



5, 2026

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

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning

8:30 Bible Classes

Mark 9:38 ff

Classes in English & Spanish

PRAISE & WORSHIP

9:00 Prayer Worship

Please give us your requests

9:30 Worship Service

Worship in English & Spanish

Elders

Borjas Gonzales 599-9311

Eddie Fisher 342-8337

Garry Nelson 331-3858

Mike Westbrook 910-2197

Ron Nunlist 746-6531

Deacon

Minister

Jim Young 527-7026

jmyoung2work@aol.com

Church Office 746-2205

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

grammyan51@yahoo.com

Sandy.Westbrook@att.net 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

MySpectrumWiFi8-2G

MySpectrumWiFi8-5G

password: purplelemon096

Happy Birthday, America!



May we always remember to thank God for blessing our country with 250 years of freedom, something many countries do not get to experience. May we also remember and be grateful to those who have served our country to help ensure the freedom we all enjoy, some giving the ultimate sacrifice.



Reminder...The sign-up list for the building cleaning for July is on the back left table. Please sign up.

July 7 - Elders' Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

July 16 - Thursday Night Dinner, Cook: Barbara P.

August 1 - Men's and Ladies Prayer Breakfasts

Men's in the kitchen; ladies location TBD

August 4 - Elders' Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

August 6 - Thursday Night Dinner @ 5:30 p.m.

August 20 - Thursday Night Dinner @ 5:30 p.m.

October 24 - 22nd Annual Fall Ladies Day at West Visalia

Church of Christ; Guest Speaker is Vicki Bruce from Oklahoma City, OK



"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction."

~ Ronald Reagan

Pastor's Corner of Light

TGC: Pastors, Teach Your People to Love Their Country October 2, 2025 [Daniel Darling](#)

Here is a modified version of Daniel's article:

Is patriotism healthy for a Christian? Can love of country go too far? Jonah's reaction to the command to go to Ninevah and preach shows clearly his loyalty to Israel first and foremost – over and above God's commands. He put his love of country about his loyalty to God. In contrast to this Jeremiah told his people in exile to seek the welfare of their city (Jer 29:7) and Peter instructs us: "Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor." (1 Pe 2:17). The first point in cultivating a healthy sense of duty to nation is to correctly order/prioritize our loves. But when loving God does conflict with love of country, "we must obey God rather than men" ([Acts 5:29](#)). Often times this doesn't mean rejecting love of a country so much as rejecting obedience to a bad gov.

2. Healthy patriotism gives thanks. Genuine patriotism shows gratitude for the places—both local and national—where God has placed us. Gratitude is an essential trait for a faithful believer (1 Thess. 5:18). In America, we can be thankful for freedom of worship, freedom of speech, and freedom of movement. We live in a land where we're not only free to worship this Sunday, but we can choose from various faithful congregations with like-minded believers.

3. Healthy patriotism seeks renewal. America isn't perfect. But if we love the place where God has called us to live, we'll roll up our sleeves and help to make it better. We'll get involved in faithful local churches. We'll support public policies that promote the common good. We'll serve in the public square where appropriate. And most importantly, we'll pray for a move of God's Spirit in America. We'll pray that the Spirit convict's people's hearts of sin and their need for salvation. Loving our country means praying for its revival.

In Scripture, God commands us to love Him, to love our families, and to love our neighbors. But what about love of country? It can be easy for a modern Christian to dismiss this love as superfluous to Christian duty. But **we're to be grateful to God for all he gives us**. The nation where we live — from its heroes to its flaws — isn't an exception.

My country 'tis of Thee, Sweet Land of Liberty

PRAYER REQUESTS

TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

If you need prayer, please let the Elders know, or call Vivian Fisher (889-4075) to start the prayer chain.

Lord, give me concern and compassion for the lost that I meet today. Open doors so I might share YOUR message!

NEW

Debra will be having upcoming appointments, continued prayers for improvement and strength

Demetrio's last test showed no cancer; Praises

Garry and Jan are at the coast; return Monday and leave later in the week for Utah for family vacation

James, Darlene's brother, is doing somewhat better; hopefully will avoid surgery

Joyce's brother-in-law, Robert, is having numerous health problems

Mary P.'s niece, Amy, is traveling home to Seattle; prayer for a safe, uneventful journey

Praises for Buddy's PET scan results showing he is still in remission after two years

Sandy had appointments this week with gastrologist and he is referring her to a surgeon to see if they can help her with the issues. Met with the Neurologist and they have several upcoming appointments set for July and will also see the cardiologist the end of July.

Trina's Uncle Leon who has been on our long-term prayer list continues to need our prayers but is doing well

Trina's daughter Hannah working to complete her internship

Anne, Nina's daughter, as she continues chemo and her positive heart and spirit

Continued Prayers

Borjas/Sally's children are struggling in various areas and need to find the Lord

Lynn McDougal, is doing better; still needs prayer for ongoing health issues

Joyce, continued prayer for her complete healing

Dom, Trina's relative, was in a motorcycle accident and is still in the hospital learning to walk again

Earl will be having surgery for a hernia in the next few weeks

Gerald's radiation and chemo was not effective for him. He will see another doctor from USC; pray the doctor will have another plan of treatment for Gerald; pray also for Mary as she helps care for her brother Casey Poteet, is still waiting for surgery to correct what was done as a result of the chemo.

LaDona, continue to keep her safety in your prayers.

Many of these will be moved from Newsletter to the Extended Long-Term Prayer List.

If you would, please keep this list handy so you can continue to pray for those on the list, but we still need you to let us know updates so we can know how to pray for those on the list.



Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.

~ Romans 13:1-2

Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work. ~ Titus 3:1

Father, we thank You for Your constant protection. Please continue to watch over our country and keep us safe from harm. Help every citizen to feel secure and to trust in Your unfailing love. Strengthen our resolve to seek peace and justice, and empower our leaders to make decisions that honor You. Surround our land with Your peace and keep us united in love and purpose. Amen.



God's care for you is secure because it does not depend on your faithfulness, but on his.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it" (1 Thess. 5:23-24). You and I live between the "already" and the "not yet." Already God has set his plan of grace in motion. Already the prophets have spoken. Already Jesus has come. Already he has suffered and died. Already he has risen in victory from the tomb. Already the Spirit has come. Already the Word has been given. But not yet is God's work in the world finished. Not yet is his work in our hearts done. Not yet is the last enemy under his feet. Not yet is he ready to say: "Beloved, all things are now ready. Enter into my final kingdom."

We are right smack dab in the middle of the world's most important incomplete process – sanctification. None of us is yet what grace makes it possible for us to be. The battle with sin and temptation still goes on. The war for what will effectively and functionally rule our hearts still rages. We are not yet even near being blameless in and of ourselves. No, the reality is that between the already and the not yet of God's transforming process, we are all a bit of a mess. We still fall into temptation. We still give way to wrong thoughts and desires. We still say things that we should never say. We still behave in ways that expose the sin that is still in our hearts. So there is simply no way our personal security can be found in ourselves. Peace is not found in the degree of our faithfulness to God, but in the utterly unshakable nature of his faithfulness to the commitment of grace he has made to us.

He never regrets his promises. He never grows bored or weary. He doesn't get mad with us and debate with himself as to whether he should walk away. He never lounges through a lazy, self-centered day. He never withdraws his commitment to us because he has his eye on another. He never makes a promise he doesn't intend to keep. His love isn't a passing fancy. He never threatens to withdraw his love in order to get his own way. He never keeps record of wrongs against us so that he can use it to get something from us that he wants. He is never disloyal behind our backs. He is completely faithful in the fullest sense of what that means. And here's what is important to understand. His faithfulness is not a demonstration of how well you're doing; no, it's a revelation of how completely holy, righteous, kind, and good he is. He remains faithful even on your most unfaithful day.

***For further study and encouragement: Psalm 89
(Taken from New Morning Mercies by Paul David Tripp)***