

**From the Preacher's Pen...** Have you ever gotten advice that you later wished you'd heeded? Or perhaps you've received some advice that was later found to be completely wrong and worthless. Either way, we are constantly bombarded with advice. The difficult decision to make is whether it is worthwhile or useless.

Let's seriously consider the choice of...

## Good Counsel or Bad?

With experience, we begin to learn that good advice, good counsel comes from those who are truly wise and good and follow the way of the Lord. Bad advice comes from those who are evil, and its worthlessness is only exceeded by the worthlessness of those who give it.

While it is evident that God gave good advice to be faithful to everyone beginning with His "advice" to Adam and Eve in the Garden, the first time that the word for counsel or advice is used in the Bible is Exodus 18:19. Here Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, gives wise counsel about the practical way of dealing with the immense job of leading God's people. From this point on God will specifically use this word some eighty times in the Old Testament for us to learn the lesson.

Thus begins the lessons of both good and bad counsel that may be accepted or rejected and the consequences thereof. David's son Absalom provides an interesting example as he chooses to ignore the counsel of Ahithophel and accepts the counsel of Hushai (2 Samuel 17). On this occasion God intervened so that what would have been good counsel by Ahithophel for Absalom and evil for David is rejected. Instead of Absalom defeating his father David and taking the crown, he follows the advice of Hushai who is faithful to both the Lord and king David.

All of this presents us with some important things to remember:

1) Wise and good counsel is from God! *The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the plans of His heart from generation to generation* (Psalm 33:11). Only with Him do we find the advice that is always for our good. *I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you* (Psalm 32:8).

2) We should also highly regard and follow the counsel of the godly. Not all human counsel is equally worthwhile! *How blessed is the person who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers* (Psalm 1:1).

*A wise person will hear and increase in learning, and a person of understanding will acquire wise counsel* (Proverbs 1:5). In this case the Hebrew word for counsel is a nautical term used for steering a ship (also Proverbs 11:14; 20:18; 24:6). Godly, biblically accurate counsel will always steer us in the right direction.

3) When we follow God's wisdom we become the teachers, the counselors of others for good. *Counsel is mine and sound wisdom; I am understanding, power is mine* (Proverbs 8:14). Indeed, the New Testament challenges the godly to speak with both the words and authority of God (1 Peter 4:11; Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Peter 2:9).

So, where do we get this good and wise counsel from God Himself? Paul first answers that question with where NOT to get it: *But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them.* (2 Timothy 3:13-14)

The positive answer is found in: *...and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the person of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.* (2 Timothy 3:15-17)

May we always forsake the useless human counsel and listen to and heed the wise counsel from God!

— Lester P. Bagley

### 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, 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, Millie Cunningham, Michael Hill & family 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); Destanie Aragon; 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; 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; Jacob Shirley: struggles; Rhett Booher: Gary & Toni Pierce's grandson: Traumatic Brain Injury while in the Army; Ray Stephenson family: youngest son's cancer has spread; John Mark: in Afghanistan as he is in danger for his faith; 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; Anna Price: via Kimberlee Myers; 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; Kathy Gonzalez: grandmother of Heavyen & Tatum with cancer; Relative of Rebecca Untersee: with cancer.

Sue Wolfe: at Oasis having physical therapy; LaVerne Jackson's mother; Celeste Wallace: health problems; Sandra Watson, Sue Shepperd & Elzie Shirley: Lynn's family with illnesses; Carolyn Cox: in California to be with her terminally ill son.

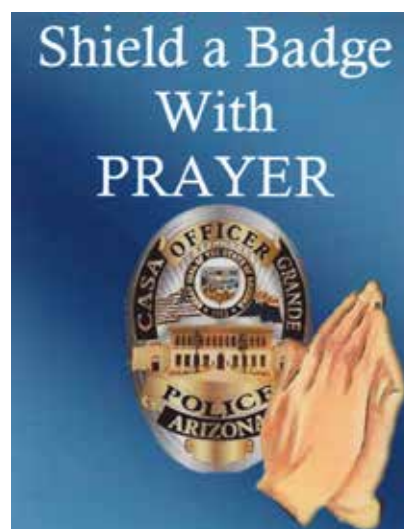
Bev Hedrick: having hand surgery October 2.

Chuck Hedrick: having knee surgery October 9.

Ed Baum: at Archstone Care Center for rehab; 1980 W Pecos Rd; Chandler, AZ 85224 Phone: 480-821-1268

Those recovering from the recent storms.

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



## Upcoming Events...

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

**Potluck:** October 15 — Group #2 [Toni Pierce's group] set-up, serve & clean-up

**Monthly Singing:** October 29 at 2:30 in Coolidge.

**5th Wednesday Prayer & Song Meeting:** October 31.

## Monday with the Master

Ages 10 through college meet tomorrow at 6 pm for dinner & Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

**See Lou Bagley THIS MORNING if you don't already know what to bring!**

## Guest Speaker Coming...

Next Sunday (October 8) brother Dale Linge of the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort will present a report to us for the AM Bible Class & preach the AM lesson.

## Beginning NEXT Sunday at 5 pm...

Men (young and older!) training class for leading prayers, doing talks & devotionals, and song-leading.

Please remember to be  
**QUIET**

for our Pew Packers between  
morning Bible Study &  
Worship!

## 100th Birthday Homecoming Nov. 3-5

We need to start PRE-REGISTERING former members you all have invited to our homecoming so information can be mailed to them.

In the lobby is a sign-up sheet. Fill out what you can. If you don't have their address, we can look it up. We need names.

This is for all former members and their children and grandchildren whether they live on the other side of the world, the other side of the US, or right here in Casa Grande.

We want this to be both a CELEBRATION weekend and a SOUL-SAVING weekend to bring back the children and grandchildren of our founding members.

So, be sure to sign up those you have invited in the lobby.

## Last Week: 12+ Pew-Packers



Be "in the picture" every week!

## ✓ Checkup ✓ How are we doing?

### Attendance Last Week:

Sunday Morning Bible Class = 61

Sunday Morning Worship = 105

Sunday Evening Worship = 52

Wednesday Evening = 50

### Giving

2017 Weekly Budget = \$3,180.00

Contribution Last Week = \$2,049.00

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

Postage

**TO:**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday Morning October 1

Adult Bible Class: • *Acts of the Apostles* ..... Lester Bagley  
Announcements: ..... Allen Farrow  
Song Leader: ..... Tom Haney  
Prayer: ..... Jim Holder  
Serve Communion: .... Wayne Hoover, John Hoover, Curt Odom, Frank Campbell, Bill Hall  
Sermon: • *Picturing our Savior's Sacrifice* ..... Lester Bagley  
Closing Prayer: ..... Jerry Odom

Count Contribution: Mike Evans & Bill Hall

### Sunday Evening October 1

Song Leader: ..... George Mora  
Prayer: ..... Jerry Odom  
Sermon: • *Call to Perfection* ..... Lester Bagley  
Serve Communion: ..... Curt Odom  
Closing Prayer: ..... Bill Hall

### Wednesday Evening October 4

Song Leader: ..... Mike Evans  
Prayer: ..... David Davis  
Devo: ..... Lester Bagley  
Closing Prayer: ..... John Hoover

## Anniversaries



October 2: *Tom & Tanya Haney*  
October 26: *Tom & Dawn Sullivan*  
November 11: *Jeff & Stephanie Davis*  
November 14: *David & Christina Polito*  
November 21: *Roy & Nelwyn Holland*  
November 28: *Allen & Angela Harrison*  
December 2: *Mike & Julie Evans*

## Birthdays



October 1: *Laurel Huffman – Michael Grubbs*  
October 4: *Nicholas Odom – Albert Bailey*  
October 4: *Elijah Hill*  
October 7: *Ruth West*  
October 8: *Eric Aragon*  
October 10: *Evelyn Frank – Sherry Harrison*  
October 13: *Jeff Davis*  
October 15: *Javier Ramirez*