



“Dinner and an Argument”  
(Luke 22:14-30)

**FAMILY UPDATES**

**Members with health issues:** Ray & Maggie Binkley, Dorothy Brown, LaFerne Caldwell, Kathleen Corns, Ernest Dean, Charles & Kathleen Holt, Cristin Martin, Sue Martin, Sherry Meadors, Letha Morris, Glenna Pickel, Boone Roberts, Michael Robison, Willie Rose, Paul Schellhorn, Cathy Sharpe, Ann Thurman, Terry

**Prayer Requests**

**Dorothy Brown:** diagnosed with uterine cancer, surgery will be scheduled after some further tests have been done.  
**Shirlene Roberson:** recovering from pneumonia.  
**James Snider:** has been diagnosed with diverticulitis.  
**Patty Van Tuyl:** recovering from hernia surgery.

**Prayer Requests for Friends and Family**

**Joanie Brock:** cousin, Wanda Baker, facing struggles since she moved to Tulsa and health issues.  
**Kenna Fields:** sister, Helen Cannefax, having surgery on vocal cords Dec. 17, Dr. John Cox for cancer, and friend, Wanda Wiley’s tumor had reduced and will be surgically removed on Dec. 20.  
**Julie Kamalakis:** husband, Jason Kamalakis, for Bell’s Palsy to heal quickly and face to return to normal.  
Helen Troy: (former member) at Mercy Hospital in Rogers, AR. The scope poked a hole in her esophagus during a procedure. She is stable and has a feeding tube.  
Jerry Wiley (regular attendee) friends, John Qualls, Troy Wiley, and Chris Corbett for recovery and health.

**Congratulations**

To **John Sanders** on the birth of his daughter, **Elizabella, Kayeverly, Monroe Sanders**, born December 11. 7lbs, 6oz, and 18.3inches.

**Thank You**

We would appreciate prayers for healing and for our lifestyle change that will need to come about for all of us to be healthy and supportive of James. Prayers of thanksgiving that he is not sicker than he is as this could have been much worse. We also want to extend prayers of thanksgiving for Crosstown and each of you and your families. We have been at Crosstown now for a year and have been so richly blessed. I love having a little bit of heaven on earth and we truly feel that as a family at Crosstown. Thank you each and everyone of you for who and what you are for the Lord. **Kristy Snider**



**Giving Statements**

Internal Revenue Service regulations require contributions must be received or postmarked no later than Dec. 31, 2018 for them to be considered deductible donations for the 2018 tax year. If your donations were made by check or cash donations made within an envelope with your name upon it, you will receive a statement from the church office shortly after the first of the year. Please wait to file your 2018 income tax return until after you have received this statement if you are claiming charitable contributions. Statements can also be provided upon request reflecting contributions made to that date.



**RESCHEDULED EVENT**

**DECEMBER 19**

*Cocoa with the Creator* 

Ladies Only. Dec. 19 from 6-8pm at Crosstown. **Bring a mug washed and put in a gift bag to exchange.** Hosted by Crosstown teens and their mentors.

\* There will be coffee, sweets, and conversation for the men in Rm. 123



**AMONG FRIENDS with Robert**

I've heard the adage, "Now you see it, now you don't," but I never knew it worked the other way around. Usually, this is quoted by magicians who are using some sleight of hand, making some relatively insignificant object "disappear." But while illusionists are often making things *disappear*, the apostle Paul in Colossians 1, speaks about something that has *appeared*. It is a case of, "Now you don't see it, now you do!" And the thing that has appeared is not insignificant. No, it is infinitely valuable.

"Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation" (verse 15). Many biblical scholars believe that these words constitute an ancient Christian hymn, here quoted by Paul, written to confute an early Gnostic heresy which claimed that the spiritual and invisible was inherently good while the material and visible was inherently evil. To such a claim, this hymn declares that the God of the universe, though once spiritual and invisible, became visible and physical in Christ. And the visible Christ is certainly not evil. He is perfect! "Now you don't see it, now you do!"

The Greek word for "image" in verse 15 is *eikon*, from which we get our English word "icon." Christ makes the God "no one has ever seen" (John 1:18), visible and knowable. Indeed, this is precisely what traditionally so many people celebrate this time of year: That the invisible God became visible as a baby in a manger on His way to being a Savior on a cross, as Paul later says, "Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation" (Colossians 1:21-22). Notice that Christ's seeable, knowable, physical body is that which saves us. What we once did not see, we now see.

People all too often make a sharp distinction between their normal lives and their spiritual lives. Your normal life is what you do Monday through Saturday, at work and at home, with family and friends. Consequently, your spiritual life gets relegated to an hour on Sunday, when you worship an invisible Deity who remains relatively detached and aloof from your everyday life. But this was never God's intention. God never meant for us to have a "normal life" and a "spiritual life." Instead, God, who is spiritual, descended into our normal, physical lives in Christ so that everything we do in our normal, physical lives could be done with God. In other words, everything we do is spiritual!

This week, as you go about your "normal" business, do you do so with an awareness that everything you do is done in God's presence? Do you do so with an awareness that everything you do has profound spiritual significance? Everything you do – from the way you love your spouse to the way you raise your children to the integrity that you maintain at work – is spiritual. Your "spiritual life" is not just found in Bible readings, prayers, and worship services, it is found in everything. Your spiritual life is your normal, everyday life, for God is in your normal, everyday life. God is not invisible anymore. He has come in Jesus.

-- Robert --



**MINISTRY UPDATES**



**Children's:**

**Bible Hour** — available for 2&3 year-olds and 4,5&6, year-olds in our east wing. Children will be dismissed prior to the sermon.  
**Bible Basics** — offered to students in grades 2-6 on the 1st & 2nd Sundays of each month. Rm. 128. Dismissed prior to the sermon.  
**Today's Volunteers** — Nursery: **Kay I. and Pat S.**  
 2&3s Bible Hour: **Molly C., Megan P., and Allison B.**  
 4&5s Bible Hour: **Lindsay K., Camden P., and Christian M.**  
**Sermon Notes for Kids:** a sheet for kids to use during the sermon is provided in the Connection Books on the pew.



**Food Pantry:**

We can buy food at the Food Bank for \$.49 a pound. Please consider giving monetarily, using the envelopes in the pews, and place in the contribution plate. Paper sacks always needed.



**Small Groups:**

**Group Bible Study** — Led by **Keenan Meadors**. Sundays at 4pm (Except Dec 24 & Dec. 30) at the church building.  
**Life Groups** — Connect / Grow / Serve. Contact an Elder, a Minister, or **Chris Clayton** to join a group. On the 4th Sunday all life groups will meet at the building at 5:00pm.  
**Monday Night for the Master** — Mondays from 3:30pm to 6:00pm in Room 123. The water will be on for this time period. **Will not meet 12/17, 12/24 or 12/31.**  
**Visitation In Person (VIP)** — Mondays at 5:30pm. Short visits to visitors or friends, relatives, & neighbors of our members. Visits are an opportunity to bring encouragement, pray with them, and invite them to services and activities. **Will not meet 12/24 or 12/31.**



**Security:**

**Class ~ Louis R. Worship ~ Lowell P. and Brandon B.**

**Women's:**

**Women's Bible Study** — Walking In the Light Daily. **Will not meet again till January 3.**



**Miscellaneous:**

**Clothing Closet:** Please hold your donations of adult hangers and plastic bags, still accepting child hangers and winter clothing.  
**Holiday Mail Station:** You may drop off your Christmas cards, addressed to members only, at the box tree located in the foyer (near the restrooms). Please place mail alphabetically according to last name. Member, please check your letter box weekly to pick up your mail.  
**Combined 4th Sunday Life Group:** December 23 at 5pm.  
**Bible Hour Volunteers:** New schedules are being formed for new year. Please let **Misti and Emily** know if you would like to join team &/or inform us of weekends you will be out of town for January-March.

**Visitors:**

You are our honored guests. Please complete a visitor's sheet, located inside the Connection Books that will be passed during our worship service. We would also love to meet you at our Information Desk in the foyer where we can answer any questions you might have. Nursery facilities are available in the east wing of our building, and a cry room/training room with private nursing area is located in the back of the auditorium.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 12/19 Cocoa with the Creator
- 12/25 Merry Christmas! Church office will be closed Dec. 24-Dec. 28.
- 12/30 Area-Wide End of Year Service at Crosstown.
- 12/31 New Years Eve Party

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 12/18 Keenan Meadors
- 12/19 Sarah McGill & Savannah Schultz
- 12/20 Diana Walker
- 12/21 Robert Walker, Sarah Beard, Thomas Yingling and Amos Clayton
- 12/23 Dave Durand & Ann Thurman



**New Years Eve Party**

Join us from 7pm until midnight on **December 31st** for fellowship with our church family. Bring your favorite games and finger foods and hang out in the Activity Center. A sign up sheet available in the foyer.

**Student Movement (6th - 12th Grade)**

**Wed. Night Hang Outs** ~ Wednesday nights at 6pm. Bible Class will follow at 7pm. Dec. 19 snacks will be provided for the boys. Girls will participate in the Cocoa with the Creator.  
**Tulsa Area-Wide Devotional:** January 13. "An Experiencing the Cross ..." at Glenpool CoC. Van leaves at 4:00pm and returns at 7:30pm.  
**Youth Christmas Mystery Dinner at the Dresser Mansion: "Who Stole the Silver Bells"** Dec. 16 at 5pm—7pm. Wear your best Tacky Christmas sweater. Prizes for best actor/actress, best tacky sweater, and best detective. Van leaves at 4:45pm and returns at 7:15pm. (235 W. 18th St., Tulsa 74119)



LTC student forms are due. We will begin forming teams and getting coaches based on interests of our students. See foyer for additional forms

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

**Sunday**  
 Bible Class . . . . . 9:15 am  
 Worship . . . . . 10:15 am  
**Wednesday**  
 Bible Class . . . . . 7:00 pm

**CONTACT US VIA EMAIL**  
 > [info@crosstownfamily.org](mailto:info@crosstownfamily.org)

**GIVE TO CROSSTOWN ONLINE**  
 > [www.crosstownfamily.org/donate](http://www.crosstownfamily.org/donate)

**PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE**  
 > [www.crosstownfamily.org](http://www.crosstownfamily.org)

- WHERE YOU WILL FIND
- Info on events & ministries
  - Our roster of elders & staff
  - Sermon audio & other resources

**CHURCH INFORMATION**

3400 East Admiral Place  
 Tulsa, OK 74115-8227  
 Phone: 918-834-1395

**CHURCH STATS**

**Sunday, December 9, 2018**

Bible Class Total	142
Worship Total	200
Weekly Budget	\$9,300
Contribution	\$10,517
Contribution YTD	\$431,663
Budget YTD	\$455,700
Difference	(\$24,037)

**Wednesday, December 12**

Bible Class	99
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