

**From the Preacher's Pen...** When we are remembering something or someone that is truly precious to us, we can never get enough of the memories. Each good memory leads to another and every single one of them becomes more priceless with time.

Do you suppose that is exactly how we should view the greatest gift, the greatest sacrifice ever given for us? Yes, we remembered last week, but is that enough? Or is there something truly worth our effort to keep on remembering?

## In Memory

*Now I make known to you, brethren, the good news which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).*

Of all the great events in history, of all the great sacrifices any hero has ever made for his loved ones, there is one that clearly stands above all the rest. Consider the challenge for us to have the same character as this greatest of all heroes. He was the creator, the "in-the-beginning-God" that made us and everything else. Yet when He saw that His own death was the only possible thing that could redeem our eternal life from eternal death, He did not hesitate to lay aside His deity, His equality with God. He emptied Himself of all that He possessed to be a slave and a human being. As a man, he even gave again all that He was and had, to die. Not just any death would make the sacrifice complete. Not only did the lamb have to be perfect, but it had to die at the peak of its perfection, slaughtered so that its death might bring life to another. And so He died in seeming shame on that cross.

Were this all to the story, we would feel the need to build some great monument to His memory. But no building, no human structure could ever tell this story or show this love. God honored Him with an honored name above all others. A name so great that everyone past and present, everyone on earth, in heaven and every hero that ever existed would honor Him above all others. A name so great that no one could ever deny that He is now Sovereign Ruler over all and be brought to their knees to honor Him before God. (Cf. Philippians 2:5-11)

Does this sound like someone ordinary in any sense of the word? Does this sound like anyone we could ever be like? Does this even sound like someone we could possibly honor in any way great enough to show just how great He was?

Now, just suppose that this great hero above all heroes asked us to gather and honor Him by encouraging each other. Suppose He chose a day for that memorial, the day He Himself used to display that even death itself had no real, no lasting power over Him. Suppose that He asked us to recreate His own death, burial and resurrection to show that we understood and accepted His gift. Supposed that He asked us from that point on to "celebrate" that same death on the very day that He arose from the grave. Suppose that He even asked that we continue this memorial day celebration until He returns to take us home to be with Him in Heaven. How would that day be honored?

Such a day, such a memorial event *should* see the whole range of human emotions from great solemnity and sorrow to great joy and rejoicing. But such a day, honoring such an event, by such a saved people could not really happen, could it? After all, there are really important baseball games or football games that deserve much more of our attention, aren't there? Aren't there so many nice things that we could do with our children?

There's an old saying that "Good" is the enemy of "Great"! Too often we are willing to accept some much lesser thing than the true greatness of our God and Savior. The challenge is to aspire to the *truly GREAT*, to make the continued effort necessary to show our appreciation for what is the best of all.

If there is *really* any encouragement in our Savior, if there is *really* any love that we have for the one who died for us, if there is *really* any fellowship between us and God and between me and His family, if we *really* care... then we would maintain our love, our unity in spirit, our intent fixed on one purpose. We would never do anything so selfish or so conceited as to put ourselves above our brethren or our Savior. Indeed, we would strive to have the same attitude with our lives and service that Jesus had! (Cf. Philippians 2:1-5ff)

Time has passed and our home in heaven is drawing nearer. Do we appear to the world as those who understand and honor our Savior and His sacrificed life for us? Do we really honor Him? What are you doing this week in His memory?

### Opportunities to worship, study & serve:

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY ..... 10 AM

WORSHIP ..... 11 AM

EVENING WORSHIP ..... 6 PM

WEDNESDAY ..... 7 PM

THURSDAY LADIES' BIBLE CLASS ..... 10 AM

Congregational Potluck 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
each month after morning worship  
(except June, July & August)

**Welcome to all!**  
**We are glad you are here!**

**Enter to Worship...**  
**Leave to Serve**

**Welcome to our visitors today!** We hope & pray you'll be blessed by your time with us & will join us again soon!

**Visitors Last Week included:** Bryant & Ruby Dukes of Colorado Springs, CO; Linda Hagen of MN; Jan Nong of Colubiana, OH; Joe & Lou Wrinkle of Pueblo, CO.

**Our Prayer List:** Keep the following in prayer this week as you "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17): Nora McNeil, Matthew Odom, Lois Nowlin, Heather Ries, Hunter Shirley, Rene Turner, Ruth West, Everett Martin, Anna Mae Hardin, Guy Turpin, Jennette Ivory, Eric Aragon, the Najera family, Bill Hall, Reta Wallace, Jim & Ann Holder, Wally Myers and...

**Our Missionaries:** Jack Farber and Aaron Knotts and families.

**Previously Announced Family & Friends:** Robin & Marc Estabrook (Julie Evan's sister & nephew), David Reffner (Flora Doster's grandson with MS), Art Stoneking (friend of Carl Catozzi, cancer), Leslie Hill (John's mother, cancer), Jeremiah Haller (Flora Doster's grandson), Annette (Cindy Turpin's sister), Cole Myers (grandson of friend of Myers), Sheila Simpson, Lillian Wilhite & Danny Wilhite (relatives of Lynn Shirley), Teresa Acosta, Rosemary Glasier (Crystal Mora-Landroth's mother), John Hoover's relatives with personal difficulties, Shelly Cooper (friend of Carl Catozzi), Justin Gall (friend of Michalyn in rehab from an auto accident), Lucas Espinoza (Brian Campbell's friend), Sharon Laurita (Barbara Grubbs friend, cancer), Kaesha Raffterfer (Gene Pinkston's cousin, cancer), Randy Landreth's dad (cancer), Chuck Keels (friend of Grubbs with cancer), Terri Fillipski (cancer, Julie Evans' cousin).

**Special Requests:** WBS & WEI Bible study students; Kevin & Nancy Chambers & World Christian Broadcasting; Judy Hagner, son Preston, daughter Angela & son James. Brandi Schroeder (Flora Doster's granddaughter with MS); Dallas Purcella's mother; Paulina's father (Arnold); Julie's father; Laurel's father, Marla Henderson's father.



**OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Nate Panka (Cleo Wise's grandson); Javier Najera; Fernando Najera, Frank Torres (Javier's brother & cousin); Eric Shirley; Trevor Farrow (Allen's son); Scott Hoover (John's son); Ariel Gomez; Paul Sipes & April Belovedstone (Sue Wolfe's son & daughter); Robert Strickland (Cleo Wise's grand-nephew); Ismael Lopez; Robinson Goldman (Cindy Turpin's son-in-law) Nathan Bagley.

**New:**

**Jason:** son of Carl Catozzi in need of prayers.

**Dr. Yanni:** friend of John Hoover with cancer.

**Susan Fowler:** friend of Bob & Sherry Harrison with MS.

**Michelle Harrison:** daughter of Bob & Sherry, spiritual struggles.

**Michael Lightheart:** son-in-law of Flora Doster, health problems.

**Carlene Cunningham:** Jeanne Martin's sister-in-law with cancer.

**Andy Newland:** friend of Odom's daughter, Jeri, with cancer.

**Amy Vestle:** lupus.

**Jim Henness:** friend of Odom's with back problems.

**Jimmy Handtegen:** friend of David Davis following a stroke.

**Curt Odom:** back problems.

**Derwin Jackson & family:** with his job.

**Eugene Pinkston:** while on the road.

**Sean & Vickie:** Carl Catozzi's friends with struggles in their lives.

**Terri Hoover:** John's daughter-in-law with serious health issues.

**Michalyn Grubbs friend/co-worker:** in need of prayers.

**Monica Lopez:** George Mora's aunt with breast cancer.

**The Jenkins family:** friends of Sue Wolfe with struggles.

**Grandson of Jackie Odom's friend:** still improving!

**Rhett Booher:** Gary & Toni Pierce's grandson with chronic migraines from Traumatic Brain Injury while in the Army.

**Melinda Wendt:** Julie Evan's aunt in hospice.

**Jacob Shirley:** struggles.

**Marty Hall:** son of the Halls recovering from surgery.

**Ray Stephenson family:** youngest son's cancer has spread.

**Kristi Martin:** needs our prayers.

**Allen Farrow family:** his brother has rejected his kidney transplant.

**Ann Holder:** in Oasis room D-105.

**Ann Mae Hardin:** in Oasis room D-113.

**Jerry Odom:** recovering from shoulder surgery

**LaVerne Jackson's mother:** with heart blood-clots.

**Also Our New Christians, those travelling and especially those with spiritual struggles.**

*Champions for Change!*  
*For NM Christian Children's Home*

*Cans are available in the foyer. Time to take one, fill and return it. We are also collecting Liquid Dishwasher Detergent for the home..*

*Pickup is scheduled for April 28*

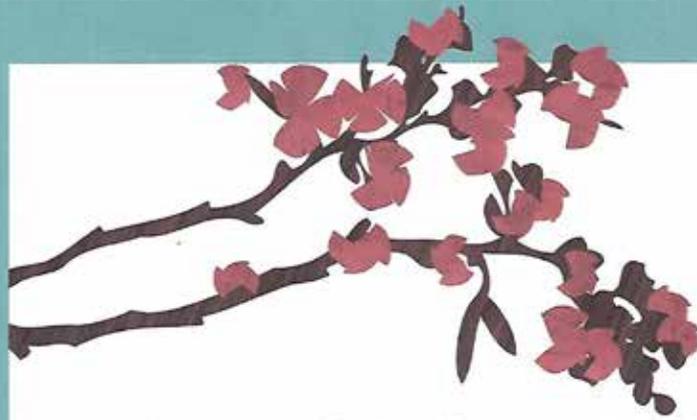
## Upcoming Events...

**Men's Business Meeting:** TONIGHT after evening worship.

**Potluck:** March 19 — Group #3 [Cheryl Aragon's group] set-up, serve & clean-up

**Monthly Singing:** March 26 at 2:30 here.

**5th Wednesday Prayer & Song Meeting:** March 29.



# SENIOR SAINTS BANQUET

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017

TIME: 11:30 am

LOCATION: Casa Grande church of Christ

Serving: Turkey Dinner

Please RSVP  
On Sign Up Sheet  
In Foyer  
(thank you)

**Last Week: 13+ Pew-Packers**



**Be "in the picture" every week!**

✓ *Checkup* ✓  
*How are we doing?*

*Attendance Last Week:*

*Sunday Morning Bible Class = 60*

*Sunday Morning Worship = 142*

*Sunday Evening Worship = 44*

*Wednesday Evening = 57*

*Giving*

*2017 Weekly Budget = \$3,180.00*

*Contribution Last Week = \$4,238.26*

Church of Christ  
805 East Racine Place  
Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Postage

**TO:**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday Morning March 12

Adult Bible Class: • *Acts of the Apostles* ..... Lester Bagley  
Announcements: ..... Ray Ochoa  
Song Leader:.....Allen Farrow  
Prayer:..... Jerry Odom  
Serve Communion:.....George Mora, John Hoover, Bill Hall,  
Frank Campbell, Jeffrey Coleman  
Sermon: • *Matthew 22* ..... Lester Bagley  
Closing Prayer: ..... Tom Haney

*Count Contribution: Jerry Odom & Tom Haney*

### Sunday Evening March 12

Song Leader:.....Allen Farrow  
Prayer:..... Kim Myers  
Sermon: • *Enoch* ..... Lester Bagley  
Serve Communion:.....Bill Hall  
Closing Prayer: ..... John Hoover

### Wednesday Evening March 15

Song Leader:.....Mike Evans  
Prayer:.....David Davis  
Devo:..... John Hoover  
Closing Prayer: .....Delbert White

## Anniversaries



March 17: *Brian & Catrina Campbell*  
March 28: *Tom & Adele Fink*  
April 5: *Archie & Karen Peterson*  
April 15: *Delbert & Sue White*  
April 25: *Michael & Barbara Grubbs*  
May 1: *Dell & Carla Hartfield*

## Birthdays



March 12: *Tom Sullivan – Callie Powell*  
March 13: *Phyllis Hall – Rene Turner*  
March 13: *Cindy Turpin*  
March 15: *Lynn Shirley – Addisyn Pascucci*  
March 17: *Allen Harrison – Markus Smith*  
March 20: *Brittani Perez*  
March 22: *Sherri Fields*  
March 26: *Anna Mae Hardin*