



# Kelham Korner

**KELHAM BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3400 North Meridian  
Mail: P.O. Box 12605  
Oklahoma City, OK 73157  
(405) 946-9826  
kelham.org

Wednesday, October 10, 2018

## Prayer God Is Faithful Newer Requests

- Ann Langham and family—bereavement**
- Ian Howard—recovery/school attendance**
- Ruth Greene—recuperation/3 broken ribs**
- Mike and Beverly Beardain's neighbor, Mary Lou—job**
- Glenda Anderson—continued recuperation
- Larry and Lana Bradley's grandson Quinn—health
- Ed Lamb—recuperation
- Mark Lamb, Ed's youngest son, cancer
- Daphne Cross (Huong's granddaughter)—health
- Delores & Sam Castleberry—vision/health
- Arlene Goddard's son, Brian—pancreatitis
- Mark Handley's son
- Claud Holland's friend, Jack
- Jake Justice, cousin of Jill Justice, salvation
- Carole Kuykendall—rehab/increased strength
- Ron Meek's cousin, Lisa
- Joni Sapp—health
- Shirley Smith—health/well-being
- Clarence Warstler's sister-in-law Janie, hospice
- Michelle, Rachel Whatley's aunt—cancer

## Ongoing Prayer Needs

- Pastor's cousin and husband, Jeff and Gini
- Schoonover, daughter Kristina
- Bob Barker—Claudia's brother-in-law, health
- Alberta Darks—health
- Lloyd Dickerson—health
- Arlene Goddard's son Kevin and Walter Goddard's son Dale
- Mark Handley's mother & sister
- J.R. Hill—strength/grace
- Twila Howard cousin, Virginia—health
- Jean Johnson, friend of Beardains
- Ed Lamb's niece—metastatic cancer
- Eddy Jane McElvany—Tuscany Village—Hospice
- Billye Murrell—strength
- Dareck Smith—well-being
- Persecuted/Imprisoned Christians:**
- Pastor Andrew Brunson, Turkey

## Our Military

Pastor's nephew, Edward and family; Heather McEver

## Our Shut-ins

- Willis Bottger (VA retirement, Norman)
- Delores and Sam Castleberry
- Pat Clark (Brookdale south)
- Alberta Darks (Town Village, Tulsa)
- Ruth Greene (Bill Long's aunt)
- Bill and Betty Harris—wisdom, and grace

*"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:13)*

## Birthdays—October

- 10** Danny Lindsey
- 11** Pam Sherrod
- 18** Delores Castleberry

## Nursery

- 14** AM Sheena I  
PM Michelle V
- 21** AM Janie A  
PM Glenna L
- 28** AM Shirley M  
Linda P  
PM Ginger M

## 19 Wayne Fitzpatrick

- 22** Tran Cross
- 25** Shirley Craig
- 27** Ricky Webster
- 29** Carol Handley
- 31** Bill Rohling

## Open/Close

- 14** C. Holland
- 21** B. Montgomery
- 28** T. Montgomery

## Operation Christmas Child



Suggested gifts for October—duct tape and pencil sharpeners



## Thanksgiving Food Drive begins October 31.

Bring a canned good to 4F (Fall Family Fun Fest) to receive a *delicious free cupcake!*

## Stewardship for the week of 10/7/18

Budget Receipts:	\$3,528.75
Required:	3,260.03
Over/Under:	268.72
TAB:	25.00
Operation Christmas Child:	50.00



**Fall Family Fun Fest  
October 31  
Please bring individually wrapped candy.**

**Breakfast will be served.  
Ladies invited too!**



**WORK DAY**  
Saturday

## Thank You

Dear Kelham Family—  
Thank you so much for the delicious meal the ladies made for my family. Thanks for the card and prayers for Ron. We say, "well done," Justine, Jill, and Gary.

**Ann Langham and Family**

Dear friends at Kelham Baptist—  
Thank you so much for the love and support extended to Ron and Ann through the years. The family appreciated the lovely dinner served our family and friends and your participation in the memorial service.

**Milda Echelle, Ron's sister**

Pastor Adams and the whole Kelham staff

Thank you for providing such a wonderful service for my dad. The message was perfect, the food was delicious, and the church was warm and welcoming. You made our lives easy during this challenging time. Thank you again so much!

**Jim and Kristin Martin and family**

# Reflections on Thirty Years

**September 1 marked** thirty years I have served as pastor of this dear church. I want to thank you for your love, support, and encouragement through those years. It seems like only yesterday we first arrived in Oklahoma City, but so much has changed. When we moved here, I had to drive from our house in Northridge to Sears at Quail Springs to pay a deposit for our telephone. It seemed like I was traveling across half the state of Oklahoma—and it was pretty desolate. Mercy Hospital stood almost alone on Memorial Road, which was but a two-lane track in those days. The shopping center located on the north side of the turnpike at Mercy housed a lonely Mardel store. On the way back to the house after paying the deposit, a tumbleweed blew across the road and scratched the hood of my little yellow BMW. I had never seen real tumbleweed before; so I had no idea they are actually quite hard.

**When we had been here less than a year,** my good friend Russ Bush, who had become Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Southeastern Baptist Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, contacted me to apply for the position of Communications Director. Those were the days of the conservative resurgence in the Southern Baptist Convention, and Southeastern had become a key battleground to stem the tide of creeping liberalism. The challenge excited me. The prospect of working with Russ was icing on the cake. We traveled to North Carolina on our way to Florida on vacation, and I interviewed with another Vice President of the seminary and the seminary President, Lewis Drummond, and was hired. I returned to Kelham and resigned, giving thirty days' notice. Meanwhile, I traveled back to Wake Forest in an attempt to find housing. (Russ Bush was still living in seminary housing instead of his own home three years later, so strained was the housing market there.)

**My mother did not want me to go.** My brother did not want me to go. My wife and son did not want to go. Thankfully, many of you did not want me to go either. I confess that I know now taking the position would have been disastrous. Despite my perception of my own abilities, I would have fallen woefully short. A poisonous atmosphere permeated the campus with staff and professors wearing ribbons in support of the ousted former President, Randall Lolley. At the time ambition blinded me to reality. (I wish that were the last time I had been blinded to reality!)

**God shut the door** on that opportunity when I realized the housing situation and that I would have had diffi-

culties working in the staff context in which I would have found myself. God can direct through opening and closing doors quite effectively. After graduating from seminary with my M. Div., I had applied and been accepted to Westminster Seminary in Philadelphia a second Master's, a Th. M. But I could not find a job with which to support me and Connie. Door shut. After realizing God had shut the door to Southeastern, I sought to stay here and even requested the church vote a second call. I understand now how some were a bit upset over that, but you prevailed.

**Through these thirty years** you have become my family. I have rejoiced with you in the births of children and grandchildren. I have grieved with you in the passing of spouses, children, parents, and grandparents. We have worked together. We have served together. We have seen great victories and family members and friends saved and experienced sadnesses and losses together. One of my delights is to pray for each of you each morning. It forms an anchor for my day and focuses my attention on the dear church family with which I and my family have been blessed.

**I recall preaching a message the first year** I was here that examined the statistics of our membership decline over the previous decades. Statistics predicted the church would cease to exist by 2000. But you persisted. If Elijah had run a statistical analysis of the water level of the Brook Cherith in 1 Kings 17, he could have dated precisely when "the brook dried up" (vs. 7) and when he would then die of hunger and thirst. God did not tell him to do that, however. God told him, "Thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there" (vs. 4). God said He would provide for Elijah, and when the brook actually did dry up, God had another task for him.

**Our church family is still here.** God has preserved us. He still has work for us to do, people for us to reach, service that no other church family can do. Have you ever noticed (I have) that our church family has a ministry comforting hurting people? Don Rogers, our former pastor, told me something to the effect that if a person is hurting, Kelham is the church that person needs. Somebody you know needs God's encouragement.

**Thank you for being who you are,** for being obedient to love people. —Brother Gary

