NOVEMBER 8,2025

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

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning
8:30 Bible Classes
Mark 15:1 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
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

MySpectrumWiFif8-2G
MySpectrumWiFif8-5G
password: purplelemon096

Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.
1 Peter 4:8

Lord, your forgiveness, based in your love for me, has transformed my life. I've experienced inner healing and freedom in knowing that you have wiped my slate clean and made me your friend. Help me become an extension of your love to those around me. Let healing happen as I apply the salve of your forgiveness to the wounds others carry and to the wounds they inflict on me. Please strengthen me today while I carry it out in your name.

~ Amen

The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.
~ Marianne Williamson, A Return to Love

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

November 11 – Veteran's Day

November 12 – Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

November 19 – Men's Bible Study in the kitchen at 7:30 a.m.

November 26 – THANKSGIVING DAY (no men's Bible study)

November 29 – Song & Supper 5:30 or 6 pm Bring a dish to share and a song to sing

December 5 – PRAYER BREAKFASTS

Men's in the kitchen at 8:00 a.m.

Women's at 9:30 – Place to be announced

December 8 – Elder's Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

Pastor's Corner

If It Doesn't Kill You . . .

Hebrews 12:5-6, 11 "And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: "My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son. … No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it." **Rev 3:19** "Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent."

This reminds me of a story told about a mule that fell into a deep hole. When this was discovered the mule's owner called some of his friends to help him save the mule. After much discussion it was finally decided that the only thing to be done was to bury the mule alive to minimize his suffering. So, all those available brought their shovels and began throwing dirt into the hole. At first this brought a lot of braying from the mule but soon he became quiet. After some time one of the friends looked into the hole and saw that as each shovel of dirt landed on the mule's back, he would shake it off and then step up onto the dirt. Eventually the mule was able to leap up onto the edge of the hole and trot off. In a similar fashion, each of us could learn to take the struggles and problems that come into our lives and use them to overcome disappointment and hopelessness and to find that spirit illustrated in Paul's comment: "for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances (I am in). **Phil 4:11** A number of Scriptures speaks to our dealing with adversity: **Rom 12:12** "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." **James 1:2,3** "Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, know that the testing of your faith produces endurance and let endurance have it's perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." **Romans 5:3,4** echo's these same sentiments: "Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that **suffering produces perseverance** and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope".

Regardless of the source of our troubles – let us all embrace Paul's message: **Philippians 4:6,7** "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."



A good person produces good out of the good stored up in his heart. An evil person produces evil out of the evil stored up in his heart, for his mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart.
Luke 6:45

I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God.
Romans 8: 38-39 NIV

Lord, help me to remember that nothing can separate me from your love. When I am discouraged or ashamed of my own sin, I want to run to you knowing that your presence is where I belong.



WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL DEFINITION OF FAITH?

The shield of faith described by the apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesian Christians is of paramount importance because it is the grace "with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one" (Ephesians 6:16). This is not an uncertain promise. Rather, it is divine assurance that faith equips up to escape the very extremities of evil. But what is faith?

First, the Bible defines faith as "being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see" (Hebrews 11:1). Thus, in biblical vernacular, faith is a *channel of living trust* – an assurance – that stretches from man to God. In other words, it is the *object* of faith that renders faith faithful.

Furthermore, faith is the assurance that God's promises will never fail, even if sometimes we do not experience their fulfillment in our mortal existence. Hebrews 11 underscores the fact that we trust God to fulfill his promises for the future (the unseen) based on what he has already fulfilled in the past. Thus, our faith is not blind, but based squarely on God's proven faithfulness.

Finally, the faith that serves to protect us in spiritual warfare is not to be confused with mere knowledge. Millions worldwide believe in the trustworthiness of Billy Graham. They have heard him proclaim the good news on television and yet do not believe that his message corresponds to reality. Thus, they have the knowledge that it takes to be saved but do not have saving faith. Others hear the message, agree that is corresponds to reality, but due to the hardness of their hearts do not bow. Rather, like the demons, they continue to live in fearful anticipation of the judgment to come (James 2:19). Some however, have what Scripture describes as genuine justifying faith – a faith that not only knows about the gospel and agrees that its content corresponds to reality, but a faith by which they are transformed.

(In part, adapted from The Covering by Hank Hanegraff)

Prayer Request

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

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

Earl came through his surgery fine and has been recuperating at home

Mark/Leann traveled home this week

Reuben, Sally's brother, is having numerous doctor visits/tests this week

Adrianne continues to struggle with her health issues; several tests this week

Ayden, John/Ashley's son, is struggling with some teenage problems

Anthony's (visitor) **mom** is having health problems

Vivian, blood pressure fluctuations continue; was at ER on Wednesday

Rosa Lopez, new friend of Vivian's who will be having a kidney removed November 18th due to cancer.

Sandy, more tests and waiting

Continued Pray

Barbara & LeRoy, Sandy continue to have issues and are under doctor supervision and waiting for results

Mike, doctors are still working on finding a solution to his blood pressure problem

Debra waiting on results of her nerve tests

Clara, Buggie's friend, suffering from a low hemoglobin count

Marsha, friend of the Nelsons, is having pancreatic surgery soon to deal with a tumor on her pancreas

Reuben, Borjas's brother-n-law, needs knee surgery as soon as possible

Clara, Buggies friend, waiting for the pathologist results from her recent surgery

Sally, having knee issues

Borjas's grandson is having serious health issues

Joe/Lori's children as they deal with various life struggles

John and Ashley are dealing with personal family issues

Rhonda, Trina's friend, has been diagnosed with state four lung cancer

Sally's brother, **Reuben**, is struggling with back pain

Tank as he deals with health issues and **Mary** as she cares for him

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service.
1 Timothy 1:12 NIV

