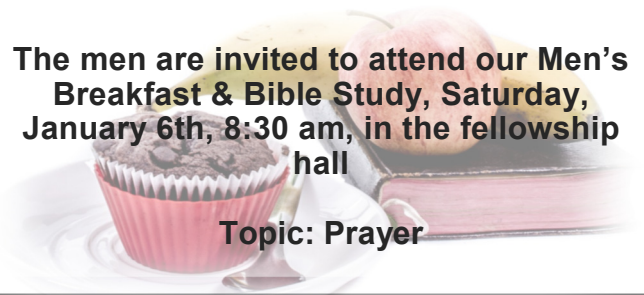
Team Leader: Phil McIntosh

***All groups will meet for visits in December after morning worship on January 14th.**

***Note: if team members are unavailable, leave your information with your group leader.**

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY

The men are invited to attend our Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, Saturday, January 6th, 8:30 am, in the fellowship hall



Topic: Prayer

FOUNDATIONS BIBLE STUDY:

Starting January 7th, there will be a new Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class taught by Lee Fisher, in the south hallway classroom. Please sign up in the foyer if you plan to attend.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEETING TIME CHANGE:

Starting Wednesday, January 3rd, and each Wednesday following, we will meet for Bible classes & devotional at 6:30 pm instead of 7:00 pm.

YOUTH DEVOTIONAL

Join us following evening worship, for a Youth Devotional at the parsonage. Please bring desserts & drinks.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 - JESSIE TURNER
- 8 - NATALIE FISHER
- 5 - TOM HOLUBEC
- 10 - JUELZ MCKENZIE
- 12 - MARTHA BELL
- 14 - PAUL PORTLEY
- 17 - BRENDA SELLERS
- 18 - BRITTINI GRIFFITH
- 20 - BEVERLY WILLIAMS
- 20 - JOSEPHINE SPEAR
- 20 - ZACK PETTIES
- 24 - MONICA MCLEAN
- 25 - GAYLE WILSON
- 25 - ALEXIS GAITHER
- 28 - GAYLEN WILLIAMS

December Nursery Schedule

- 3-Brenda & Gayle
- 10-Nichole & Brittni
- 17-Natalie & Victoria
- 24-Amanda & Briana
- 31-Victoria & Josephine

*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!

December Cleaning Calendar

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

3-TEAM LEE Natalie Ken	17-TEAM ZACK Amanda Diedre Paul Rubye	31-TEAM PHIL Michelle Beverly Josephine Lois Marcella
10-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda	24-TEAM KINGSFORD Kim-Marie Jaden Barbara Gaylen Nichole	

ORDER OF SERVICE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

- ♦ANNOUNCEMENTS: PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦1ST PRAYER: TOM HOLUBEC
- ♦SONG: SEAN MALDONADO
- ♦SCRIPTURE READING: LEX MCINTOSH
- ♦SONG: SEAN MALDONADO
- ♦SERMON: PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦INVITATION SONG: SEAN MALDONADO
- ♦SONG BEFORE COMMUNION:
SEAN MALDONADO
- ♦COMMUNION:
GAYLEN WILLIAMS & ROGER DEEM
- ♦SONG: SEAN MALDONADO
- ♦OFFERING: GAYLEN WILLIAMS & ROGER DEEM
- ♦CLOSING SONG: SEAN MALDONADO
- ♦CLOSING PRAYER: ZACK PETTIES
- ♦AUDIO/VISUAL: PATRICK SELLERS
- ♦SECURITY: SCOTT DAVIS & KINGSFORD ASARE
- ♦NURSERY:
NICHOLE WILLIAMS & BRITTNI GRIFFITH

SCRIPTURE READING

Sunday AM: "Don't Rely on the Preacher"
Matthew 11:27-29

"²⁷ All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him. ²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Sunday PM: "Did We Do Thomas Wrong?"
John 20:24-25

"²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe."

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR MILITARY & CIVILIANS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

-Roman Polanco is in Ft. Eustis, VA, for advanced training.

PLEASE KEEP THESE MEMBERS & LOVED ONES IN YOUR PRAYERS:

-Linda Walts had a difficult heart procedure earlier this week and is currently staying with Connie Havens while she recovers.

-Tom Holubec had shots in his neck last Monday and is recovering from cataract surgery last Wednesday. Both procedures went well and will have his second cataract surgery soon.

-Eddie Gandy was released from the hospital.

-Josephine Spears' brother is staying with her while he recovers from a car accident.

-Gary Johnston, an elder in Nebraska at Lesa Crockett's former congregation, is in the ICU with a blood staph infection.

-Keep the Gaylen Williams family in your prayers as they await a date for the adoption of Micah.

-Adam Zak has an appointment with an ENT doctor on the 22nd.

-Mary Lou Daines requests prayers for a member of the church, Joyce Huff, who is battling cancer a second time.

-André Pettaway will be traveling in January to Ft. Carson, Colorado, for job training.

SYMPATHY: We wish to extend our sympathy to Yolanda Wright and Tash Poole on the loss of Yolanda's mother, Elizabeth Fryer, last Sunday. Her service is Wednesday, in Kentucky. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel.

-Glenda Boudreaux traveled to attend a funeral and asks prayers for safe travel and for the family of Judy Stevens, who passed.

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & HOME

BOUND: Kenneth Sellers Jr.'s mother-in-law (Darla), former member (Bobbie Knight); Donna Hines; Barbara Anderson's son (Derrick); Glenda Boudreaux & mother; Michelle McIntosh's cousin (Nikki), aunt (Christy); Martha Bell; Jim Dukes & family; Al Wilson & friend (Linda Ray); Gayle Wilson's friend (Sherry Canes); James & Jaden Seay; Amy Cole; James Garner & wife (Tammy); Shirley Wooten; Tom Holubec; Gary & Shirl Foster; Lois Brown; Yolanda Wright; Ralph & Barbara Hughart; Judy Wall's husband, (James); Opal Jones; Eddie Gandy; Monica McClean's sister & brother-in-law (Janeth & Neville Grey); Bill Rawlings & mother; Nada Miller; Julie Odum's mother (Sharon Schmidt); Katelyn Bowles' cousin (Brittany), and sister-in-law; Tanja Arch & her family; Tim Matter's wife (Elda), brother (Michael), mother, aunt (Vivian), & sister's husband (Christopher); Josephine Spear, cousin, sister (Patricia), neighbor (Clinton) & friend (Iris); the McIntosh's family friend (Bryan Christmas); Alexis Gaither's father, aunt, & friends (John & Marion Slaughter); Creta Bales' cousin (Terry Jackson); Cheryl Flores' aunt (Joy) & brother-in-law (Raymond Flores); Donna Hines' stepmother (Darla), & niece (April Miller); former members (Rey & Connie Cruz); Jon-Jon Simmons; Tracy Wilson's mother (Ruth Hyde); Linda Deem's nephew; Zack & Amanda Petties' granddaughter (Kyemara), Amanda's brother (Rex), sister (Jewel), nieces (Carrington & Moneisha), sister-in-law, & Zack's brother's son (Darius); Rufus Brown; Marcella Williams & brother-in-law (Johnnie Milford); Billye Hughes; & Jessie Turner.

Our Speaker Today is Phil McIntosh



We want to especially welcome our visitors!

If you are visiting, please fill out an attendance card from the back of the pew directly in front of you, and drop it in offering box as you leave. Thank you for your visit and please join us again!

BIBLE STUDIES AND COUNSELING OFFERED

⇒ Bible Studies With Our Preacher Or Elders

⇒ Free Bible Correspondence

⇒ Free Marriage And Family Counseling

To our visitors—Thank you for being with us today, and please come again!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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PHIL McINTOSH (pulpit minister):

kcofcpreacher@gmail.com

Office: 254-634-7373 or email us at: kcofc@hotmail.com

DECEMBER CALENDAR

10-Youth Devotional at the parsonage, 6:30 pm

13-Ladies Bible Class, 10:00 am, in the fellowship hall (the ladies will resume class on January 10th)

14-Ladies Holiday Potluck & Ornament Exchange at the home of Creta Bales, 6:00 pm

21-Youth Gathering at Gaylen & Nichole Williams' home

24-Guest Speaker Caleb Griffith

25-Office closed for Christmas Day

27-Singing devotional

31-Fellowship Luncheon followed by a Singing Devotional (no evening service)

JANUARY CALENDAR

1-Office closed for New Year's Day

6-Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, 8:30 am, in the fellowship hall