



The Planter

"The seed is the word of God", Luke 8:11



P.O. Box 429 • 2070 Old Highway 27 • Trion, GA 30753 • 706.734.2722 • pleasantgrovecoc.org

I Am Not Irreplaceable

Corey Sawyers

It is said to have housed between 400,000 to 700,000 scrolls containing essentially everything that had been written up to its point in time. But the Royal Library of Alexandria, Egypt, was eventually destroyed. The first residential university, home to perhaps 2000 teachers and 10,000 students from the fifth to the 12th century in Nalanda, India, was destroyed by the Turks and never rebuilt. In the heart of Germany was an opulent room, a thing of beauty so incredible some called it an eighth wonder of the world and said to be worth \$142 million in today's money. But the Nazis destroyed The Amber Room. The same can be said of Herod's Temple, the first library of Japan, the first Byzantine encyclopedia, and countless other artifacts, buildings, and writings.

How many considered these institutions and items that would endure forever? Of course, Jesus warned that the things of this world cannot last (Mat. 6:19-20; cf. 2 Pet. 3:10ff).

Most Christians understand that principle. We know material things cannot and will not last, being eventually effaced by the hands of time. But what about us? We rightly preach how the church needs us and that each of us fills a unique, needed

position in the body of Christ (Eph. 4:16; 1 Cor. 12:18). As long as we have health and opportunity, we need to leverage our talents for the good of the Lord's kingdom. Wherever we're planted, preachers, elders, teachers, deacons, professors, directors, presidents, house parents, custodians, secretaries, counselors, etc., we need to give the Lord the best we can for as long as we can.

But no matter how effectively we are doing our work and what results we are seeing, we are not irreplaceable. What a horrible day it must have been for the church when Paul and Peter were martyred. Yet, the church continued its work (cf. Dan. 2:44). The same is true today. This will prevent any of us from feeling too big for our britches. It's also a good reminder for the church itself, who may place too much importance on a single individual. Truly, some people leave big shoes and large holes to fill. But, it shall stand until Christ comes again. Perhaps one's leaving a work (however that occurs) will force someone (or several "someones") to step up and carry on the work. So much good can come from that!

Let's do our best for as long as we can and trust that God can continue to work through men and women to continue his work after we no longer can!

September 6, 2026

Sunday Morning

Opening Prayer Adam Cordell

Closing Prayer Eldon Alexander

Scripture Reading Dallas York

Sunday Evening

Opening Prayer Rhyan Dishroom

Closing Prayer Jon Dyke

Remember in prayer:

Congratulations to **Dallas and Amanda York** on the birth of **Archie Dallas York**, born Friday, September 4th, weighing 7 lbs 15 oz.

Rick Davison, Amanda Fletcher, Don Duncan, Chris Travis, Joan and Steve Henry, Ayla Alexander, Kenleigh Bailey, Jill Spears, Wally Booker, Norene O'Kelly, Joe Chambers, Bill and Billie Nolen, Stefan Hoglund.

Oak View Nursing Home: Betty Floyd.

Our **Gospel Meeting** with Aaron Gallagher begins next Sunday. Please plan to be here for every service and continue to pray for souls to hear the gospel and obey.

Brothers Keepers Group One will meet next Sunday tonight.

Our first Sunday **Fellowship Meal** is postponed until next Sunday. Today we will have a meal provided by the church after our morning services, then our 1:00 pm Kids Sing and Singing and Devotional.

A **Ladies Day** will be held this Saturday, Sept. 12 at Subigna Road Church of Christ with **Caitlin Warren** speaking. Breakfast begins at 8:30 am.

Worship Service Assignments for September

Announcements: Justin Glaze

Lord's Table

Jerry Reaves WK 1 & 2

Dan Logan WK 3 & 4

Jeff Duncan, John Delome, Rhyan Dishroom

Record for the week of August 30, 2026:

10 am	11 am	5 pm	Wed	Contribution
89	79	71	75	\$4844.50

You Are Not as Heavy as I Thought

"You aren't near as heavy as I thought you were!" Guys, never, ever, tell a woman that. I have tried to raise my boys to know this simple truth. Still, that was the statement my eight-year-old son, Gannon, made to a friend of ours. She is a grown, married woman who, because of health issues, uses a wheelchair. She loves Gannon, and he loves her. So, at lectureships and events when we get to be around them, you will often find him hanging around her. She asked him to hold her hand and help pull her along. As they went down the aisleway between the booths, he made the now infamous remark above. "You aren't near as heavy as I thought you were!" And to think, I was proud when he learned to talk! (Ha Ha!)

We all have burdens that weigh us down. Perhaps you are facing such a hardship. Maybe it is financial trouble, workplace issues, marriage issues, relationships with parents or children, or even a sin issue. Those are real issues and real problems. They are real burdens. However, the book of Galatians gives insight on dealing with those. "Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ."

In context, Paul is writing to those who are spiritual (6:1). He has already defined what it means to be spiritual. They are those who walk by the Spirit (5:16), are led by the Spirit (5:18), and produce the fruits of the Spirit (5:22). He tells those who have "spiritual credibility" are to bear the burdens of the weak. The word translated "bear" means to bear anything burdensome. The idea is that someone is bending over under a load, and we get up under the weight, throw our shoulder into it, and help lift it off of them.

Of course, this requires two equal parts. First, it necessitates one to be honest about the burdens they carry instead of us hiding them out of pride or shame. Second, it requires those who are spiritual/mature/strong to be looking for others who are weighed down with a load. We must be willing to not add to that load, but instead, help them shoulder the weight they are carrying.

When members of God's family are willing to both accept and give help, that does not take the burden away. We still have to deal with the problems and struggles of this life. However, when we are loving and unified as we should be, we soon find we can look at life's burdens and say, "You aren't near as heavy as I thought you were!"

Elders:

Steve Fletcher, Hugh Glaze, Dan Logan, Tim York

Deacons: Justin Glaze, Carter Logan, Adam Morgan, Jerry Reaves

Minister: Hugh Glaze

Song Leader: Adam Morgan