



19, 2023

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

BIBLE CLASS

Joshua 1-5

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

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

Deacons

Mark Keeley 333-3677
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

MySpectrumWiFif8-2G

MySpectrumWiFif8-5G

password: purplelemon096

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday night dinners are taking a break until after the holidays.

They will resume on January 4th. Cooks will be Ann and Jan

Dec. 2nd Men's Prayer Breakfast in the kitchen at 8:00 a.m.

Dec. 9th Women's Prayer Brunch ~ at 9:30 a.m at Jan's home

Dec. 5th Elders meet at Church Kitchen at 8:00 a.m. If you have questions or comments, please put in the box or see one of the Elders.

NO MOVIE NIGHTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER. THEY WILL RESUME JANUARY 12th

CLEANING



There are sign-up sheets on the round table in back for November 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 that you or your family would pick 1 of the 3 chores that need to be done. THANK YOU!

Nov. 20 – 24	1) ?????	2) Jim	3) ??????
Nov. 27 – 30	1) ?????	2) ????	3) ???????

Too much criticism, Lord, will poison the relationships I enjoy. Help me not nag or put people down when they make mistakes. Instead, let me remember my own fallibility as I encounter flaws in others. Help me remember that we are all works in progress, people whom you are patiently correcting and nurturing toward spiritual maturity. Grant me an ample measure of your mercy, grace, patience, encouragement, and love when I'm with my family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers.



happy thanksgiving

Pastor's Corner of Light: Why Does Suffering Happen?

In last week's article I shared that suffering happens because of sin – sin which results in bad behavior by people and a broken creation. But we know from other Scriptures that this broken state of things is not forever. There is coming for us a new heaven and a new earth where we will spend eternity with our heavenly Father. In the meantime, we need to acknowledge the Lord in our lives and live accordingly.

"Behold, the days are coming when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah . . . For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Jer 31:31,33) "And behold, I am always with you, to the end of the age" (Mtt 28:20)

This relationship with the Lord should bring faith in **Rom 8:28** where God promises to bring good into our lives, by using the suffering that occurs. The story of Joseph being sold into slavery and brought to Egypt is a prime example of God bringing good out of a bad situation. Because we cannot see the future and how God is working FOR us, we must have faith and trust that He IS taking care of us. *"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him."* **(2 Cor 2:9)**

Another understanding which should always be prominent in our thinking is that regardless of how tough things may get sometimes we need to KNOW that this is a **temporary** situation. *"Therefore, we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison."* **(2 Cor 4:16,17)** AND *"I consider that our present suffering are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."* **(Rom 8:18)**

Consider the pain of child birth and the fact that women have more than one child. The reward of bringing a life into their lives is reward enough to do what they do – time and AGAIN! The question that remains is how are we going to handle/process the troubles that come into our lives? Will we humbly trust in Him to bring peace and resolution or will we become bitter and accusatory? Do we truly believe that He has overcome and will bring LIFE into our lives? If you will read **Revelation 21** and see the majesty of where we will spend eternity then you will be uplifted and encouraged to remain steadfast and faithful. **(2 Tim 4:8; James 1:12)** For more info. Read Lee Strobel's "The Case for Faith".

***You simply can't debate it – God's way is better than your way.
His plan is infinitely better than any plan you would have for yourself.***

I was so discouraged. I was through. I had planned my exit and was pretty certain about where I would land next. The plan looked good to me, much better than what I had been going through. I was going to exit the nightmare and go live the dream. The problem was that God had a much, much better plan for me. I thought I knew better. I thought I knew exactly what was coming next. I had written the next chapter of my story. But I had forgotten that someone else was the author.

I had been chasing my ministry dream, but I didn't know it. Nothing had worked out according to my little self-oriented plan. I wasn't appreciated in the way that I thought I deserved to be appreciated, and there was much more trouble in our little church than I had ever thought I would encounter. The dream had become a nightmare, so I thought the wisest thing to do was to get out quickly and make a fresh start. But God had another plan.

At the end of the service where I announced my resignation, the oldest man in our congregation waited on the porch of the church for me. We were the last two to leave. He came up to me and asked if he could speak to me, then said: "We know you're discouraged and we know you're a bit immature, but we haven't asked you to leave. Where is the church going to get mature pastors if the immature ones leave?" God had interrupted my plan. I knew immediately that he was right. I knew immediately I was running because my dream had blown up in my face. And I knew right there, right then that I could not leave. I went home and told my wife that we couldn't leave and I called my elders and asked to rescind my resignation.

I stayed for many more years – years of growth in both grace and ministry. Nothing I have experienced since would have happened if I had left. All the blessings and trials of ministry that have enabled me to do what I now do would have been missed. I was going to jump ship and leave pastoral ministry. But thankfully I am not the author of my own personal story.

Your story isn't an autobiography either. Your story is a biography of wisdom and grace written by another. Every turn he writes into your story is right. Every twist of the plot is for the best. Every new character or unexpected event is a tool of his grace. Each new chapter advances his purpose. "Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the Lord are right" (Hos. 14:9). It is almost a gross understatement to say that God's ways are better. How could they not be? He is infinite in wisdom and grace!

***For further study and encouragement: Psalm 118
Taken from New Morning Mercies by Paul David Tripp***

As white snowflakes fall quietly and thickly on a winter day, answers to prayer will settle down upon you at every step you take. . . . The story of your life will be the story of prayer and answers to prayer.

~ Ole Hallesby





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

***NEW**

Lord, give me the same concern and compassion for the lost that you have. Open doors that I might share your message of love and salvation.

* **Wilson family**, Woody passed away; services are tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. at Valley Bible

* **Randy Wilson**, Woody's son, is being cared for by hospice for his **cancer**

* **Trina's mom, Sharon**, is in much need of a doctor's appointment for her arm

* **Martha**, Connie's cousin, is having surgery tomorrow for lung cancer

* **Demetrio** has an appointment with a neurologist in January

* **Buddy** had several tests run this past week and will see oncologist on the 22nd

* **Nina** had a heart procedure on Friday for a leaky valve

* **April** has been ill with a bad cold

* **Eddie** is feeling better but is still mending

* **Nina** had a test for the leaky valve this past week and will see the cardiologist this Friday

* **Jeff**, Nancy's son, is having rotator cuff surgery this week

* **Patricia**, Nancy's cousin, had a kidney transplant last week; prayer for no rejection

* **Winkler family**, Jan's cousins, have many issues going on; father had a massive heart attack a week ago, his son is dealing with lymphoma and son's wife fell 30 feet last week while on vacation and passed away leaving a 9 year old son

Buggy's husband, Gary, continues to have on-again, off-again, health problems

Woody Wilson, Joyce's BIL had a stroke

Sandy is having physical therapy Wednesday and Friday

Smart Family as several members struggle with cancer

Jose is in the hospital with liver and kidney issues

Tank, ill

Mary C.'s son, Aaron, is going to need neck surgery

Kali, Nina's granddaughter is struggling with severe headaches and personal issues

Karen, caregiver at Carrington, has a daughter in hospital with breathing problems

Adelfa's sister in Mexico is very ill

Janese, dealing with some family issues

Nina's grandson is having health and family issues

Continued prayers for James' aunt Laurie with family issues

Billy, Debra's son unspoken prayer

Tate, Nina's grandson, having health and family issues

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

Barbara continues to be struggling with her back pain

Mary N. and Mary C. having struggles with their health

We have moved several of those on our New Prayer List to the Long-Term Prayer List that will put out once a month so please remember to let us know updates on any of those on prayer lists so we can give updates! Just because we move the name off does not mean we are not to continue to pray for that person.

