



7, 2025

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

## WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning  
8:30 Bible Classes  
Galatians 2:11ff

Classes in English & Spanish



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

[jimyoung2work@aol.com](mailto:jimyoung2work@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

[grammyjan51@yahoo.com](mailto:grammyjan51@yahoo.com)

[Sandy Westbrook 910-8143](tel:910-8143)

[mikewestbrook@att.net](mailto:mikewestbrook@att.net)

Don't forget to check out our  
website

No te olvides de visitar nuestro  
sitio web

[www.shafterchurchofchrist.com](http://www.shafterchurchofchrist.com)

Bible on your phone

MySpectrumWiFif8-2G

MySpectrumWiFif8-5G

password: purplelemon096

## dates to Remember

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

December 11 - Men's Bible Study 7:00 a.m. in church kitchen

Dec 27-30 -Winter Camp at Yosemite Bible Camp; 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up; [www.wvcoc.org/ybc](http://www.wvcoc.org/ybc)

THERE WILL BE NO MEN'S OR LADIES BREAKFAST FOR JANUARY - will resume in February

January 6 - Elders Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

January 8 - Thursday night dinners resume



8 - Buddy Hooper

22 - Demetrio Diaz

11 - Nancy Nunlist

28 - Garry Nelson

21 - David Everett

11 - Buddy and Darlene Hooper

14 - Eddie and Vivian Fisher



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

On the back table, Jim has placed articles he has found while researching his sermons that you may be interested in reading. Please pick one or more up to read this week.

## Christmas for Kids

Debra is asking for donations to buy gift cards for the kids for Christmas. You can buy the gift card yourself and give it to Debra or you can give her your donation and she will get the cards.

You can make the check out to the church and give it to her, or you can give her your cash donation.

She needs all donations by December 20<sup>th</sup>.

# Christmas for Seniors

## Sponsored by the Shafter Woman's Club

It's time once again to bring joy to some of our senior citizens in the retirement homes. Below will be a list of suggested useful/needed items. Stick this part of the bulletin with you to have in town when you are shopping.

Lotions/creams

Lip balm

Crossword puzzles

Body Wash

Non-skid socks

Poly Grip

Shampoo/conditioner

Deodorant

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

Denture cleaning tablets



If you did not bring your items TODAY, then please drop off by  
December 9<sup>th</sup> at 289 Pine St. Shafter, Ca 93263  
661-529-1340

### PASTOR'S CORNER - Why are We Late to Church?

First and foremost, I must declare that Shafter does not have this problem. But it is something which we should be conscious of in order to ensure that it does not become one. And, truly, I appreciate the love and faithfulness you exhibit week after week. Blessings!!!

There are those who do not consider timeliness as being important. But point in fact, our timeliness reveals the fundamental attitude about what we think church worship is. Being consistently late illustrates our belief that church worship is a religious show instead of being a family reunion that we weekly look forward to. Imagine that our congregation is an orchestra and each week we gather to play, and God is our audience. Picture the conductor raising his baton and is about to begin when many of the musicians are still absent. Then as the first movement begins various musicians come in and begin squeezing their way into their chairs – visiting with those they are crossing. What message would that send to our fellow members and to God?

This may seem unreal, yet it perfectly illustrates what happens each week in some churches. There **are** legitimates reasons that occasionally pop up = life happens, and grace should abound in these situations. But the church is having a culture problem when large numbers of people arrive like this during numerous weeks of the year. These late comers are treating the first 15 minutes of the service like the previews at the movies, as an optional part that isn't essential to the main show.

Here's the uncomfortable truth: by doing this we are communicating, however unintentionally, that it is fine to show up late This message comes across as a discouragement to our fellow family members. Over the years it can easily create a culture that undermines our purpose for gathering.

Next week we will continue giving a look at this potential problem so as to avoid it becoming a reality for us. Thankfully, I repeat, we do not have a problem with this issue. You are so evidently unanimous about your desire to worship with one another, and I want to avoid this ever becoming a problem with us. Blessings! ☺



Shafter MB church is having a Christmas celebration **TONIGHT**

from 5:00 - 7:30 with Christmas tree lighting at 6:15.

Pop up vendors, food trucks, live music, hay ride,  
laser tag, petting zoo and more!

at the Mennonite church 400 Kern Street

## *Prayer* **REQUESTS**

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

### **NEW THIS WEEK**

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

Numerous **members of Sally's family** has health problems: Father recovering from work accident; cousin Kelly recovering from surgery; Reuban, brother, knee injury.

**Barbara Pflugh** has been under the weather

### **Continued Prayer:**

**Tank** continues to struggle with various health issues

**Ron** was diagnosed with Bell's Palsy

**Brenda** is waiting an approval for an apartment

**Trina's dad**, who had a heart procedure

**Hannah**, Trina's daughter, continue to pray for her

**Mike G.**, Borjas' friend, has prostate cancer and will begin radiation treatment in the next couple of weeks

**Anthony**, Borjas' grandson needs strength to help him with his co-workers

**Tristan** has pneumonia and possibly Valley Fever

### **Our family members who are traveling this week**

**Anne**, Nina's daughter, it appears nodules on her lung have enlarged; sees doctor in February to begin treatment; is going for a second opinion

**Tate**, Anne's son, has various medical issues and has just been diagnosed with lupus

**Buddy** healing of his shoulder

**Mark Keeley** recovering from knee replacement

**Robert** is struggling with some digestive problems

**John Maltby**, prostate cancer

**Vivian** dealing with blood pressure problems



We will be receiving a new child to support through Compassion International. His name is Eyuel from Ethiopia and he is 15 years old. His packet is in the process of being sent. We will be sending him \$75 for Christmas.

***So teach us to count our days that we  
may gain a wise heart.  
Psalm 90:12***

Heavenly Father, sometimes I am so busy looking ahead and anticipating the future or looking behind and recalling the past that I miss today's opportunities. Help me remember that today is the future I've waited for and the past I will look back on; you have brought it to me right now as a moment for living. Therefore, as I make my decisions as to how to spend this day, let me feel the power and significance of this here-and-now gift of life.

(Taken from My Personal Daily Prayer Book)



***The Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we  
ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for  
us through wordless groans.  
Romans 8:26***

Until recently, many towns in rural Ireland didn't use house numbers or postal codes. So if there were three Patrick Murphys in town, the newest resident with that name would not get his mail until it was first delivered to the other two Patrick Murphys who had lived there longer. "My neighbors would get it first," said Patrick Murphy (the newest resident). "They'd have a good read, and they'd go, 'No, it's probably not us.'" To end all this mail-delivery confusion, the Irish government recently instituted the first postal code system which will ensure the proper delivery of the mail.

Sometimes when we pray we feel like we need help delivering to God what is on our heart. We may not know the right words to say or how to express our deep longings. The apostle Paul says in Romans 8 that the Holy Spirit helps us and intercedes for us by taking our unspeakable "groanings" and presenting them to the Father. "We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans" (v. 26). The Spirit always prays according to God's will, and the Father knows the mind of the Spirit.

Be encouraged that God hears us when we pray and He knows our deepest needs.

- Marvin Williams

***When you can't put your prayers into words, God hears your heart.***



## **Extended Long Term Prayer List**

**Please email or text updates to Jan or Sandy**

### **Health issues: Physical, mental, and spiritual health:**

**Bonnie** (April's daughter)

**Barbara P ~ Earl's aunt Christine, ~ Casey,**

**Charles Jones ~ Chris** (Buggy's friend) ~

**David & Millie** (Ron's brother & wife) ~ **Gary,**

Buggy's husband, is struggling with some

mental issues ~ **Hannah** (Trina's daughter) ~

**Lupi** (Gonzales's granddaughter) ~ **Mel,**

Barbara P.'s brother health issues ~ **Nancy**

(David's friend) ~ **Francis and Suzanne,**

sisters in Christ, are both recovering from

operations ~ **Jason,** Sharon's son, will be

having more tests for his liver ~ **Joan,**

Vivian's sister, is not doing well with COPD ~

**Jason** (Borjas's son) ~ **Joyce & Tom ~**

**Richard** (Sammy's friend) ~ **Kelly,** Sally's

cousin, is struggling with multiple serious

health issues ~ **Paula** (Nancy's friend) sepsis

~ **Ronnie** (Nancy's son) ~ **Sally's daughter,**

upcoming surgery ~ **Syble ~ Tate,** Anne's

son and Nina's grandson, health issues ~

**Tammy** (a relative of the Fisher's son-n-law)

paralyzed from waist ~ **Wes Agee,** Kern

County firefighter, was moved to a medical

center in Colorado ~

### **Serving in the Military: Chris & Jonah**

(friends of Trina) who are soldiers in the Middle East

### **Cancer and treatments:**

**Bill** (Debra's brother) ~

**Cathy Turner** ~ former member

**Everett** (relative of Nancy's) is nearing his final days due to his cancer ~

**Gary** (Mike's brother) ~

**James** (Darlene's brother) ~

**Jessie** (friend of Earl) ~ **Kristina** (Debra's co-worker) ~

**Johnnie Rudat** and family; she is 12 years old and is fighting her second occurrence of cancer; doctors said it was terminal (Sharon's friend) ~

**Kelly,** one of Doris Friesen's sons, has been diagnosed with stomach cancer ~

**Oliver** (Earl's friend)

**Pat** (Debra's co-worker) ~

**Paulette,** friend of Nancy's, breast cancer has metastasized into her bones and is Stage 4 ~

**Tom** has been given 6-8 months; pray for his comfort and Joyce's peace of mind as she deals with this situation

**Wendy** (member of Debra's family) ~

**Our Youth:** to pray to make good choices

**For all those that have upcoming tests:** this week or test results

**Unspoken Prayers:** We know their names, and, above all, God knows them.