

ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 6, 2026

Song: **26** – *To God Be the Glory*

Song: **202** – *There Stands a Rock*

First prayer: **Brian Zumalt**

Song: **99** – *Night, With Ebon Pinion*

Communion servers: **David Ray** & **Mark Brandt**

Prayer for giving: **Mernie Ray**

Song: **527** – *It Is Well with My Soul*

Sermon: “*You Need a Relationship with God*” – **David Ray**

Invitation song: **461** – *There’s a Great Day Coming*

Closing song: **397** – *I’ll Fly Away*

Closing prayer: **Adam Bentley**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Larry & Annette – traveling
- Shane – deployment
- Mimi, Ashley, Monica – studying with Lucinda
- Gloria Hendrix – health
- Talisa Thompson (Chrishawn’s mom) – surgery recovery
- Ralph Ashley (Alyssa’s uncle) – cancer
- Pattie Hutchinson & Bruce Shive (Sue’s siblings) – health concerns
- Starlyn Cooper, Carmen Lawson, Kim Nguyen – cancer
- Fannie Ray (Mernie’s sister-in-law)
- Kim’s cousin’s son (Isaac Wood)–hole in heart caused by stroke (upcoming surgery)
- Our members with health issues: Kim, David

Please continue to remember: Connie Townsend, Lucinda, Vipin & India work, Aruna Kavali, Marinda Breeding, Holley Brewer, Kevin Brewer, Dylan Walker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

–“Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles
(www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495); www.youtube.com/@churchofChrist-

RECORD FOR WEEK OF AUGUST 30, 2026

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 12 AM Worship – 13 Sun PM – 10 DBR – Wed (9/2) – 11

Contribution – \$1191

Yukon Church of Christ

THE LABORER

702 South Ranchwood Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 (405) 354-0238

Preacher: David Ray

Web Site: www.yukoncofc.com

Sunday Bible class: 9am **Worship** 10am & 12:30pm **Wednesday Bible class:** 7pm

Matthew 9:37-38 “*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.*”

Volume 22

Number 35

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SAVE THE STARFISH!

We’ve probably heard the following story, adapted from Loren C. Eiseley’s “The Star Thrower.”

One morning, an old man was walking along a beach after a storm. Thousands of starfish had been washed onto the shore, and they were slowly drying out in the sun.

As he walked, he noticed a young boy picking up the starfish one by one and throwing them back into the ocean.

The old man smiled and asked, “Why are you doing that? There are thousands of starfish here. You can’t possibly save them all. What difference can you make?”

The boy picked up another starfish and gently tossed it into the waves. “It makes a difference to this one,” he said.

The old man thought about the boy’s words. Then he bent down, picked up a starfish, and joined the boy.

You may not be able to change the whole world, but even one small act of kindness can make a big difference in someone’s life.

Recently I met a man, with whom I initiated a biblical conversation. He claimed he was a Christian, but it didn’t take too long before I realized that, while he *believed* he was, he actually had not obeyed the gospel plan of salvation as revealed in Scripture. He had instead blindly and unbiblically followed the teachings of a misguided pastor, and since then hadn’t cared enough to put any effort into searching the scriptures to see if these things were so (cf. Acts 17:11). He recognized his biblical ignorance and seemed open to rectifying this. As we spoke, I was thinking (and praying) about how I could help him, choosing my words as wisely and purposefully as possible.

I taught him many things about the Bible in our relatively short conversation, and he showed what seemed to be genuine interest and appreciation for me and my efforts. I encouraged him not only to dedicate time to reading the Bible by himself, but also to sit down with me and study it together, something he seemed very interested in doing very soon.

In the end, we parted ways without his having solidified a specific time to study with me. He did, however, promise that he would call me in the next few days, as well as visit our congregation to worship, something he was *absolutely* interested in doing. It’s now been a few days since then (or weeks, months, or maybe years), and I haven’t heard from him yet. But maybe today he’ll call me. Maybe *this* Sunday he’ll visit the church.

The above story is actually **not** about a specific person, just a summary of an innumerable amount of interactions I’ve had with folks over the many years I’ve been a Christian. Countless souls, lost in darkness, cross the paths of faithful Christians, not even recognizing their own darkness nor the bright shining light they’d briefly encountered. And then it’s over. Maybe the only opportunity to truly be saved just passed by, never to cross their paths again. Sad.

In the starfish story, the “lost” starfish are not guilty, have not put themselves in their lost condition, and have no power whatsoever to affect their own

“salvations.” Every one of them would be saved if the boy could just get to them. But sadly, it’s only the few he had time to reach that will survive.

In our reality, there are far more human “starfish” lying on the “beaches” of our world, **all** of whom can be saved...if they only desire it badly enough. **This is beyond our control.** The similarity lies in the fact that we, like the boy, **can do something with some of them**: we can try. This is our only job. Try.

Do you ever get tired and discouraged in your evangelism efforts? Do you ever feel like you aren’t making a difference? The boy had a great attitude about it. Even though we try and try and try, even knowing in advance that most will reject our efforts, all it takes is one to obey the gospel, then we can say what the boy did: “It makes a difference to *this* one!”

One person can’t reach them all. The old man saw the boy’s positive effect on even just one starfish. He then changed his mind about evangelism. Will you?

David Ray

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- [HEAR THE WORD](#)
Romans 10:17 – “So then faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.”
- [BELIEVE IN JESUS](#)
John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” **John 8:24** – “...if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins.”
- [REPENT OF YOUR SINS](#)
Luke 13:3–“...except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” **Acts 17:30**–“And the times of this ignorance God overlooked, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent.” **2 Corinthians 7:10**–“For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”
- [CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD](#)
Romans 10:9-10–“if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.” (Also **Matthew 10:32-33**; see **Acts 8:37** for an example.)
- [BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS](#)
Mark 16:16–“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved”; **Acts 2:38**–“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...”; **Acts 22:16**–“Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord”; **1 Peter 3:21**–“...baptism doth also now save us...”
- [REMAIN FAITHFUL](#)
1 Corinthians 15:58–“Therefore...be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”; **Colossians 1:23**–“...if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard”; **Revelation 2:10**–“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

- 1. HEAR THE WORD Romans 10:17
- 2. BELIEVE IN JESUS John 3:16; 8:24
- 3. REPENT OF YOUR SINS Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; 2 Corinthians 7:10
- 4. CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD Romans 10:9-10 (cf. Acts 8:37)
- 5. BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- 6. REMAIN FAITHFUL 1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 1:23; Revelation 2:10