

Casa Grande Church of Christ

Volume 77 Number 3
January 15, 2012



Meeting at:

805 East Racine Place
Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Ph: 520-836-6282

www.churchofchrist-cg-az.com



Opportunities to worship, study & serve:

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY 10 AM

WORSHIP 11 AM

EVENING WORSHIP 6 PM

WEDNESDAY 7 PM

THURSDAY LADIES' BIBLE CLASS 10 AM

Monday Night with the Turners
each Monday at 6 PM

Ladies' Devo 2nd Saturday
each month at 11 AM

Congregational Potluck 3rd Sunday
each month after morning worship



Welcome to all!
We are glad you are here!



Enter to Worship...
Leave to Serve

From the Preacher's Pen... Each one of us ought to make the effort every day to thank God for how richly He has blessed this congregation of His people! The writer of Hebrews offers to churches the challenge to serve the Lord so well as to make the job of their shepherds a joyful one (Hebrews 13:17). That also entails each one of us doing our best to make our Chief Shepherd's (Jesus Christ Himself, 1 Peter 5:4) job joyful, too!

So how are you doing with making Jesus joyful with your life? That's a rather sobering thing to think about, isn't it?

If we are to serve the Lord properly, we must remember to love the Lord our God and put Him first ALL the time. That is the essence of being faithful or "keeping on keeping on." Let's examine two little stories that serve as a great reminder to us all to do just that:

Loving God and Staying Faithful

What were your first words this morning? Some years back a radio station had one of their contests inviting listeners to tune in their clock radios. People were invited to "Wake up to the sound of FM-106 and call and tell us the first words you spoke when you rolled out of bed. If you are the third caller, you will win \$106."

As you would expect, the contest was popular and callers were enthusiastic. The first morning the cheerful DJ said, "Caller number three, what did you say when you rolled out of bed this morning?" The caller replied, "Do I smell coffee burning?" Another day a sleepy worker said, "Oh no, I'm late for work." The contest was funny and popular and continued to draw audience and callers.

One morning, things were different. The third caller said something very different. When asked the question, the caller replied, "You want to know my first words in the morning?" The DJ replied, "Yes, sir! Tell us what you said."

The caller responded, "Shema, Israel... Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might."

After a moment of embarrassed silence by the DJ, he announced, "Sorry, wrong number," and cut to a commercial.

So, what did you say when you got out of bed today? Chances are, those words set the tone for the rest of your day. For the religious Jew, the first words of each morning are always the same. They are the words passed from God to Moses to the Children of Israel, "Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Teach them to your children and talk about them when you lie down and when you rise up" (Deuteronomy 6:6, 7).

To love the Lord our God with all our heart is not merely a command for observant Jews, it is for each one of us as Christians (Mark 12:30; Luke 10:27). These words name our primary allegiance and bind us to our greatest responsibility: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart." And does not God expect that of us each and every day?

Tonight, plan what will be your first words and set the tone for your tomorrow.

No "Ifs", "Ands" or "Buts"! The story is told of two old North Atlantic fishermen. The fishing had not been good for many days, but on Sunday the weather cleared and one fisherman argued, "The Lord's Day is important but we have had such poor weather and so few fish lately that we should go. Of course we wouldn't do it if we weren't so poor."


His partner demanded, "Are you going to forsake God with your 'ifs' and 'buts'? Better to be poor than wicked. I will not allow my religion to shift with the wind." So saying, he finally persuaded his friend and partner to spend the day worshipping God. *continued on page 3*

Welcome to our visitors today! We hope & pray you will be blessed by your time with us & will join us again soon! **Visitors Last Week included:** Malva Babel of Casa Grande; Bryant & Ruby Dukes of CO; Dave & Carol Yohn of OH; Eldon & Marlene Skelly of IN.

Our Prayer List: Keep the following in your prayers this week as you “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17): Bob Doughty, Vance Garrett, Norm Larson, Nora McNeil, Matthew Odom, Lois Nowlin, Heather Ries, Mike Shirley, Hunter Shirley, Ross & Rene Turner, Ralph & Ruth West, Everett Martin, Anna Mae Hardin, Wanda Lewallen, Ed & Alma Baum, Guy Turpin, those traveling, and...

Previously Announced Family & Friends: Sandi Rog, John Hoover’s sister Barbara Nelson, Barb Johnson, Gregory Garrett, David Parks, Vernon Turner, Pat Peters, Kamella Fine (Flora Doster’s sister), Merle Baker (Everett Martin’s aunt), Charie Huhn (Cleo Wise’s niece), Robin Estabrook (Julie Evan’s sister), Daniel Davis (Chastity Shirley’s cousin), Bob Chambers (Everett Martin’s father-in-law), Marla Walters, Allen Black, Joyce Garrett, Wendell Myer, Sally Fullington, Sophia Manuel (Lynn Shirley’s granddaughter), Ethan (Cleo Wise’s grandson).

Special Requests:
WBS & WEI Bible study students: many with lives in danger.
Joey Razaq family: as they prepare to come to the USA.
Judy Hagner, son Preston, daughter Angela & son James
Connor Clark: Barry & Marla’s 5 year old grandson.
Brian & Elizabeth Wohlers: expecting twins.
Brandi Schroeder: Flora Doster’s granddaughter with MS.
Danielle Aragon-Campbell: continuing to do well.
Middle East congregations: Cairo, Egypt; Nazareth, Israel; Jerusalem, Israel; Dubai, UAE.
Also keep in prayer: Dallas Purcella’s mother; Marla’s father (Forest Wilkerson); K.C. Deaton’s father (Carl Dillard); Paulina’s father (Arnold); Julie’s father; Laurel’s father; Wally & Gladys Myers (Kim’s parents).

 **OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL INCLUDING:** Nate Panka (Cleo Wise’s grandson); Jeremiah Haller & Tim Axline (Flora Doster’s grandsons); Codi Walker (Mary Walker’s grandson); Fernando Najera (Javier Najera’s brother in Afghanistan); Frank Torres (Javier’s cousin); K.J. Myers; and Nathan Bagley.

Members:
Carlos & Evelyn Sterling: as Carlos is away from home at work.
Max Compton: as he deals with difficulties in his family.
Barry & Marla Henderson
Allen Farrow: recovering from hip replacement surgery.
Brian Campbell, Jr.: eye problems.

Jerry Odom: recovering from shoulder surgery.
Lorrie Hoover: (John’s wife) brain surgery & cancer treatment.
Brett Myers: having shoulder surgery soon.
Dorothy Evans: (Mike’s mother) doing well following her radiation treatments.

New:
Everett Martin: recovering from surgery last week.
Yolanda Najera: as Javier is away at training for several weeks.
Taylor & Dee Bennett: and their son with cancer.
Several are still looking for jobs. Keep them in your prayers!
Give thanks for those now well & those who are improving!

Our prayer list: Prayer is a great blessing! Help keep our list up-to-date: Announced requests to Lester or the one making announcements.
For the Bulletin Prayer List: please write out the information.
“Previously Announced...” list will be cleaned out every 3 months. If you have an update or someone to return to the list, just write out a new request & it will be renewed.
Special, ongoing prayer requests, can be added to our “Special Requests.” Just note it on your written request!

FOOD PANTRY
ITEMS NEEDED...

- DRIED BEANS
- CANNED MEATS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- MAC & CHEESE
- EVAPORATED MILK
- SPAGHETTI SAUCE
- JELLY
- RICE
- SUGAR
- SOUP
- CEREAL

Upcoming Events...
Potluck: TONIGHT after EVENING worship (finger-foods & snacky things) — Group A set-up, serve & clean-up
Monthly Singing: January 29 at 2:30 in Coolidge.
Men’s Business Meeting: February 5 after evening worship.
Sarah Turpin – Tyler Gibson wedding: February 10, 5 pm. A church family reception will be after evening services Feb. 12
Ladies Devo: February 11 at 11 am.
5th Wednesday Prayer & Song Meeting: February 29.

It was well that they did so, for that night, just when the boats would have been returning, a terrible storm broke and lasted for two days. Any boat and crew out in that weather would have been lost. But after the storm beautiful weather returned and more fish were taken than in many weeks before.

No one has ever been lost by putting God first! Think about that the next time you are challenged with missing worship or any other challenge to put something else ahead of God.

How well do we believe in and put into action the greatest priority in our lives? If we would continue to be faithful and continue to please our God, we must intentionally, intelligently make that choice each day. Jesus said it like this, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me" (Luke 9:23).

Who are you following? Let's give all our effort to loving and putting God first this week!

— Lester P. Bagley



100th Anniversary Congregational History & Memories

So far we have found 6 Christian families here around 1912 when Arizona became a state: Darter, Hendrix, Sharp, Ambler, Fritzinger and Griffith (based on obituaries).

Additions are being made to our history board weekly. Learn about the founders of our congregation and their courage. We are discovering a rich Christian heritage.

Jerry Odom has a one-page questionnaire for families who arrived in the 1930s and are still with us. Also, those of you who arrived or were converted in the 1940s, Jerry has a one-page questionnaire for you. Keep the old photos coming in.

All this will be put in book form.

Parents & Teens...

Remember our upcoming special
Sunday evening lessons!

Please turn in the cards to Lester TODAY for our upcoming Sunday evening lessons on our young people's favorite Bible people & stories!



Congregational wedding shower

honoring Sarah Turpin
& Tyler Gibson

January 28th at 5pm

(they are registered at Walmart if you need gift ideas)

Last Week: 7+ Pew-Packers



Be "in the picture" every week!

✓ Checkup ✓

How are we doing?

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday Morning Bible Class = 83

Sunday Morning Worship = 147

Sunday Evening Worship = 68

Wednesday Evening = 47

Giving

2011 Weekly Budget = \$2,600

Contribution Last Week = \$2,764.14

Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning January 15

Adult Bible Class: • *Study & Grow* Pat Curo
 Announcements: Mike Evans
 Song Leader:..... Curt Odom
 Prayer:.....Bill Hall
 Serve Communion:.....John Hoover, Mike Shirley, Jerry Odom, Roger Brush, Allen Comstock
 Sermon: • *Encourage & Comfort* Lester Bagley
 Closing Prayer:Allen Farrow


Count Contribution: Pat Curo & Mike Evans

Sunday Evening January 15


Song Leader:.....Guy Turpin
 Prayer:..... Jerry Odom
 Sermon: • *Dealing Gently* Lester Bagley
 Serve Communion:..... Mike Shirley
 Closing Prayer:Vance Garrett

Wednesday Evening January 18


Song Leader:.....Pat Curo
 Prayer:..... Bill Hall
 Devo:Bill Thompson / Kim Myers
 Closing Prayer:Roger Brush




Anniversaries



January 15: *David & Joan Davis*
 January 17: *L.Z. & Lynn Shirley*
 January 21: *Steven & Krystal Ramirez*
 January 25: *Allen & Brenda Farrow*
 January 29: *Frank & Cheryl Aragon-Campbell*
 February 19: *Curtis & Jackie Odom*
 February 23: *Sam & Sherri Fields*
 February 23: *Bill & Phyllis Hall*



Birthdays



January 17: *Brian Campbell*
 January 20: *Bill Thompson*
 January 25: *Jeanne Martin*
 January 27: *Mike Evans*
 January 30: *Jackie Odom*
 February 4: *Ed Baum*
 February 5: *Marla Henderson – Greg Huffman*

Church of Christ
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Postage

TO: