



30, 2025

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

# Important Dates

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

If you will help out with a dessert or cookies let LaDona know.

**March 30 - Celebration Lunch following Services for Rebecca and Sammy's Birthdays**

**March 30 - Song & Supper 6:00 p.m.**

**April 1 - Elder's Meeting at 8 a.m.**

**April 3 - Thursday night dinner at 5:30**

**April 5 - Men's Prayer Breakfast in kitchen at 8 a.m.**  
**Women's Breakfast at Jan's at 9:30 a.m.**



- 2 - Dayana Martinez
- 3 - Leah Froehlich
- 4 - Joyce Vontz
- 4 - Eddie Fisher
- 17 - Diana Moreno
- 23 - Italvy Moreno
- 24 - April Barton
- 28 - Robert Tucker, Jr.



to Garry and Jan (#54) on April 3

### APRIL COOKS:

- April 3 - Nancy and Ron
- April 10 - Adrienne and Barbara
- April 17 - Darlene
- April 24 - Barbara and LeRoy



### WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning  
 8:30 Bible Classes  
 1 Samuel 2  
 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](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  
 MySpectrumWiFi8-2G  
 MySpectrumWiFi8-5G  
 password: purplelemon096

## PASTOR'S CORNER - Finding a Ministry of Love

The Lord answered the question regarding WHO is our neighbor that we should love by telling the Parable of the Good Samaritan. It would appear to be anyone in trouble. It seems those who are poor and struggling for daily sustenance deserve our "LOVE". Our response then becomes that "light" shining into their lives (**Mt 5:16**). It is this way that our doing good works brings glory to God. The apostle Paul speaks to this: "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works ... that we should walk in them" (**Eph 2:10**). Doing good work certainly addresses what should be our response to those who are poor and less fortunate. John expresses it this way: **1 John 3:17** "But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?"

New Testament teaching that God desires us to attend to the needs of those less fortunate is not a new idea. A number of Old Testament passages speak to this: **Deut 15:7,8** "If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of the towns within your land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be. **Prov 14:31** "Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him. God honors such generosity and responds to our love with His love: **Prov 19:17** "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and He will repay him for his deed."

It has been pointed out that while North Americans tend to think of poverty in terms of "a lack of material things such as food, money, clean water, medicine, housing, etc.," this is not how the poor evaluate their situation. When poor people mention having a lack of what they need they tend to describe their condition in terms of shame, inferiority, powerlessness, humiliation, fear, hopelessness, depression, social isolation, and voicelessness. It is right for Christians to regularly give food, shelter, and other necessities to those who are poor and cannot afford these things. But just as importantly, when possible, is the development of relationships whereby we can address their emotional and spiritual needs as well. Our good works will bring glory to God when we are able to bring the message of salvation to their hearts and minds and eventually their lives. Let us try to get down into that ditch with the broken person and show and teach the love of God to them!!!



*Dear Lord,*

*Help me choose an attitude of cheerfulness. Let me be a joyful Christian, quick to smile and slow to anger. And let me share Your goodness with all whom I meet so that Your love might shine in me and through me.*

*Amen*

***Human beings, who were created to live in awe of God, are in grave danger when familiarity causes them to be bored with God.***

Familiarity is a beautiful thing. It's wonderful to be familiar with a beautiful piece of music. It means you've been blessed to hear it over and over again. It's a blessing to be familiar with roses because it means you have the privilege of having bushes nearby that you lay your eyes on every day. But the blessing of blessings is to be familiar with the ways, the character, the presence, and the promises of God. That means that grace has bridged the separation between you and God, and has drawn you into close communion with him. It also means that the Spirit of God has opened our eyes, heart, and mind to the things of God, so that what was once foolishness to you now brings you hope, comfort, and joy.

Yes, familiarity *is* a wonderful thing, but it can also be a very dangerous thing. Here is the scary dynamic of familiarity – the more you are near something and the more familiar it becomes, the less you actually see and appreciate that thing in the way you once did. When you first bought your house, perhaps you were blown away by the grand, majestic two-hundred-year-old tree that stood regally in the backyard. But something has happened as the years have gone by. You don't really see that tree anymore. It doesn't blow you away anymore, and the only time you talk about it is when you complain that you have to rake the piles of leaves it annually drops. Familiarity can be a dangerous thing.

Now, here's the vertical connection. Every human being was designed by God to have his hopes, dreams, choices, words, actions, desires, and motivations shaped by a jaw-dropping, heart-controlling, life-shaping awe of God. The stunning reality of God's existence and his grandeur and glory were meant to be at the center of human consciousness. We were all meant to live with a God awareness and, because of that awareness, to live in a Godward way. Awe of God was designed to be the principal motivation for everything we would ever do. But something happens to us as we are drawn into a close relationship with God and are blessed to live close to his secret things. Familiarity causes us to lose our awe of God. What once stunned us doesn't anymore. What produced worship in our hearts doesn't anymore. What caused us to act with hope and courage doesn't anymore. What caused us to say no to sin and yes to righteousness doesn't anymore. I am afraid that many of us have lost our awe of God and we don't even know it.

Is there evidence in your life that you are awe deficient? Cry out for eyes to see once again, for a heart ripped by awe once again. And be thankful for the grace that assures you that you will be heard and answered.

***For further study and encouragement: Isaiah 6***

*(Taken from New Morning Mercies by Paul David Tripp)*

# Prayer REQUESTS

*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

- ❖ **Lord**, give me concern and compassion for the lost I meet today. Open doors so I might share YOUR message.
- ❖ **Praise – Jan's** biopsy was okay
- ❖ **Amanda** – Mike and Sandy's granddaughter had hysterectomy Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **Jesse** – Mike and Sandy's great-grandson will be seeing pediatric urologist Monday 31<sup>st</sup>

**Joyce** will be having knee replacement surgery on April 10

**Kathy**, Buddy's SIL, had surgery and needs prayer

**Rhonda**, Nina's niece, heart valve surgery went well

**Nicole**, Trina's family member, had a lump discovered; having an MRI

Trina's **Aunt Betty and daughter Lori** are struggling with health problems

**Erica**, Adrienne's friend, has cancer and a tumor has been found in her head (she is traveling to get treatment)

**Casey**, young friend of Nancy's, is back in the hospital not doing well

**Ronnie**, Nancy's son, is need of prayers for physical, mental and spiritual health

**All those affected by the recent tornadoes**

**Rose** foot is doing better but still has to wear brace another month

**Tom and Joyce** are struggling with some issues

**Joann**, Joyce's sister, is having health issues

**Oliver**, Earl's friend, is struggling with throat cancer

**Monroe**, child of Natalie's best friend, needs prayer as well as the family

**Debra** will be seeing a vascular surgeon in April

**Jessie**, Earl's relative, had his cancer return and has spread throughout his body

**Brenda** is improving after surgery but financial situation is critical

**Colleen**, Sharon's family member, collapsed; may be the result of heart problems

**Kristina**, Debra's co-worker, is struggling with serious liver/kidney problems

**Lynn M.** and **Nick B.** are struggling with health issues.

**Bill**, Debra's brother, cancer treatments

**Robert** continues to struggle with back pain

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

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

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

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

**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

