

# Merry Christmas

Dec. 22, 2024

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

Wishing you a blessed time with your family this Christmas. May Christ's love surround you and your loved ones as you celebrate the gift of his birth.



## Upcoming EVENTS

Thursday Meals are on pause during the holiday season and begin again after the New Year on January 9<sup>th</sup>. If you will help out with a dessert or cookies let LaDona know.

**NO Movie and Pizza Nights October - December**

We will start again in 2025 if there is an interest.

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

**December 29 - Song and Supper in the kitchen at 6:00**

**January 4 - No Prayer Breakfasts for January**

**January 7 - Elders Meeting @ 8:00a.m.**

**January 9 - Thursday night meals resume**

## LET EVERY DAY BE CHRISTMAS

*Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is good you do yourself.*

*Norman Wesley Brooks*

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### WORSHIP TIME

**Sunday Morning**

**8:30 Bible Classes**

**John 13:6 ff**

Classes in English & Spanish



**9:00 Prayer Worship**

Please give us your requests

**9:30 Worship Service**

Worship in English & Spanish

#### 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](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

[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**

## Pastors Corner of Light: MERRY CHRISTMAS

I picked some selections which have to do with our being with family and friends and with the thought that **all year** should reflect the Christmas spirit. Read **1 Cor 13** and see the **CHRIST**mas spirit in LIFE!!! Verse 8 begins with: "Love never ends". May we truly understand that and live it. **V. 13** tells us that love is greater than faith and hope. LOVE is the foundation of the other two. **I Jhn 3:28** "Little children, **let us not love** in word or talk but **in deed** and truth." ACTION truly does speak louder than words. Let us love without reservation or condition. Read the thirteenth chapter of Corinthians on a monthly basis and live up to these inspired words. May the words below uplift you and help instill a holiday spirit. Blessings!!!  
P.S. Merry **Christmas**

- 1) The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other. ~Burton Hillis
- 2) O child... it is only for thirty-six hours of the three hundred and sixty-five days, that all people remember that they are all brothers and sisters, and those are the hours that we call, therefore, Christmas eve and Christmas day. ~Edward E. Hale, "Christmas Waits in Boston,
- 3) Christmas is a necessity. There has to be at least one day of the year to remind us that we're here for something else besides ourselves. ~Eric Sevareid
- 4) Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart. ~Washington Irving
- 5) Gifts of time and love are surely the basic ingredients of a truly merry Christmas. ~Peg Bracken
- 6) For centuries men have kept an appointment with Christmas. Christmas means fellowship, feasting, giving and receiving, a time of good cheer, home. ~W.J. Ronald Tucker
- 7) Christmas is forever, not for just one day, for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf. The good you do for others is good you do yourself... ~Norman Wesley Brooks (1923–2002), "Let Every Day Be Christmas," 1976

*"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.'"*

*Luke 2:10-11*



***As the Father has loved me so have I loved you. Abide in my love.***

***~ John 15:9 (ESV)***

I held the baby against my chest as my rocker arced to and fro, but he continued to cry – not a whimper but a red-faced, real-tears, all-out wail. This little one was comfortable with me. I mentored his mama. I'd been in his life since his beginning. But he wasn't feeling well.

Mama would be back soon, but every moment was one moment too long. I stood. Moved him to my shoulder. Swayed. No help for this little mister. Until Mama returned. Once he was in her arms, the crying ceased. He rested, tiny face pressed into the curve of her. His fists unclenched. Cheeks stained red returned to pink. Her presence brought peace.

It reminded me of the time in God's word when two sisters waited for the peace of Jesus's presence when their brother, Lazarus, was ill. But Jess didn't arrive until Lazarus was in the grave.

Martha met him with anguish. "Jesus," she said, "if You'd been here, he wouldn't have died."

The sisters had longed for a healing. But Jesus called Lazarus from the grave, and they received a resurrection. The presence of Jesus is like that – always more powerful than we can imagine. It changes circumstance and soul.

I often succumb to worry over my loved ones or over a tough circumstance I can't see the end of. My soul cries like a babe needing comfort. When I'm so disturbed that I'm distraught, I can be sure that I've not practiced being the presence of Jesus.

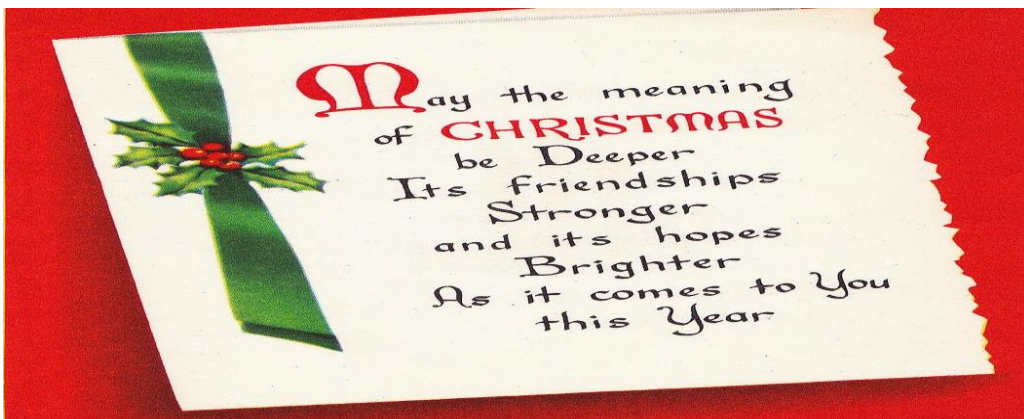
He brings hope. He works in ways I cannot fathom. Trusting the presence of Jesus is training myself to receive peace.

With the little one lost in sweet slumber, his mama and I sat and visited. The rocker creaked as soft and gentle as our words.

Presence changes everything.

***Jesus, Your Presence quiets me. Amen.***

*(Taken from Walking in Grace 2022)*





PRAYER REQUESTS  
TOGETHER WE WILL PRAY

*If you need prayer, please let the Elders know, put a note in the box in back of the auditorium or call Vivian Fisher (889-4075) to start the prayer chain.*

**NEW**

- ❖ **Prayers of Love and Compassion for the Lost!**
- ❖ **Buddy's** P.E.T. scan was good (Praises); he will have another one in 6 months
- ❖ **Leon**, Trina's uncle, is out of ICU; Praises!
- ❖ **Jason**, Sharon's son, out of the hospital and at home; Praises!
- ❖ **Leann Keeley** is improving but is still struggling with a persistent infection
- ❖ **Parice**, Nancy's DIL, is home from the hospital (Praises); is now on insulin and will be looking for an endocrinologist to help manage her diabetes
- ❖ **Shawn Tiger's Family**, friend of Sharon's, Shawn passed away recently

**Casey**, a young friend of Nancy's, stage 4 cancer in his face; an eye removed and is on a feeding tube; prayer for healing

**One of Earl's nephews** is serving in Syria; prayers for all our first responders

**Bill**, Debra's brother, diagnosed with Lymphoma. Treatment to be determined.

**Mary C's granddaughter** has been incarcerated

**Buggie** fell and broke her kneecap and is wearing a brace

**Mike** had an MRI; appointment later for result of previous results

**Robert** continues to struggle with back pain

**Jan**, needs a knee replacement; doing physical therapy for back

**Chad**, Nelson's son-in-law, blood clots

**Adrienne's granddaughters** lost their grandmother in a house fire in Iowa

**Ron's brother/wife**, serious health issues and other difficulties

**Susie Tracy**, continued prayer for her; dealing with her husband's recent death

**Connie** will be having a medical test on December 17.

**Ronnie**, Nancy's son, fractured ankle

**Hannah**, Trina's daughter, continued prayer for her

**Wendy**, member of Debra's family, brain cancer

**Westley** as he awaits court's decision

**Jim White family**; loss of Cheryl

**Trina's relative, Holden**, tested positive for Valley Fever

**Everett**, a relative of Nancy's, is nearing his final days due to his cancer.

**Mary P.'s relative, Sam**, is recovering from a **serious** heart condition

**Chris and Jonah**, friends of Trina's who are soldiers in the Middle East

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

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

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

