



27, 2025

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

UPCOMING

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.

May 1 - Thursday night dinner at 5:30

May 3 - Men's Prayer Breakfast in kitchen at 8 a.m.

Women's Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. at Vivian's

May 6 - Elder's Meeting at 8:00 a.m.



To all who participated the Easter Egg hunt by providing stuffed eggs and hiding them.

AND

To all who help to make our Thursday night meals and serve, wash dishes and clean up.

MAY COOKS:

May 1 - Buggie and Sharon

May 8 - Adrienne & Barbara

May 15 - Jan

May 22 - Barbara & LeRoy

May 29 - TBD



Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, 'children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.' Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky."

(Philippians 2:14-15, NIV)

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning

8:30 Bible Classes

1 Samuel 7:7

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

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](tel: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

PASTOR'S CORNER - Growing and Recharging Part 2

Last week I offered some encouragement for those days when it seems like everything is going wrong. Peter tells us *"Like a newborn infant, desire the pure spiritual milk, so that you may grow by it for your salvation."* (1 Pe 2:2) It is likely that he is making reference to our spiritual salvation but I believe that can just as easily relate to our "spirit" of heart and mind as well as our spiritual soul. How often does our "spirit" take a beating in living in this broken world? Turning to find comfort and understanding in God's word is a guaranteed way out. In reading God's word we will find God. **Psalm 18:30-32** "As for God, His way is blameless; the word of the Lord is tried; He is a shield to all who take refuge in Him. Who is God – but the Lord – who girds me with strength and makes my way blameless."

There is a secondary source of comfort and peace. There is a secondary location for finding God. **Mt 18:20** "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." And where do we find our brotherhood gathering – the local Sunday morning assembly. **Acts 2:42** "They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching (God's word) **and to fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Additionally, verse 46 tells us they were meeting day by day, breaking bread from house to house, taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart! There is much joy, comfort and encouragement in spending time with brothers and sisters who are of a like mind, sharing the same goal and purpose in life. The Ecclesiastes writer shared this thought: "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up." – **Eccl 4:9-10**

This idea of lifting one another up is the reason the Hebrew writer tells us: "consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds" and not [forsake] our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near" (**Hebrews 10:24, 25**).

The idea of giving and receiving encouragement is one of the purposes of our assembling together. The Ephesians' writer tells us in 4:32 that we are to be kind to one another, tenderhearted and forgiving. This can only happen if we are interacting and being involved in one another's lives. Compassion and forgiveness are key attributes of the Christian life. These are key characteristics in following the command to love our neighbor. When we are giving and receiving love, we are enjoying that abundant life which the Lord promised us in John 10:10. So when your days are a struggle and the future looks bleak – turn to God in prayer and study and turn to a brother or sister and let them know your struggles so they can pray for you and lift you up – we all need it as some point – even the Lord brought three of His close disciples with Him in the Garden.



ENEMIES

***You prepare a feast for me in
the presence of my enemies. . . .
My cup overflows with blessings.
Psalm 23:5 NLT***

This is another one of those Bible verses that doesn't make sense at first glance. We think of blessings as things we experience in happy times, when life seems good – not when we're surrounded by enemies. And yet the Bible promises that this is the very situation where God will lay out a feast for us to eat.

Your enemies may come in various shapes and forms. They could be your emotions that threaten to overcome you with depression, anxiety, or anger. They might be other people who give you a hard time, either at home, at work, or in your community. Your enemies could be spiritual forces, or they could be destructive forces in our society. The psalmist didn't specify what kind of enemy. But he did promise that God is blessing you even in the midst of troubles – so much so that your cup will overflow!

***God, when I feel as though I'm
surrounded by enemies, remind me
that even then, You are blessing me.***

(Taken from God Calls You Blessed)

IN THE GARDEN

Where do you go when you want to have time alone with God? Perhaps you go to your favorite chair with a cozy blanket and your Bible. Maybe you sit on your porch with a view of rolling hills, an oceanfront, or some other beautiful scenery. It could be that you, like this hymn described, spend time walking in the garden with the Lord. Then again, it's possible that your life is complicated and chaotic and there isn't a perfect and peaceful place for you to slip away to be alone with your Savior. The latter scenario is the case for many of us which makes the story behind "In the Garden" so wonderful.

When C. Austin Miles penned this hymn, he was not in the habit of walking in the garden. In fact, according to his great-granddaughter, it was written in a dark, dreary, and leaky basement in New Jersey. Not only did he not have a view of a garden, he didn't even have a window. Yet, in his mind's eye, he saw a garden perfectly and wrote in such a way as to make all who read and sing his words feel that they were walking right along beside him.

"In the Garden" is a beautiful reminder that we can be alone with God regardless of our circumstances. Whether we are walking in a garden in the early morning hours or sitting in a cold basement in the middle of winter, Scripture reminds us that God is always in our midst (Zephaniah 3:17).

***I'm so grateful, Lord, that wherever I am, You
still walk with me and talk with me.***

(Taken from 100 Favorite Hymns)

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.**
- ❖ **Russ**, Fisher's family member, had knee surgery; pray for recovery and the blood clot issues he is having
- ❖ **Debra's** test on her aneurysm shows it stable; will recheck in a year
- ❖ **Syble** struggling with various health issues
- ❖ **Jason**, 20 year-old grandson of Syble's friend, has bone cancer that has spread and chemo is not working; pray for healing and for him to come to know the Lord

April continues to struggle with her situation

Oliver, Earl's friend, started his chemo treatment for his throat cancer

Van Groningen family, Jan's cousin, the sudden death of Tom

James, Darlene's brother, will begin chemo; surgery after chemo

Joyce is doing better with pain after surgery; has people there to help her

Adrianne is experiencing a flare up with her sciatic nerve

Tank began six weeks of chemotherapy

Buggy and her husband **Gary** are both struggling with health issues

Sammy's pray for quick healing for his ulcer

Barbara Pflugh is struggling with back pain

Rhonda, Nina's niece, hemoglobin still going low; still trying to figure out the cause

Parise, Nancy's DIL, will be having a endoscopy to see if ulcers have healed

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

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

Casey, young friend of Nancy's, finished chemo and radiation; still on feeding tube

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

Rose's foot is doing better

Tom and Joyce are struggling with some issues

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

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

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

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.

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