

From the Preacher's Pen... The year 2018 ended with a multitude of both sad and joyous events. In many cases there were the same events such as when we lost brothers and sisters in Christ. Sadly we lost them to this world, but thankfully we take comfort in the promise that they are now home with our God. Perhaps this little reminder will help us keep the proper focus:

Memo from God

To: All My Sanctified Children
From: Your Heavenly Father
Subject: Problems in 2019

Good Morning. I am your Heavenly Father and your God. Your last year has been filled with many challenges. Your Father has brought you through all of them and will continue to secure and direct your way.

This year I will handle all of your problems. Please remember that I do not need your help.

If the devil happens to deliver a situation to you that you cannot handle, DO NOT attempt to resolve it by yourself! Kindly put it in the SFJTD (something for Jesus to do) box. It will be appropriately addressed in MY time, not yours.

Once the matter is placed into the box, do not hold on to it or attempt to remove it. Holding on or removal will delay the resolution of your problem. If it is a situation that you think you are capable of handling, please consult me in prayer to be sure that it is the proper resolution.

Because I do not sleep, slumber or rest, there is no need for you to lose any sleep or be concerned. Rest my child and know that I will bless and care for you. If you need to contact me, I am only a prayer away.

— *Your Heavenly Father*

As Christians we are not *of* this world, we are not like everyone else and even our sorrow is different (1 Thessalonians 4:13) since we have hope and promise in Jesus. At the same time, Jesus fully expects us to “get some flack” from the world because of this (cf. Matthew 5:11-12).

This has always been true of God’s people so consider a reminder of that fact:

Their Laws Are Different From Those Of All Other People

These were the words that the evil Haman told King Ahasuerus about the Jews (Esther 3:8). He was exactly right!

Haman thought this a perfectly good reason to destroy Mordecai and all the Jews, because they were different. They had different laws, a different God and a different hope. But they were not different just to be at odds with everyone else, they were following the laws, the commands of God. As a people called out of bondage in Egypt they were given a new home, a new identity and a new hope.

We today are likewise different and unique. We are called out of the bondage of sin and made to be a new family, a new nation with a new eternal home. We are no long citizens of this world but of Heaven.

Our law is the perfect law of liberty (James 1:25) and our God wants us to be distinctive, “different from all people” as those called by Him. Let’s never be guilty of trying to look or act or think like the world. As we live in this world, let’s never try to be a part of it.

We must remind ourselves every day that, even though the world constantly challenges us to be just like them, that is not our calling, not our duty. Indeed, our God challenges His people to come out and not be a part of this world that we might truly be clean and holy to Him (read 2 Corinthians 6:17).

May we, this year and always, think like, live like, act like God’s people and be proud of serving Him who has given His own life for us!

Remember your calling! Remember your promises! Remember that we are indeed, *a chosen family, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people that belong to God!* And we are different from all other people *so that we may proclaim the “Good News of Him” who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.* (1 Peter 2:9)

— *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 3rd 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): Matthew Odom, Heather Ries, Hunter Shirley, Ruth West, Everett Martin, Anna Mae Hardin, the Najera family, Bill Hall, Reta Wallace, Jim Holder, Cindy Turpin, Millie Cunningham, Ray Stephenson, Barbara Harrison, and...

Our Missionaries: Jack Farber and Aaron Knotts and families; Cesario Espinosa, Jr. (Philippines); the Jorge Mora family (NM Christian Children's Home)

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), Jeremiah Haller (Flora Doster's grandson), Annette (Cindy Turpin's sister), Cole Myers (grandson of friend of Myers), Sheila Simpson, Lillian Wilhite (relative of Lynn Shirley), Teresa Acosta, John Hoover's relatives with personal difficulties, Shelly Cooper (friend of Carl Catozzi), Lucas Espinoza (Brian Campbell's friend), Kaesha Raffterfer (Gene Pinkston's cousin, 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; 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; Ismael Lopez; Robinson Goldman (Cindy Turpin's son-in-law); Nathan Bagley.

New: Jason: Carl Catozzi's son in need of prayers; Michael Lightheart: son-in-law of Flora Doster, health problems; Jim Hartdegen: friend of David Davis following a stroke; Sean & Vickie: Carl Catozzi's friends with struggles in their lives; Terri Hoover: John's daughter-in-law with serious health issues; Monica Lopez: Jorge Mora's aunt with breast cancer; Jacob Shirley: struggles; Our former Muslim converts: in danger for their faith; Jimmy Davis: friend of Mike Evans with melanoma; George Ponter: Brian Campbell's cousin with multiple struggles; Anna Price: via Kimberlee Myers; Chuck Hedrick family: with multiple health problems; Kathy Gonzalez: grandmother of Heavyn & Tatum with cancer; LaVerne Jackson's mother; Sandra Watson, Sue Shepperd & Elzie Shirley: Lynn's family with illnesses; Tom Hoover: (John's brother).

Steve McDonald: Jean Grubbs granddaughter's husband, tests.

Donald Helton: on dialysis until he has a kidney transplant.

Kirrin Kerby: (Jean Grubbs grandson).

Bob Harrod: cancer

Carolyn Fisher: multiple health issues (via Cleo Wise).

Dena Lara: complications of Valley Fever.

Ken Price: friend of the Halls with kidney disease.

Rick Richardson: Cheryl Campbell's brother with heart problems.

Don McCaully & his son: friends of Carl Catozzi.

Ayanna Rodriguez: friend of Sarah Evans with brain cancer.

Jeannie Lewis' brother-in-law: recovering from lung transplant surgery.

Lonnie Akins: brain cancer.

Malakye Didelotte: continues to have kidney problems and tests.

Kandy Cunningham: Mickey Didelotte's mother having tests.

Doyle Wise: Flora's brother & Cleo's brother-in-law; bone cancer.

Terry Lara: friend of Davis family with pancreatic cancer.

Amy Vestal: in treatment and rehab.

Verna Whitloc: friend of Cleo Wise with cancer.

Pam Lipper: friend of Beverly Cavanaugh health problems.

Abdul (Andrew) and family in Afghanistan: on the run following several death threats.

Beverly Cavanaugh: in Arkansas caring for her mother.

The Frank Campbell family.

Kay Baker: at the death of her friend.

Wallace Myers family: at his passing.

Everett Martin: in hospital with multiple problems.

Jake Tess: Bagley's niece's husband with bowel cancer.

Brian Campbell: treatments.

Charlie Stephenson: in hospital with pneumonia and recovering from knee replacement surgery.

Dan Bagley: Lester's brother in hospital in Montana following heart surgery.

Carl Catozzi: cataract surgery January 10 and 24.

Bill Hall: with pneumonia.

Delbert White family: at the sudden passing of his sister-in-law Balinda White.

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

Upcoming Events...

Men's Business Meeting: January 13 after evening worship.

January potluck will be a congregational picnic.

Monthly Singing: January 27 at 2:30 in Coolidge.

2 5th Wednesday Prayer & Song Meeting: January 30.

UPDATING EMAIL ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS

1) If you have not provided your email to the church office for member announcements, please write it clearly on a blue visitor card and give it to Katheryn Haddad.

2) The following member emails are bouncing. Please write your updated email clearly on a blue visitor card and give it to Katheryn.

allebaba12@sbcglobal.net

wghphall2@coxnet.com

sassychassy32@yahoo.com

destaniearagon@yahoo.com

ajeffordsc@aol.com

Chantellelila14@yahoo.com

mikenbarb75@q.commichael

loveship0052@gmail.com

allenharrison@msn.com

lhuffman9@gmail.com

noflyzone79@gmail.com

Men's Leading & Serving Class

Meets TODAY at 5 pm...

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

**PICNIC - Saturday January 19
at ?????? Park**

Bring your own picnic basket, snack lunch, take-out, or whatever you want to eat!

Watch this space for time & location

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!

Congregational Projects

Project 1: *Cottage fund for George & Chantelle @ NM Christian Children's Home. Use the marked envelopes to contribute*

Project 2: *T-shirts & pillowcases to make diapers & dresses.*

To help, patterns are on the table in the foyer along with brochures about Healing Hands. Plastic bins in foyer for t-shirts & pillowcases.

Last Week: 2+ Pew-Packers



Be "in the picture" every week!

✓ Checkup ✓ How are we doing?

Attendance Last Week:

Sunday Morning Bible Class = 64

Sunday Morning Worship = 123

Sunday Evening Worship = 60

Wednesday Evening = 57

Giving

2018 Weekly Budget = \$3,015.00

Contribution Last Week = \$2,943.00

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

Postage

TO:

Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning January 6

Adult Bible Class: • *Acts of the Apostles* Lester Bagley
Announcements: Lester Bagley
Song Leader:.....Allen Farrow
Prayer:.....Chuck Hedrick
Serve Communion:....Paul Ries, Derwin Jackson, Tom Haney, Mickey DeWitt, Riley Harrison
Sermon: • *Ephesians 3:1-12*..... Lester Bagley
Closing Prayer: Mike Evans

Count Contribution: Mike Evans & Bill Hall

Sunday Evening January 6

Song Leader:.....Allen Farrow
Prayer:.....Curt Odom
Sermon: • *Parables of Jesus - 28* Lester Bagley
Serve Communion:..... John Hoover
Closing Prayer:Bill Hall

Wednesday Evening January 9

Song Leader:.....Curt Odom
Prayer:.....Jim Holder
Devo:.....Lester Bagley
Closing Prayer:John Hoover

Anniversaries



January 15: *Dave & Joan Davis*
January 17: *L.Z. & Lynn Shirley*
January 23: *Gary & Toni Pierce*
January 25: *Allen & Brenda Farrow*
January 29: *Frank & Cheryl Campbell*
January 31: *Mickey & Sharon DeWitt*

Birthdays



January 6: *Amy Powell*
January 7: *John Hill*
January 10: *Jeffrey Coleman - Brenda Farrow*
January 11: *Mia Powell*
January 12: *Carla Hartfield - Kennie Prock*
January 15: *DeVaughn Jackson*
January 16: *Shirley Stephenson*
January 17: *Brian Campbell*