



Kelham Korner

KELHAM BAPTIST CHURCH
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kelham.org

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

Prayer God Is Faithful

Newer Requests

- Missionary friends of Beardains in Mexico
- Mike and Bev Beardain's neighbor, Mary Lou Pat Clark—safety and well-being
- Jake Justice, cousin of Jill Justice, salvation
- Laurence Justice—recuperation quintuple bypass
- Dareck Smith—well-being
- Hollands—bereavement/travel—Verda's aunt
- Hines family—bereavement, Carole Kuykendall and Ron Meek's brother-in-law

Ongoing Prayer Needs

- Pastor's cousin and husband, Jeff and Gini Schoonover
- Glenda Anderson—health
- Tom Anderson—continuing health issues
- Bob Barker—Claudia Montgomery's brother-in-law, health
- Larry Bradley—continued recuperation
- Sam Beatty, Dee Buckmier's daughter health
- Quinn Bradley—grandson of Larry and Lana Bradley
- Delores & Sam Castleberry—strength
- Daphne Cross (Huong's granddaughter)—health
- Alberta Darks—health
- Alberta Darks' grandson Kevin
- Allen Davis (Ralph Henson's brother-in-law)—health
- Lloyd Dickerson—health
- Arlene Goddard's son Kevin
- Walter Goddard's son Dale
- Mark Handley's mother and sister—health/wisdom
- J.R. Hill—strength/grace
- Hines Family—Carol Kuykendall's brother-in-law, bereavement
- Wanda Hixon—complete recovery/travel plans
- Twila Howard cousin, Virginia and Daryl—health
- Friend of Twila Howard
- Ed Lamb's niece—metastatic cancer
- Eddy Jane McElvany—Tuscany Village—Hospice
- Billye Murrell—strength
- Charlie O'Daniel—cancer, liver/lungs
- Dale Townsend
- Clarence Warstler—shingles recuperation
- Lou Wyatt—wife of pastor's doctor—health

Our Military

- Pastor's nephew, Edward and family—deployment, Heather McEver

Our Shut-ins

- Willis Bottger, Ruth Greene (Bill Long's aunt)
- Bill and Betty Harris—strength, wisdom, and grace
- John Thomas, Pat Clark—Brookdale, Bethany

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

ON MISSION
HERE & NOW

Church Goal:
\$1000

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING®
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The Annie Armstrong Missions Offering began after Baltimore, MD, resident Annie Armstrong handwrote more than 18,000 letters to pastors and SBC leaders to advocate missions. She secured funds in 1888 to relieve China missionary Lottie Moon, who had worked 13 years without furlough. The Home Missions Offering was renamed the Annie Armstrong Offering in 1934 to encourage others to follow her sacrificial example. All funds collected go to missionaries without any administrative costs.



The Singing Churchmen and the Singing Churchwomen of Oklahoma, together with the Oklahoma Baptist Symphony are headed to Washington, DC, for three Memorial Day concerts. Our own gifted Jill Justice will participate in these. If you feel led to help support her costs on this trip, please mark your envelopes, "Jill Justice Washington Trip." This will be a great opportunity for Jill to share the gospel in our nation's capital.



The suggested gifts for Operation Christmas Child for March are toothbrushes and wrapped bar soap. (We are continuing the February emphasis since we got a late start.)

March Calendar

- 14** Business meeting
- 15** OCC Sewing Day, 1 PM
- 16** Family activity night, 6 PM

Nursery

- 18** AM Linda P/April W
PM Glenna L
- 25** AM Shirley M/Ann L
PM Verda H

Open/Close

- 18** Long
- 25** Handley

March Birthdays

- 14** Quilla Lovely
- 18** Alan Kimberlin
- 19** Olivia Thompson
- 29** J. R. Hill
- 31** Carole-Marie Nix
Jesse Green

Stewardship for the week of 3/11/18

Budget Receipts:	\$3,012.50
Required:	3,260.03
Over/Under:	247.53
Annie Armstrong Missions Offering:	500.00
T.A.B.:	5.00
Jill Justice Washington Trip:	95.00

Freedom from Religion at Putnam City Original

Some of you may have seen the article in *The Daily Oklahoman* by religion editor Carla Hinton in October last year about efforts of Cherokee Hills Baptist Church to encourage the football team at Putnam City Original High School. (A similar article by Chris Doyle ran in *The Baptist Messenger* a month earlier: "OKC, Cherokee Hills adopts Putnam City football team.") Hinton's piece, titled "Baptist pastor leads church fan club outreach to Putnam City football team," appeared in October 2017 and described how Cherokee Hills Baptist, led by Pastor Mike Keahbone, has "adopted" the football team to cheer them on and encourage them. Hinton wrote, "Right before the 2016 football season began, Keahbone was told that some of the players on the Putnam City Pirates had no one coming to the games to support them on a consistent basis." Hinton noted that for Keahbone, "the scenario hit close to home. It made the preacher think back on his own years as high school offensive lineman who had to face the idea that his family wasn't going to show up for his games."

Keahbone said, "It broke my heart. It made me flashback to my childhood and how I felt and I don't want other kids to feel how I felt.... When I was growing up, I didn't have a dad in my life and my mom was an alcoholic and she didn't come to my games. She did come to senior night but that was about it. You get used to it, but it hurt." Keahbone challenged the members of the church to attend the home football games to cheer on the team and to "give them a pat on the back after they had given their all on the field." Hinton wrote that the church learned many parents were single mothers working several jobs, preventing them from attending. Others could not afford to buy tickets for themselves and players' siblings each week. "We found that there were good parents just trying to make ends meet." The church contacted the school and received season passes to give parents. Other members gave rides to parents for away games.

In the 2017 season, Keahbone was asked to be the team's chaplain and the church "adopted" the whole team, not just those whose parents could not attend. "One family opted out of participating, and the church accepted that and moved on to support the players and families who welcomed the church fan club," Hinton observed.

All that, however, may be over if the Wisconsin-based Freedom from Religion Foundation prevails. In a letter to Putnam City Schools, Christopher Line, attorney for the FFRF wrote, "Public school football teams cannot appoint or employ a chaplain, seek out a spiritual leader for the team, or agree to have a volunteer team chaplain, because public schools may not advance or promote religion" (<https://www.toddstarnes.com/faith/school-district-bans-baptist-chaplain-from-praying-with-football-team>). First Liberty Institute is representing Keahbone, and attorney Michael Berry told Todd Starnes, "**What's more important is these students have a right to freedom of religion and freedom of religious expression. And if they choose to want to meet with a chaplain or a pastor, they have a right to do that. Pastor Mike is simply there to meet that need if that's what the students choose.**"

FFRF's webpage reported, "A legal representative of Putnam City recently informed FFRF that "new procedures had been put into place and that the athletic staff had been instructed that the practice of allowing access to students and engaging in prayer before any game would cease immediately" (<https://ffrf.org/news/news-releases/item/31907-ffrf-banishs-prayer-from-ok-city-high-school-team>). No praying, no-how, by nobody! Bad grammar. The statement intended to say no outside access to students for the purpose of engaging in prayer. As it stands the statement prohibits access and it prohibits praying, but I am quibbling.

We need to commend the Cherokee Hills

Baptist Church and their pastor for ministry to these students and their families, and we need to communicate to our school boards our displeasure with their capitulation. FFRF targeted a picture of a boy and girl praying in front of an American flag at Cooper Middle School in 2014 (the picture been there for 18 years) and the school board resisted removal. Pray for the church that its ministry keeps strong. One group that will help no one should not keep others from being blessed.

—Brother Gary

