

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 850 MINTER AVE., SHAFTER, CA 93263



- May 2 Thursday Night Dinner
- May 4 Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 a.m. in the kitchen Women's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 a.m. at Nancy's
- May 7 Elders meeting
- May 10 MOVIE NIGHT at 6:00 p.m.
- June 23 World Broadcasting Presentation Please plan to be here



to James and Trina Pflugh

- May 7 Tank Waldrum
- May 21 Enrique Gutierrez
- Mav 30 Ofelia Moreno





To Ron who arrived back from the Honor Flight on Wednesday evening. Some of you may have seen him interviewed on Channel 17 on Tuesday. We are so glad you were able to go.

There are sign-up sheets on the round table in back for May if you would put your name down to help with cleaning assignments of the building.

They are broken up into 3 groups so should make it a little easier to pick a group you feel you can do to help with. And we really need the help!

- 1. Clean auditorium and disinfect chairs / door handles
- 2. Clean the 2 outside restrooms and North entry doorway
- 3. Clean foyer floor, dust, glass doors / windows / Nursery restroom

Ask Vivian or April where the vacuums are and cleaning supplies. If supplies are needed let Mike know as he has key for toilet paper and paper towels.

We really would appreciate it if you or your family would pick 1 of the 3 chores that need to be done. THANK YOU!

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM John 1:43ff

Youth Class: Eddie Fisher

Children's Class: Debra Young

PRAYER TIME 9:15 AM – 9:30 AM

WORSHIP TIME 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Elders

Eddie Fisher Garry Nelson Mike Westbrook 342-8337 331-3858 910-2197

Deacon Ron Nunlist

746-6531

Minister Jim Young

527-7026

746-2205

jimyoung2work@aol.com

Church Office

Office Hours:

Monday ~ Tuesday ~ Wednesday 8 am to 1 pm Thursday 11 am to 4:30 pm

Friday Out of the Office

Bulletin

Jan Nelson 332-6146 grammyjan51@yahoo.com Sandy Westbrook 910-8143 mikewestbrook@att.net

Don't forget to check out our website

No te olvides de visitar nuestro sitio web

www.shafterchurchofchrist.com

Bible on your phone

MySpectrumWiFif8-2G MySpectrumWiFif8-5G

password: purplelemon096

passworu, purpierenionoso

Pastor's Corner of Light: Preaching Today Eclove Mar 27, 2024Lee

Four years ago, almost every church building in America and beyond was closed and silent on Easter. That week I wrote this:We will come to Easter Sunday as reluctant soloists, with only our own voices, without the band or choir, guitar or organ. Now we really must sing by faith, not only our faith in Christ but our faith that our single voices will be joined with countless others "before the throne of God above," that our solitary wavering alleluias do not echo in our empty room but are heard by our risen Christ in harmony with the "tongues of men and angels" in the vast throne room of the Triune God.

In a way, like the disciples that first Sunday, we had "locked doors for fear" of the pandemic. But the risen Lord came to us, as he did to them. In the struggles, wounds, and heartaches of these four years, the Lord Jesus has not left us alone or helpless. This Sunday remember that the Lord has been with us.

Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" (John 20:19)

His disciples had heard Jesus' greeting *Shalom* hundreds of times before, but this was different. Their fear of the authorities vanished. The old Sabbath had passed; a new Sabbath, a Lord's Day, took its place. And imagine when Jesus showed them his hands and side! They'd seen those ghastly wounds bleeding but now they were healed, not by time or medicine, but by immortality!

Then Jesus said again, "Peace be with you." This time the words were like a healing, the way he'd made the blind man see or the leper clean. It wasn't just that the anxieties of that day were gone, but as though the disciples were recreated with *shalom* in their blood and Sabbath in their genes.

Then Jesus dispatched his disciples into a world whose Sundays are always silent and whose contagion never abates. "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:21-23)

I try to imagine Jesus exhaling like that. Those disciples inhaled the breath of the first immortal man. They didn't know the full theology of the Holy Spirit that we now read into this scene. They simply inhaled the breath of their Lord who could not die again! No breath was ever sweeter!

Breath is the essential sign of life. "The LORD God ... breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." Jesus still inhales and exhales. He breathes even now in the rarified atmosphere of glory (although I'm not sure oxygen is involved). In that locked room, the Son of God, the Second Adam, breathed life into his disciples as though they'd been nothing but clay men till that moment. And that same Breath of God is ours since being born again.

The full significance of that Breath, the Holy Spirit, would come in time—the tongues of fire, gifts, fruit, intercession, his inward presence, and power. That Breath was preparation for the gospel commission Jesus gave them and us, complete with his authority to declare his grace and Breath to the repentant.

So let us not forget that hard Easter 4 years ago when we had to sing by ourselves. Let us enter every day dressed in our Sabbath peace, rejoice in our blessings and SING!

A SOVEREIGN GOD

The Lord will perfect that which concerns me. – Psalm 138:8

Psalm 138:8 gives us a powerful word from God, one that David understood quite well. But do we? This expression of the sovereignty of God should give us great peace. Notice that it does not say, "If I don't fail God or disappoint him, he will accomplish what concerns me." It doesn't say, "If I don't ever sin again, he will accomplish what concerns me." Nor does it say, he *might* accomplish . . .or he *could* accomplish. . ."David's words simply say, "He will accomplish what concerns me."

What are you worried about today? Is it your children, the salvation of those you love, your job, your friendships, your home, or your church? Whatever your concerns might be, God is addressing them.

Some of us feel this can't be true because we have prayed so long for something so very important. However, we don't have a timeline with David's words, do we? He simply says it will be done. Can we trust, as David did, in what we cannot yet see?

Can we trust that God is addressing what concerns us in exactly the way we would like, or as quickly as we would like? Not always. Sometimes he is about to place his hand on our lives in ways we could never have dreamed or imagined, but we can trust that our God is fully alive in all this is happening – even the delays.

We have a God who is after our highest good. His great love could do no less. He knows our hearts, our longings, and our needs. His love will not allow anything to touch our lives that will bring more pain or struggle than it takes to make us all we have prayed to be and all he desires for us to be.

Lana Bateman Taken from <u>Daily Gifts of Grace</u>

MOVE ME

When he saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for the, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having not shepherd. - Matthew 9:36 NKJV

Jesus, I have so much to learn from you: a lifetime's worth and then some! The levels of compassion that you moved it when you walked this earth are astounding. I know that I must be connected to you to know true compassion for others, and oh, how much more compassion I need in my life. It is so easy to shut off kindness in favor of comfort and apathy. It is easier to live in a bubble of disconnectedness to people's pain and poverty, remaining distant enough to recognize it but not let it upset my comfort. However, you didn't call your disciples into a life of ease or comfort.

I invite you today, Lord, to upset my convenience and to fill me with compassion for those who are lost and scattered around me. I want to share in your heart for the weary and broken, offering love • where others just keep moving around them. Move my heart, Lord; it is open.

> Can you make space in your day to allow for God to move your heart in compassion where you would normally brush past it?

> > Taken from 365 Days of Pray for Life



If you need prayer, please let one of the Elders know, or put a note in the box at the back of the auditorium. You can call Vivian **Fisher (889-4075)** to start the prayer chain.

*PRAISE

Debra's appointment for the aneurysm on her aorta went well; they will just continue to monitor it.. **Nancy** is feeling better after being treated for pneumonia and pleurisy **Elizabeth**, the 14 year old missing girl was returned home

*NEW

Lord, give me the same concern and compassion for the lost that you have. Open doors that I might share your message of love and salvation.

*Buddy upcoming tests and appointments

***Demetrio**, pray for good results from his MRI and for **Jan** for good results from endoscopy ***Ron**, Nancy's son, recently lost his job and is looking for a new one; anxiety

*Mary N. had a bit of a health issue earlier this week but is doing better. Pray she has no further issues.

*Cheryl White had a stroke this week and is in the hospital

*Jan is on a train trip to Oceanside and April is in Idaho visiting family; pray for safe travels

Chelsea, granddaughter of Trina's friend, scooter accident; improving; pray for complete recovery. **Tucker,** Nina's great-grandson, had surgery recently for two leg fractures because of an accident **Marsha**, terminal cancer; prayer also for her husband, **Wayne** (friends of Don Loveless) of our **Hannah**, Trina's daughter, is continuing to struggle with life issues

David, Ron's brother, dealing with kidney stones; to see doctor soon about removing them **Robert** is still struggling with arthritic pain

Janese is struggling with a severe flair-up fibromyalgia; severe headache and pain all over **Barbara**, doing physical therapy after her shoulder surgery

Joyce as she takes care of Tom who is now at home and Tom as he adjusts

Nikki, Nelson's granddaughter, struggling with mental health issues; pray for effective treatment **Lucia**, Ron/Lynn's granddaughter, continues to struggle emotionally and physically post COVID **Millie**, Ron's sister-in-law, not doing well and is being cared for by hospice **Tank** is struggling with health problems.

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LeRoyce Savage, terminated his cancer medications and letting Hospice come in **Aidan**, great grandson of Barbara, undergoing physical therapy after brain surgery **Jim**, liver cancer; needs a transplant, (a request from Adrianne's niece)

Unspoken Prayers . . . we know their names, and, above all, God knows them...



And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17-19