

**From the Preacher's Pen...** We live in a world that is so proud of perversion that it has made evil its hero. Sadly, for those that belong to the Lord, this has been the challenge throughout history. The hard part is to maintain our purity and faithfulness even as we are surrounded by the filth of sin.

Consider the reminder that we need every day, every moment of our lives here on this earth:

## Where Do You Find Your Inspiration? Who Are Your Spiritual Heroes?

Social media seems to be telling us a lot about our hearts! Frequently Christians post from websites whose very names brag about their disdain for God or are filled with curse words.

Yes, most of us are well aware of the depths of sin and depravity that are in this world because of Satan. We are probably aware of the filth in a cesspool, too. But why on earth anyone would want to take a bath in one and brag about it is more than a little perverse.

So, are you certain that as a Christian you want to be advertising that you, just like the rest of Satan's followers, are filthy in thought, talk and deed? Or are we actually called by God to come out of the world and not be like them?

*Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.*

*"Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate," says the Lord. "and do not touch what is unclean; And I will welcome you.*

*"And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty. (2 Corinthians 6:16-18)*

In a similar vein, it is increasingly common for Christians to post regular quotes from various religious personalities.

Someone comments about the inspiring words of a former preacher who has renounced the teachings of Jesus. Another person brags about how wonderful it is to "fellowship" with a false teacher. And yet another finds their daily "inspirational quote of the day" in the writings of those false teachers that lead people away from God's truth.

*Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. The one who does good is of God; the one who does evil has not seen God. (3 John 11)*

*Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds. (2 John 9-11)*

Are you certain that the person you quote and admire actually is teaching the whole truth and counsel of God? Or are you, like God says, just participating in their evil deeds?

If you regularly draw your inspiration from pagans and false teachers what does that say about you and your heart? Yes, I know that the Apostle Paul sometimes quoted secular or even pagan sources but it was always to make a point about God. And it always led to a lesson about God's truth. A few moments spent in God's word will remind you that these non-spiritual sources constitute the tiniest fraction of Paul's lessons and were used only to address common thoughts before turning to God as the real authority.

Here's a reminder from Jesus. It is not only a pointed lesson about the character of those we quote, but equally a lesson about what really resides in us!

*The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart. (Luke 6:45)*

Be careful where you find your inspiration and what you advertise about yourself! Examine your heroes, examine your authorities, examine who inspires you to love and serve God.

*But, beloved, we are convinced of better things concerning you, and things that accompany salvation, though we are speaking in this way. For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints. And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence so as*

*continued on page 3*

### 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!

**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, the Najera family, Bill Hall, Reta Wallace, Jim & Ann Holder, Kristi Martin, Wally Myers, Cindy Turpin 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 & wife (friends 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), Lucas Espinoza (Brian Campbell's friend), Sharon Laurita (Barbara Grubbs friend, cancer), Kaesha Raffterfer (Gene Pinkston's cousin, 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.

 **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.  
Jim Henness: friend of Odom's with back problems.  
Jimmy Handtegen: friend of David Davis following a stroke.  
Derwin Jackson & family: with his job.  
Sean & Vickie: Carl Catozzi's friends with struggles in their lives.  
Terri Hoover: John's daughter-in-law with serious health issues.  
Monica Lopez: George Mora's aunt with breast cancer.

Rhett Booher: Gary & Toni Pierce's grandson: Traumatic Brain Injury while in the Army.

Jacob Shirley: struggles.

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

John Mark: in Afghanistan as he is in danger for his faith.

Millie Cunningham: at Caliche Senior Living.

Jimmy Davis: friend of Mike Evans with melanoma.

Adele Fink: recovering from surgery for colon cancer.

George Ponter: Brian Campbell's cousin with multiple struggles.

Amy Vestle: lupus and intestinal problems

Seka Hanna: Amy Vestal's friend: heart problems.

Eddie Jaworski: via Bev Hedrick.

Anna Price: via Kimberlee Myers.

Sue Wolfe: recovering from a mild stroke & an infection.

Michael Hill : unable to work with back & health problems.

Destanie Aragon: will be leaving us soon for the US Army.

Donna & Dave Johnson: Donna with a brain aneurysm.

Daniel Taylor: Odom's grandson following an accident.

Chuck Hedrick & family: with multiple health problems.

Marc Wiley: Kari Curo's father with health problems.

Jeremy Pritchard: Jeanne Martin's nephew & father of 3 in need of a kidney transplant.

Bob Davis: friend of Mike Evans having tests.

Ray Terpstra: took a fall last week.

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

## Coming in October...

Several of our men both younger & older have asked about a men's training class for leading prayers, doing talks & devotionals, and song-leading.

Plan now to be a part so that you can better serve and be involved in our worship together.

## Upcoming Events...

Potluck: Our potlucks resume October 15

Monthly Singing: August 27 at 2:30 in Eloy

5th Wednesday Prayer & Song Meeting: August 30.

Men's Business Meeting: September 3 after evening worship.

Where do you find your inspiration? Who are your spiritual heroes?

continued from page 1

to realize the full assurance of hope until the end, so that you will not be sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. (Hebrews 6:9-12)

Make certain that all you say and do is fitting for a child of the King!

— Lester P. Bagley



## 100th-Year Birthday Party & Homecoming Nov. 3-5

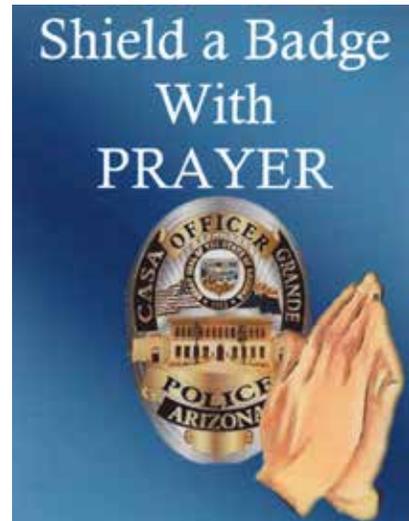
A Facebook group page has been set up:  
<http://bit.ly/CasaGrandeHomecoming>

Join the group to keep up. Also, an “event” has been set up. Be sure to indicate if you are attending.

There will be an announcement about our homecoming in the Christian Chronicle.

If anyone has suggestions or information about former members, talk to Jerry Odom.

More info coming.



September 9th at 3pm is our “going away” party for Destanie.

Plan to join us in honoring her and giving her an encouraging send off!

## Directory Update

Carolyn Cox

284 N. Colorado St.

Casa Grande, AZ 85122

Cell # 760-514-6524

## Last Week: 13+ Pew-Packers



Be “in the picture” every week!

## ✓ Checkup ✓ How are we doing?

### Attendance Last Week:

Sunday Morning Bible Class = 46

Sunday Morning Worship = 98

Sunday Evening Worship = 60

Wednesday Evening = 60

### Giving

2017 Weekly Budget = \$3,180.00

Contribution Last Week = \$2,395.00

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

Postage

**TO:**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday Morning August 13

Adult Bible Class: • *Acts of the Apostles* ..... Lester Bagley  
Announcements: ..... Jerry Odom  
Song Leader:..... Mike Evans  
Prayer:..... Curt Odom  
Serve Communion:.... Paul Ries, Bill Hall, Tom Haney, TBA,  
Max Compton  
Sermon: • *Truth*..... Lester Bagley  
Closing Prayer: ..... John Hoover  
*Count Contribution: Jerry Odom & Tom Haney*

### Sunday Evening August 13

Song Leader:..... Mike Evans  
Prayer:..... Chuck Hedrick  
Sermon: • *Proverbs - Part 7* ..... Lester Bagley  
Serve Communion:..... Tom Haney  
Closing Prayer: ..... Jerry Odom

### Wednesday Evening August 16

Song Leader:..... George Mora  
Prayer:..... TBA  
Devo:..... Jim Holder  
Closing Prayer: ..... Bill Hall

## Anniversaries



August 23: *Eugene & Cheryl Pinkston*  
August 29: *Pete & Cleo Wise*  
August 29: *Michael & Lynda Roberts*  
September 4: *Ed & Alma Baum*  
September 4: *Richard & Jenny Reid*  
September 5: *Lee & Maurine Hubbard*  
September 23: *Pat & Dana Curo*

## Birthdays



August 15: *William Beyer*  
August 16: *Lou Bagley*  
August 17: *Dawn Sullivan*  
August 21: *Wynona Garrett - Sharon Polson*  
August 24: *Justin Shirley*  
August 25: *Jorge Mora*  
August 26: *Barbara Harrison*