

Newsletter

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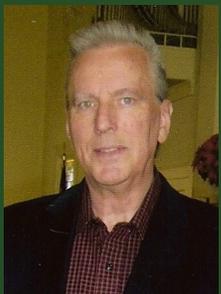
ARTIE CARNES
Director



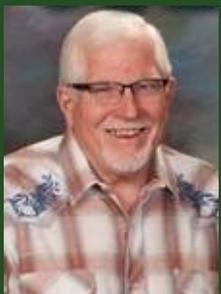
DORA CARNES
Logistics
Women's Ministry



ARTHUR CARNES
Youth Director
Music



MARK BERRIER
Minister at Large
Academic Dean



SAM RAY
Marketing
Director



ANTHEA CARNES
Office Manager
Chef



JERRY MACY
Property Manager
Mission Outfitters

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

JANUARY 2019

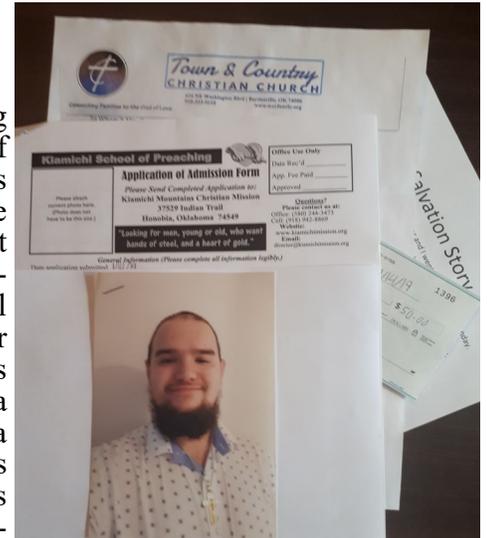


THE MIRACLE ALMOST COMPLETE! TO GOD BE THE GLORY, GREAT THINGS HE IS DOING!

Yes! It is happening! The next great MIRACLE of God is developing right now at Christ's 40 Acres! It is so exciting to be part of a ministry where God is involved in a major way. By the end of November, we had already received almost \$10,000 toward our goal of \$25,000 to clear the year-end deficit on the Kiamichi Mountains Christian Mission. By the end of December, the total was just under \$20,000. Today, we are only \$3,700 short of our goal. PRAISE THE LORD! Several have already decided to become a part of this miracle, and you can too! We are praying to finish this campaign by February 1st. I pray you will consider helping with this. God is still looking for a few good men and women to be part of His miracle!

HISTORY IS MADE ONCE AGAIN!

The very first student for the Kiamichi School of Preaching has officially applied! PTL! He is Devin Shoonech of Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Devin is 24 years of age and believes the Lord is calling him to ministry. He has been attending the Men's Clinic for many years with his grandfather, and last year spent a week of his vacation at Christ's 40 Acres helping during a work week. We have known Devin for several years. He is a fine young man and we are very excited for him to be a preaching student. He will go down in History as number 1—the very first student to apply and “take a chance” on this brand, new school. Although, it is not really a gamble as the Kiamichi Mountains Christian Mission has been encouraging and sending preachers and missionaries since 1940. Under the direction of the most recent past Director and the current Director, there has been a renewed interest in the work at the mission, and every area of this ministry is growing by the blessings of God and support of so many faithful friends across the country. We are praying for twelve students to launch the School in August 2019. We



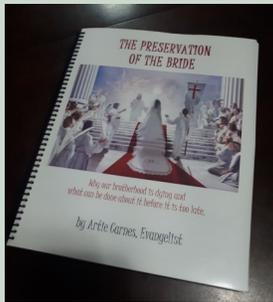
need a minimum of four students to be full-time and living on campus. Right now, there is a young man who has made a commitment to attend, and another who wants to attend, but is still working on finances. In addition, seven more young men are interested in being full-time students, as well as several others who want to attend from off-campus. Contact the office if you are interested, or if you know of someone who might be interested. Everything is coming together to begin this Fall. The staff, curriculum, student housing, etc., should all be in place by then. Please keep this “massive” project in your thoughts, prayers, and support. It will take the cooperative effort of many to make this happen. We are depending on you; God is depending on you; future preachers are depending on you!



Directly from the Director

A concentrated effort is being made to schedule presentations of the Mission in Churches every Sunday until the Men's Clinic. A letter was sent to all the Churches on our mailing list, and we are following-up with phone calls. Several have been booked to date. Sam Ray and the Texans

will be doing most of these presentations with Dora and me, along with Mark and Paula Berrier filling-in when needed. **YOU** could be a big help in this by checking to see if your congregation has been contacted and encouraging them to book a presentation. If your congregation has not been contacted, please encourage them to contact us to book a date. The ministry of the Kiamichi Mountains Christian Mission is growing at a rapid rate because of God's blessings which are coming so quickly it is difficult for us to keep up. You and the congregation you attend should be part of this.



This book is ready! Order yours today! The Preservation of the Bride is now ready. This is the written version of the six-session presentation which was made at the Men's Clinic last year. The cost is \$20 plus \$7 shipping. A thumb drive with the electronic version and the PowerPoint presentations is also

available for \$30 plus \$5 shipping. If you want both you will save \$5 on the shipping. This book explains why our Brotherhood is dying, and what can be done about it before it is too late. Christians, Churches, and preachers are being changed by the material in this book. Understanding the problem and knowing what to do about it has given them new life and motivation to act. CDs and DVDs of this presentation can be ordered from www.catapes.com. **AC**

12 PROACTIVE STRATEGIES TO ACTIVATE THE POWER OF GOD IN THE SMALLER CHURCH



COMING IN MAY DURING THE MEN'S CLINIC!

This material is being researched and prepared by some of the best evangelistic minds of the past and present and will be presented on Thursday morning of the Clinic.

Women's Ministry Report



Dora Carnes
Director of
Women's Ministries

Dear Friends!

Go to AmazonSmile and find out how you can have a donation of 5% on every purchase go to your favorite charity. Of course, your favorite charity is the Kiamichi Mountains Christian Mission. Am I right?!

We had a wonderful work day for my birthday on January 3rd. Those attending were:

From **Valley Christian Church** in Talihina: Artie & Dora Carnes, Dave Shaw, Jim & June Young with their Grandson, Jerad Abbott and his girlfriend, Lea Peterson.



From **Christ's Church of Nashoba**: Arthur Carnes, Jerry Macy and Anthea Carnes, and Monica Vandeventer.

From **Panther Creek Christian Church**: Curtis McDaniel (Chairman of the Mission Board), Debbie McDaniel, Bryon & Sharla Smith with their son Riley.

The Smiths are going to volunteer at the Mission two days a Month. Great Help. How about you? **DC**



Shelves removed and rebuilt for storage in the kitchen attic.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2019

Pre-Clinic Work Week	April 22-27
Pre-Clinic Concert	April 29
The Greatest Gathering this Side of Heaven	April 30-May 2
Christian Service Camp-Senior Week	June 9-14
Christian Service Camp-Junior Week	June 16-21
Choctaw Bible Camp	June 23-28
Ole Fashioned Family Fun Camp	July 21-26
Round Robin Revival	September 8-12
Ladies' Retreat	September 27-28
Bigfoot Festival	October 4-5
Bigfoot Worship Service	October 6

THE MAGI AND THE STAR OF CHRISTMAS



Dr. MARK BERRIER
Minister at Large
Academic Dean

The Gospel of Mark contains no information about the birth of Jesus. The Gospel of John describes the birth in symbol—"word" and "light" entering the world. Luke's Gospel has the story of the angels and the shepherds. But only Matthew writes about the Magi and the star.

Several questions arise from Matthew's record: 1) Where were the wise men from? 2) How could they know that the star meant a king was born? 3) What was the star? 4) When did the star appear?

The word "Magos" (singular of "Magi") comes from an Iranian word for "great one." Magi were an upper caste in the Middle East—both Persia and Babylonia—for many centuries. They were the scholars who studied the stars and struggled to discern how events in the heavens might impact the earth. But they were not the first who saw the star of Christmas.

Chinese star-gazers saw it first. For millennia the Chinese had kept close watch on comets and other heavenly phenomena. According to ancient Chinese records, a spectacular comet with a very long tail appeared in 5 BC and was visible to them for over 70 days. This comet is the only celestial phenomenon recorded between the period 20 BC and AD 10, according to ancient Chinese records. This comet fits uniquely with the birth of Christ, because Luke 2:2 reveals that Quirinius was governor of Syria when Jesus was born. Quirinius was governor of Syria the first time from 6 BC to 4 BC. After the Chinese had tracked the movements of the comet, the Magi would have been able to see it, too, since it began its journey "in the east," just as Matthew said.

This one obvious, astronomical object, and the only one, fits with the account of the star of Bethlehem which Matthew 2:9 records—a comet with a long tail. Comets are known to appear suddenly and to seemingly travel slowly across the night sky at a typical rate of 1-2 degrees per day. Matthew states that the star "stood over" the place where the baby Jesus lay. A long-tail comet with its head pointing downward can seem to point to a place on earth. This would dramatically fit with the description in Matthew of the star. The Magi would have arrived several weeks after the birth of Jesus—at the house where the holy family then resided (Matthew 2:11).

Several cities and villages in Persia (today's Iraq and Iran) claim that the wise men came from there. We don't know exactly where they were from or even how many of them there were.

Could those eastern wise men have known of Balaam's fourth oracle back in Numbers 24? He predicted "...a star will rise out of Jacob; a ruler's scepter will rise from Israel." Perhaps when Balaam returned to the Middle East, this story was spread, and the Magi may have heard of it. Tradition has given these Magi special names and numbered them as three, since there were three gifts—gold, frankincense and myrrh. They have been called "three kings," but there is no evidence for this. Also interesting is the fact that these gifts were unique. Gold is from the earth; frankincense is of the heavens, a symbol of prayer in the Bible. And myrrh is for the burial of the body, used in ancient times in Egypt and learned of by the Jews. Jesus was like these gifts—from heaven, from earth and would be buried, briefly.

Joseph was warned in a dream to leave Bethlehem and go to Egypt to escape the slaughter of the innocents. The three gifts are how the holy family was able to survive economically in an Egyptian city among other Jews. Then at the death of Herod the Great in 4 BC, the holy family returned to Israel, but being warned in a fourth dream, Joseph removed the family to Nazareth of Galilee. And so Jesus would be called a Nazarene.

Either way, Jesus' birth was actually in 5 BC, making our calendar, which was invented later, inaccurate. This New Year would actually be 2024, rather than 2019, if it were based in the birth of Jesus the Messiah. *Dr. MB*

Dr. Berrier is teaching classes in the Kiamichi Mountains every Wednesday and Thursday Evenings. EVERYONE WELCOME!

Panther Creek Christian Church

Watson, Oklahoma—Wednesday Evenings—7:00

Beginning January 9th

Genesis 1-11

This text is critical to our understanding of God.

Christ's Church at Nashoba

Nashoba, Oklahoma—Thursday Evenings—7:00

Beginning January 10th

The Book of Revelation

A comparison of all four interpretations of the end times.



Small part of the Genesis class at Panther Creek Christian Church

BUILDING PROJECTS FOR 2019

1. **World Mission Builders' Lodge**—If all goes as planned this should be completed by March.
2. **Christian Contender Cabin**—This is the Log Cabin across the drive just south of the Kitchen. It is used for Staff Housing. Backsplash, cabinet doors & drawers, and cabinet doors in laundry room should be completed by February. Stain on the log siding and stone wainscot will be completed in the Spring.
3. **Nurses' Station & Quarters**—The old pantry in the kitchen is being converted into a nurses' station with living quarters and private bath for our nurses and cooks, John and Louise Sands. They attend every event each year and are a real blessing to this ministry. We need more funds for this project. This project needs to be completed before the Men's Clinic.
4. **Restrooms in the Steel Tent**—Funds have been provided to remodel the restrooms in the Steel Tent. It is our intent to have this project completed before the Men's Clinic. With the right volunteers, this could be completed in a week.
5. **A.B. McReynolds Guest Lodge**—This building must be remodeled due to age and the fact it is a health hazard. The logs are made of "arsenic" treated wood which leaches into the air. Walls are being framed to cover the log, then plastic and drywall is being installed to encapsulate the threat. The second floor, first floor sitting room, and laundry room are completed. The rest must be finished by August, as we will use it as a dining room for the School of Preaching until we have enough students to use the main dining room. Stone wainscot will be completed in the Spring. The Director and his wife live on the second floor of this lodge.
6. **Dewey Cabin**—This replaces the Dewey Dorm which was destroyed during the tornado. It will have four bedrooms, two baths, and will house Preaching Students except during the Men's Clinic when the Dewey Church will use it. A group of volunteers from Florida will work on this sometime this year.
7. **Barn**—The foundation posts and frame is in place. A Church group from Kentucky is coming the first week of June to frame this project. Can you come and help.
8. **Pattie Lou Smith Memorial Chapel**—Work will continue as time and funds are available.
9. **Bigfoot Cabin**—Funds have been donated to begin this project sometime this year.
10. **Remnant Church**—of Guthrie will convert the old canteen into a four bedroom, two bath cabin for Preaching Students. The Church will use this during the Men's Clinic.



Ed Thomas led us in a good, ole-fashioned, sing-a-long of mostly hymns and choruses. Though not a church song, "That Good Old Mountain Dew" goes well in the Kiamichi Mountains.

WORLD MISSION BUILDERS WORK HARD IN DECEMBER!



From left to right: Rick Balmer, Bob Mitchell, Harold Haddock, Glenn Short, Joe Wilson, Jolene Short, Mark Harbaugh, David Allen, Don Allen, Mark Layman, and Ed Thomas. It has been such a joy working with these wonderful people and others over the past two years on the World Mission Builders Lodge. One more good week and the project should be completed and ready for furniture. **PRAISE THE LORD!**