



Kelham Korner

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

Wednesday, January 10, 2018



God Is Faithful

Newer Requests

Former Mayor Kirk Humphries, wisdom, courage, humility

- Tom Anderson—continuing health issues
- Willis Bottger, Warr Acres Nursing Center, recuperation
- Larry Bradley—continued recuperation
- Daphne Cross (Huong's granddaughter)—health
- Lloyd Dickerson—hospital for kidney surgery
- Wanda Hixon—broken pelvis, healing
- Ed Lamb's niece—metastatic cancer
- Eddy Jane McElvany—Tuscany Village— Hospice
- Shirley Smith's son Melton—health
- John Thomas—strength/pain
- Paul Whatley's sister Michelle—recuperation

Ongoing Prayer Needs

- Glenda Anderson—health
- Bob Barker—Claudia Montgomery's brother-in-law, health
- Sam Beatty, Dee Buckmier's daughter health
- Quinn Bradley—grandson of Larry and Lana Bradley
- Delores & Sam Castleberry—strength
- Pat Clark—well-being and safety
- Alberta Darks—health
- Alberta Dark's grandson Kevin
- Arlene Goddard's son Kevin
- Walter Goddard's son Dale
- Mark Handley's mother and sister—health/wisdom
- J.R. Hill—strength/grace
- Twila Howard cousin, Virginia and Daryl—health
- Billye Murrell—strength
- Bob Sapp
- Dareck Smith—well-being
- Persecuted Christians Worldwide**
- Our President—wisdom/courage/humility
- Our military and law enforcement
- Elected officials—local and national
- Our Military**
- Pastor's nephew, Edward and family—deployment, Heather McEver
- Our Shut-ins**
- Ruth Greene (Bill Long's aunt)
- Bill and Betty Harris—strength, wisdom, and grace
- John Thomas

Nursery

- 14 AM Janie A/Sheena I
PM Scott P
- 21 AM Linda P/April W
PM Glenna L
- 28 AM Shirley M/Ann L
PM Verda H

Open/Close

- 14 Long
- 21 Handley
- 28 Adams
- January Calendar**
- 14 Deacons & Finance, 5:00 PM
- 17 Business meeting, 6:45 PM
- 18 OCC Sewing day, 1:00 PM
- 19 Family activity night, 6:45 PM

Stewardship for the week of 1/7/18

Budget Receipts:	\$3,539.35
Required:	3,313.97
Over/Under:	225.38
T.A.B.:	\$125.00
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering:	\$75.00
Lottie Moon to Date:	\$915.00
Annie Armstrong:	\$25.00
Falls Creek:	\$75.00

January Birthdays

- 12 Ron Langham
- 13 Danielle Kuykendall
- 14 Verla McKissack
- 16 Colleen Godsy
- 18 Ed Kimberlin
- Robbie Macias
- 19 Bob Sapp
- 21 Melody Beard
- Josh Webster
- 23 Leonard Curtis
- 24 Carol Henson
- 25 Betty Harris
- Quinn Kuykendall
- 26 John Thomas
- 30 Bob Montgomery
- 31 Pat "T" Clark

Save the date....



All-Church Valentine Banquet

Showcasing KBC Youth Talents

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

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**LOTTIE MOON
 CHRISTMAS
 OFFERING®**

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ETERNAL IMPACT

Locking Christians in the Closet

The hostility in the public square to Christian faith has increased exponentially in the past few years. The critics of Christian faith and belief have attempted to extirpate public displays of Christian symbols, whether crosses at war memorials, civic Nativity scenes, or Christmas carols sung in public school programs. Initially the assault took the form of challenges under the mantra of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." This occurred despite the Free Exercise Clause, which follows hard on the Establishment Clause: "or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Courts ignored the history behind the Establishment Clause (prohibition of a national church, like the Church of England) and placed emphasis on Thomas Jefferson's "wall of separation," language that occurs nowhere in the Constitution but in his *Letter to Danbury Baptists* (written in response to their concern that Connecticut's state constitution lacked explicit protection of religious liberty. Indeed, many states ratifying the Constitution had state churches supported by tax dollars.).

The Constitution as written applied only to the Federal Government but through "the Incorporation Doctrine," beginning in the 1920s, selective provisions of the Bill of Rights were incorporated and applied to state governments. In the 1940s, incorporation was applied to the Establishment Clause (1947, *Everson v. Board of Education*, 330 U.S. 1) and to the Free Exercise Clause (*Cantwell v. Connecticut*, 310 U.S. 296).

The latest assault on religious freedom of expression (and the attempt to push Christians into the closet) has come not with legal action but through a novel social phenomenon called "triggering." Activists have targeted former Oklahoma City Mayor, Kirk Humphreys, for remarks he made about homosexuality (some said he equated homosexuality and pedophilia) in December on a political television talk show, *Flashpoint*, on KFOR. As a result of the outrage, Humphreys, Vice-Chair of the Regents of the University of Oklahoma, apologized for lack of clarity and resigned. Humphreys also serves on the board of John Rex Elementary School, a charter school "created through a unique partnership between the Oklahoma City Public Schools and Oklahoma City Quality Schools" (<http://johnrexschool.org/faculty/board-of-directors/>). Other activists, including the OKC School Board Chair, Paula Lewis, and member Carrie Jacobs (a former reporter for *The Oklahoman*), have expressed their

intention to see Humphreys removed from John Rex's board (okcfox.com/news/local/john-rex-ces-parents-continue-to-call-for-kirk-humphreys-resignation).

Salmon Rushdie, the novelist put under a Muslim *Fatwa* (sentence of death) because he offended Muslim sensibilities in *The Satanic Verses*, wrote "The idea that any kind of free society can be constructed in which people will never be offended or insulted is absurd. A fundamental decision needs to be made: do we want to live in a free society or not?... It is no trick to support the free speech of somebody you agree with or to whose opinion you are indifferent. The defense of free speech begins at the point where people say something you can't stand. If you can't defend their right to say it, then you don't believe in free speech. You only believe in free speech as long as it doesn't get up your nose" ("Democracy Is No Polite Tea Party" articles.latimes.com/2005/feb/07/opinion/oe-rushdie7).

We need to see these so-called defenders of diversity who oppose Kirk Humphreys (and others who would communicate the truth of Scripture) for who they are. They claim to champion liberty while attempting to silence our Constitutional right to express our beliefs. While claiming to be for diversity, they seek only conformity with the spirit of the age (or silence) from those whose opinions they find offensive. Judge Robert Bork in his 1990 book *The Tempting of America, The Political Seduction of the Law* (Macmillan) wrote, "On the one hand, there appears to be a degree of morality so severe that it amounts to moralism, and, on the other, a hostility to morality so strong that it amounts to moral relativism." Law professor Jeremy Rabkin pointed out the irony of those "who boast their determination to transform society through government action" while at the same time regarding "themselves as the greatest champions of liberty."

The cross of Jesus Christ is an offense to the wisdom of this world. It convicts us *all* of sin while offering salvation to those who believe. Al Mohler wrote that the message of the cross "is a revolutionary message, a counterintuitive message, a counter-cultural message" (<https://albertmohler.com/2006/04/24/the-foolishness-of-the-cross-part-one>). Our culture wants to lock us in the closet because our message offends their worldview. We should not be surprised we are attacked for speaking the truth to our world, but we must be sure we speak truth in love. Our world desperately needs it.

—Brother Gary

