



GRAHAM STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rooted - Growing - Reaching

July 26, 2026

VBS 2026

VBS IS HERE!

Volunteers are still needed!

See Megan Becker

Journey to Egypt:

LIVING THE DREAM

July 26-29 @ 6:00-8:00

3 yrs.-6th gr.



Sign up for our journey with Joseph!



Sighing with Jesus

And when he heard this, he sighed deeply in his spirit—Mark 8:12.

Jesus sighed because some Pharisees were arguing with him and testing him. The

questioning of his authority is a constant theme in Mark.

These Pharisees demanded a miraculous sign from heaven to prove his authority. Jesus had enough and responded, “Why do these people keep demanding a miraculous sign?” Jesus refused, got in the boat, and left to the other side of the lake”. He was done with such closed minds and hearts. With the Pharisees constant arguing and testing was a lack of trust and a symptom of religious control. Jesus threatened their identity. But not all Pharisees were like this (i.e., Nicodemus, John 3; Gamaliel, Acts 5).

There are sighing moments in our lives as well; when cumulative frustration and weariness reach the depths of our spirit. We realize that rational discourse is futile, that arguing and testing are cousins to power and control. Enough is enough!

The best thing to do is walk away. Changing someone’s mind is just not worth it and seldom possible, no matter how much arguing you do. In the case of Jesus, the group of Pharisees assumed they were the authorities about all authority. It was their way or else. The ways of Jesus, and more importantly, valuing people over rules was problematic and threatening.

A Few Implications for Us:

1. Leaders will always experience disagreement, but incessant arguing consumes energy for others who need guidance and encouragement.
2. Living with criticism, questioning motives and unresolved conflict is a reality for leaders.
3. Once agreement is not possible, be respectful but refuse to argue again and again.

These days, there is no shortage of testing and arguing about doctrine, practices and traditions. Discerning that, when and with who to spend time and energy is essential for the kingdom and one’s spirit.

Basic Needs News

Basic Needs is on their regular schedule on Thursdays. The donation bin is open. The Food and Clothing Pantries are both open on Thursday mornings from 9:00 to noon.

Over **\$19,000** was collected in the Basic Needs Spring Garage Sale!

This would not be possible without the volunteers and countless donations during the year. Thank you to everyone who helped Basic Needs.

Next Garage Sale is Nov. 1-7



Totals for June 2026

Individuals	524
Families	141
Clothing	16
New Clients	14

We Need Your Plastic Bags!

Love Basket News May 2026 (Dublin)
The Love Basket Served 131 Families and 411 Individuals in (11 new families)



Fill The Pantry!

Basic Needs has an **URGENT** need for these items: **Cream of Mushroom Soup, 1 lb Spaghetti, Charro Beans**

Your help is very much appreciated!



Starting August 16

GPS will host a Fall Semester

Parent & Family SUPPORT Group

Building stronger Families through Marriage and
Parenting Support during Sunday Bible Class Time

9:00 AM in GPS Room Upstairs

A time for prayerful focus on thankfulness, encouragement and mission for your family. David and Vicki Bearden will be your Facilitators.



Thursday, July 30th
Night of Casserles
Bring your casserole
Before 4:45
Stay and help distribute
The Casseroles starting
At 5:00
Until they are all gone.



Upcoming Events

➤ Sunday, July 26 — **David Bearden is offering a class in the auditorium, “Spiritual Fitness”.** Class starts at 9:00.

➤ Sunday, July 26—**Charlie DeLong is out of town.** You are encouraged to come to the Spiritual Fitness class in the auditorium.



➤ Sunday, July 26 —**Worship Service begins at 10:00.** Camden Flood will be giving a sermon titled “Perseverance of Faith”

➤ Wednesday, July 29—**Wednesday Night Meals are on pause until September**



VBS July 26—29 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Journey to Egypt

LIVING THE DREAM

VBS is rapidly approaching.

Volunteers are needed! See Megan Becker



Trailblazers meetings are on PAUSE until September!
See you then!



Game Night
Every Tuesday from 6:00 to 8:00 in the Family Center
See Le Jones



Soup Kitchen
This Thursday
From 5:30 to 7:00



Heart | Soul | Mind | Strength
Graham Street Youth Group



TEENS

Children's Ministry



For ages 3—1st Grade
*Volunteers See
Courtney McGuire *



Children's Bible Lessons in
their usual locations at
9:00 a.m.



There **WILL NOT BE** Children's Church during the
summer months (but that could change if we get
volunteers to help this summer)

Children's Church Teachers Needed!
See Courtney McGuire or Whitney Oliver



The next Children's Ministry
Meeting will be on Sunday, August
9th, immediately following worship
service in Room 109.

VBS 7/26—7/29

Volunteers Needed for VBS

See Megan Becker

Youth Group News

**Friday Night Game Nights at Family
Center from 5:00 to 7:00 (Looking for
Hosts)**

Every Thursday morning from 9:00 to
11:00, the youth are encouraged to
volunteer in Basic Needs throughout the
summer.

Meeting Times Sunday

Classes 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Class 6:30

Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Phone 254-965-4510

Basic Needs: 254-965-5552

Website/Email

www.grahamstreetchurch.com

office@grahamstreetchurch.com

WIFI password: john1335

YouTube Channel Graham Street Church of
Christ—Stephenville Tx

Address 312 N. Graham St.
Stephenville, TX 76401

Care News For instant prayer and illness
updates: office@grahamstreetchurch.com



Quincy Hough; Marilyn Schulze is now in Good Tree Memory Care; Vicki Bearden; Ray Sissom; Darell Belcher, Vincent Lopez; Billy & Linda Powell; Mildred Buchanan; Dwain & Karen Bills; Kenneth Wylie; Theresa Young; Ron Wilhite; Grady King; Mary Havens; Jody Caudle; Ron Powell's mother, Frances, who has been put on hospice; Ronnie Moring;; Darrell Tucker;

Giving Update

Contribution 07/19/2026	\$ 12,737	Budget for 2026	\$ 13,500
Contribution YTD	\$ 329,682	YTD Budget for 2026	\$ 391,500

Percentage of 2026 YTD Contribution Budget 84.20%

Tri-C Parsonage Remodel Budget = \$75,000 \$23,450 Collected Percentage: 31.3%

Texans For Christ Campus Ministry

Charlie DeLong is leading a Young Adult Discussion Class on Revelation during the summer months in Room 109 on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 (When Charlie is out July 26, everyone can go to the Spiritual Fitness class in the auditorium.)



Celebrate Recovery
Monday Evenings, 6:30 p.m.
Family Center

If you are New or Visiting? Connect with Us! Use your phone camera to scan this QR Code and fill out a Connection form online!

QR Code to access Connection Form





A New Bible Story from Gideon Mazambani

I wanted to share an encouraging update on one of the evangelism efforts that has been developing over the past few months through the Bible distribution work made possible by the generosity of you and the missions committee.

One of our student preachers unintentionally developed a simple but very effective approach to home Bible studies. When he first meets an individual or family, he begins by introducing the gospel and arranging a Bible study. Before leaving, he promises to return with one or more Bibles for the household. This naturally creates another opportunity to visit, study together, and continue building a relationship.

On the following visit, after presenting the Bibles, the preacher often explains that they were provided by Christian friends who care about people hearing the gospel. He then asks whether the family would be willing to meet one of those friends' representatives. When I am available, I accompany him on that visit. This gives us another opportunity to study the Scriptures together while also expressing the love of Christians who have made these Bibles possible. What began almost by chance has become a very natural way of increasing meaningful contact with families who are interested in learning more about Christ.

Yesterday I had the privilege of taking part in one of these visits.

The family lives about an hour outside Harare in an area that is not easily accessible. Unfortunately, the day began with an unexpected setback. About fifteen minutes after leaving home, while still in Harare, I struck a newly installed median that was difficult to see because of the reflection from a nearby electronic billboard. By God's grace, there were no other vehicles around, and I was able to keep the car under control and pull safely into a nearby service station. One of the tyres had been damaged, and after it was repaired, I continued with the journey. Later inspection showed that some of the suspension components had also been bent by the impact.

The delay meant that I missed the congregation's worship service, but we were still able to make the planned home Bible study. Because of the condition of the roads, we parked some distance away and completed the journey on foot. (Cont. page 8)



A New Bible Story from Gideon Mazambani

Story Continued

The visit itself turned into one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in recent months.

The people in that community have lived through periods of political intimidation, so they are naturally cautious about visitors. Before welcoming anyone into their home, they often want neighbours to know that the visit is not political. As a result, additional family members and neighbours gradually gathered. Rather than seeing this as an interruption, we welcomed the opportunity to meet more people and begin building relationships with them as well.

One lesson I have learned is that visits like these cannot be rushed. Building trust is just as important as presenting the lesson itself.

During our conversation, the man of the home asked me if I would sign his Bible.

When I asked his name, he told me it was Nixon. Smiling, I asked whether he had been named after President Richard Nixon of the United States. To my surprise, he had. He became very excited that someone knew the story behind his name. When I explained that I had studied in the United States, the conversation immediately became warm and relaxed. That simple connection helped establish trust in a way that none of us could have anticipated.

Although we did not complete as much of the planned Bible study as we had hoped, we received a warm invitation to return. In many ways, that invitation was one of the most encouraging outcomes of the day. Relationships were established, trust was built, and the door remains open for future studies.

During our discussion, I also sensed that he felt somewhat embarrassed by his economic circumstances. This provided an opportunity to speak about the humility of Christ. We reflected on how Jesus left the glory of heaven to live a simple life among ordinary people, and that what matters most to God is not our possessions but our willingness to seek Him and serve Him faithfully.

Continued on page 9



A New Bible Story from Gideon Mazambani

Story Continued

Experiences like this continue to convince me that the Bible distribution ministry is producing results beyond simply placing Scriptures into people's hands. Each Bible becomes the beginning of a relationship that often leads to multiple visits, deeper conversations, and opportunities to share the gospel in ways that would otherwise not be possible.

The day reminded me that the work of evangelism often requires patience, flexibility, and perseverance. What began with an unexpected vehicle problem ended as one of the most encouraging days I have experienced in ministry. I am already looking forward to returning so that the preacher can continue the study and, Lord willing, lead this family to a deeper understanding of His Word.

Thank you again for making this work possible through your continued support and prayers. Every Bible placed into someone's hands is also opening another door for the gospel to enter a home. This process of distribution is slow, but it has the potential for a plentiful harvest.

Because of Christ,
Gideon