

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Phil. 4: 4

March 24, 2024

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

We Need Your Help



Please let Debra know if you could provide one dozen plastic Easter eggs filled with candy for the children's Easter egg hunt at the end of this month. (No chocolate in case it ends up a warm day.)



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 28 - Thursday Night Dinner - 5:30 p.m.

Cooks: Nancy

March 29 - Good Friday: Congregational Church 430 E Tulare.

They are doing a special service at 7:00 p.m.

March 31 - Easter Sunrise Service at Mannel Park at 6:30 a.m.



April 2 - Elders meeting 8 am church kitchen

April 6 - Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00 a.m. in the kitchen

Women's Prayer Breakfast 9:30 a.m. at April's house

April 7-10 - Singing with the Spirit at West Visalia Church (see flyer in the foyer)

April 12 - MOVIE NIGHT 6:00 p.m.

CLEANING

There are sign-up sheets on the round table in back for March 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

Philemon

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 342-8337

Garry Nelson 331-3858

Mike Westbrook 910-2197

Deacon

Ron Nunlist 746-6531

Minister

Jim Young 527-7026

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

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

MySpectrumWiFi8-2G

MySpectrumWiFi8-5G

password: purplelemon096

Pastor's Corner of Light: Through Many Tribulations

Plain Bible Teachings Sermon: Andy Sochor Feb 20, 2017

Text: Acts 14:22 *Paul and Barnabas encouraged the brethren to remain faithful to the Lord "through many tribulations" so they could reach the final reward of heaven.* The kinds of tribulations that we may face could be unique to Christians or common to all people. Any of these tribulations could potentially derail our faith and cause us to come up short of the reward. So, we need to prepare ourselves to make it through these tribulations to reach the eternal kingdom. A man uniquely able to teach us about this is Job.

Job was a blameless man (Job 1:1,8) and had been blessed by God (Job 1:2,3). Then due to the scheming of Satan he loses his children, his possessions, & his health (Job 1:13-19; 2:7) Job lost much in this situation but I am sure the most devastating loss was that of his children. Sometimes such a loss may strike at the core of our faith and cause us to question the goodness of God (Job 2:9) As in this case, the prince of this world (Lk 4; John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Eph 2:2; 2 Cor 4:4) has much influence in what happens. Rom 5:12 explains that sin and death came into the world together and thus Heb 9:27 tells us that it is appointed for all to die since all have sinned (Rom 3:23). Our experience with death with various loved ones is a direct consequence of these different factors. We should ultimately remember that Jesus removed Satan's power of death (Heb 2:14) and the reality of heaven awaits us (1 Thess 4:13ff; Rev 14:13).

In a similar fashion, worrying about material things of this world can also choke out the spirit of Christ (Luke 8:14 seeds among the thorns). Our hope and trust in this world's possessions can lead us to steal (Prov 30:7-9), envy (Gal 5:21), or just be ungrateful (Rev 2:9; 1 Thess 5:18). In order to remain faithful, we must fix our hope on God (1 Tim 6:17), lay-up treasures in heaven (Mtt 6:20; 1 Tim 6:19) and learn contentment (Philistines 4:11-13).

An additional loss that Job and many in this world experience is that of health. This is also very personal. Paul tells us in 2 Cor 12:7ff that he too was experiencing a "thorn in the flesh" and God saw fit to use it in his life. James 5:14 states that suffering is a time for us to join in prayer for each other. 2 Cor 4:16 – 5:4 explains that our earthly vessel is but a temporary situation and James 1:12 encourages us to maintain our life in Christ through whatever trials it is that we encounter so that we will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those that love Him. 1 Peter 1:4 "to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." Rom 8:28 seeks to encourage us to remain faithful and trust in God to bring some good out of our struggles. Rom 5:3-5 tells us that there is in fact some good that can come from suffering: "And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Remain faithful and let God work in your life.



INTRODUCTION

“Good hymns are an immense blessing to the Church. They train people for heaven, where praise is one of the principal occupations.”

- J.C. Ryle

*H*ymns have the power to evoke specific memories. Whenever I hear “Just as I am,” for instance, I am back in the little church of my youth, reaching across the aisle to take hold of Mr. Page’s hand at the close of our Sunday service. At the sound of “As the Deer,” I imagine my wedding day and all of the hope and happiness it held. No doubt that you also have songs that take you back to a certain place in time.

There is something about a hymn that speaks to the deepest part of a person. It’s been said that when someone is happy, he enjoys the music. But when sad, he understands the lyrics. Songs have a way of meeting us where we are and reminding us that, somewhere along the way, someone else. Has experienced or felt the very same things. There is, as Solomon stated, nothing new under the sun, and that is often a source of comfort.

Whether you grew up singing “I’ve Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy down in My Heart” or “The Old Rugged Cross,” hymns are timeless and continue to speak to people throughout the years. Some of the songs mentioned in the are hundreds of years old, and yet the feelings come through just as strongly now as they did to the original singers. That is the power of a hymn. Let the music begin!

Thank You, Father, for these hymns that have been preserved for us throughout history. Help us to continue to sing these songs of praise and worship as expressions of love for You. May the words of these songs keep our hearts and minds tuned to You.

Taken from the book 100 Favorite Hymns ~ Stacy Edwards





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.

*NEW

* **Charla Morgan**, has been moved from the hospital to hospice care. Having been a hospice nurse herself she is very aware of the process and wanted to be where she felt she could still be of comfort to others. If you would like to send her a card, her address is:
Charla Moran, c/o Jenna Barber. 14719 E. Ginger Pear Ct., Cypress, TX 77433
Continue to keep she and her daughter in prayer

* **Barbara**, doing physical therapy for healing after her recent shoulder surgery

Aidan, great grandson of Barbara, undergoing physical therapy after brain surgery

Arnold C., one of the owners where Debra works, will find out the results of his biopsy for pancreatic cancer on March 15

Billy, Debra's son unspoken prayer

Buggie continued prayer for her blood sugar issues

Buddy had a chemo treatment

Janese is struggling with a severe flair-up fibromyalgia; severe headache and pain all over

Jim, liver cancer; needs a transplant, (a request from Adrienne's niece)

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

LeRoyce Savage, an elder from Central is in Hospice care

Lucia, Ron/Lynn's granddaughter, continues to struggle emotionally and physically post COVID

Mary C. has not been able to contact her two sons; pray all is well

Mary C.'s son, Aaron continues to struggle with health issues

Mary N. had a lump removed from her arm last Monday

Millie, Ron's sister-in-law, is being cared for by hospice

Nikki, Nelson's granddaughter, struggling with mental health issues; pray for effective treatment

Sharon is dealing with a lot of pain in her hip

Tank is struggling with health problems

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

TRAVELING

- **Ann and Jan drove to Arizona for the week**
- **Nancy and Ron are back from the coast**