

The Reporter

AMARILLO BIBLE CHAIR

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Director's Report

by Mural Worthey



Our Fall 1 classes are going well with 23 religion majors. I have 21 students taking Introduction to the New Testament and 24 signed up for Romans for the next eight-week study. I have a total of 95 students in all of my Fall classes, so far.

I just returned from an informative meeting with staff and administrative leaders of Amarillo College. It was reported to us that we now have exceeded 10,000 students after the reduction caused by COVID in 2020. The dual credit program (Badger Bound) has now attracted 3,263 high school students who are taking 15 hours of classes credited also for their college degree. This means that the rest of their tuition at AC is paid for by the State of Texas. Parents of students in Middle and High School, please take note. Scholarships are available through AC Foundation.

The Bible Chair has a unique opportunity to have high school students taking dual credit classes in Bible as well. It is wonderful to see eleventh and twelfth grade students in our classes. The average age of our students has dropped to 24, in part due to the dual credit initiative. Encourage your students to attend AC and study the Bible with us.

I am encouraged by the number of students becoming more interested in taking biblical (Koine) Greek. We prepare students to use the various tools to aid them in that study.

CLASS SCHEDULE

FALL 2026

RELG 1302-001

New Testament:

August 24 - October 16

M/T/W/Th 9:00 - 10:15 AM

RELG 1302-002

New Testament:

August 24 - October 16

M/T/W/Th/F/S Online (Web)

PHIL 1301-001

Intro to Philosophy:

August 24 - October 16

M/T/W/Th/F/S Online (Web)

RELG 2303-002

Romans:

October 26 - December 18

M/T/W/Th 9:00 - 10:15 AM

RELG 2303-003

Romans:

October 26 - December 18

M/T/W/Th/F/S

Online (Web)

PHIL 1301-002

Intro to Philosophy

October 26 - December 18

T/Th 7:00 - 9:45 PM

INCOME & EXPENSE	AUG 2026
Income	
Adrian	500
Anna Street	400
Bell Avenue	3,600
Borger	200
Bushland	400
Clarendon	25
Claude	200
Clovis	500
Colonies	400
Dalhart	150
Golden Plains	400
San Jacinto	750
Sunray	1,000
Texline	700
Christian Chapel (Church of Christ in Amory MS)	1,200
Individuals	275
Memorials	100
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 10,800
Expenses	
Payroll Expense (plus PR taxes)	8,037
Kitchen Supplies	60
Maintenance & Repairs	374
Postage	156
Utilities	496
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 9,123
August Positive Cash Flow	\$ 1,677

Something Worth Noting. Have you ever noticed in your Bible study that occasionally you run across something written that stands in stark contrast to what you thought was the case? I have, more than once!

For example, you may have been taught that Mary did not have any more children after Jesus was born. Then you read Matthew 13:55, 56—"Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Jude? And are not all his sisters with us?" What do you then do with this conflict?

What if you think that when you die, you simply remain in the tomb till Jesus comes? Many have that idea about death. But then you read: "My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account." (Phil. 1:23, 24) Or, "We would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord." (2 Cor. 5:8) Jesus asked the Sadducees, "Have you not read what was said to you by God: I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? He is not God of the dead, but of the living." (Matt. 22:31, 32) The patriarchs had long been dead when God said that to Moses. Therefore, they were alive (in some sense) and in the presence of God.

Another example—what if you were told that no one in the Old Testament could receive forgiveness of sins? Then you read this: "If my people which are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and **will forgive their sin** and heal their land." (1 Chron. 7:14) Multiple passages say that they could be forgiven by God. Then, you must decide what to do.

It is a mistake just to ignore these occasions when passages stand before us to instruct us and to correct our thinking. We, at least, need to be good students of the Word and seek to harmonize what appears to be a contradiction to us. The Jews had the Scriptures, yet they failed to understand them. They made the greatest blunder of all in rejecting the Messiah. (John 5:39, 40) There are many such examples that need consideration.