

February 7, 2016



# Real Life News & Notes

## *Patterson Road church of Christ*

*A Relevant, Serving, Growing Family of Jesus followers*

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### **Guam, Saipan Mission Report – January 13-25 – John & Holly Cooper**

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." (Ephesians 3:20,21)

These words from Paul so well describe my feelings about our most recent mission trip to Guam and Saipan January 13-25. I praise God and give Him the glory for what He accomplished through us. And by "us" I am not speaking of just Holly and I but all of "us" involved in this church and many elsewhere who support this work in different ways. My thanks to you for your monetary support, your prayers and for your emails while we were there! What follows is a brief and incomplete report of a very busy time on Guam and Saipan.

We arrived late on Thursday night and went to work immediately on Friday. First, we got a local "burner" phone good on Guam and Saipan with unlimited calls and texts for 10 days for \$29.00. It is essential to have a phone so we can keep in contact with all the people we meet with. We next had lunch with the Lt. Gov. of Gaum, Ray Tenorio. He is very supportive and appreciative of our efforts on Guam. Surprising me a bit, he waited for me to give thanks for our food in this public restaurant and gave us a hug when we parted. "Let me know how I can help you. I mean it" were his parting words. We then went to Police Headquarters to arrange for "ridealongs" and speaking opportunities at the various precincts.

I led a Bible study that night with a couple along with Alex and Brenda Coloma, the local preacher and his wife. After making several calls on Saturday morning we went to the airport for our hour trip to Saipan (127 miles north of Guam). Providentially, our mid-day flight had been cancelled so we rented a car and went around the southern part of the island. We stopped at "Jeff's Pirates Cove", a very popular tourist attraction. I know the owner, from previous times and we visited with him and ate lunch. Jeff considers himself an atheist and so I shared with him some reasons for faith. I told him I had a dream of debating and atheist on the University of Guam campus. He said to me, "You won't find an opponent." "Why is that," I asked. "They wouldn't want to debate you." He has more faith in me than I do. I later took him John Clayton's book, "The Source." Prayer I can continue to influence Jeff for Jesus. He is very curious now about my approach to faith and Christianity.

We left Guam for Saipan later on Saturday and then on Sunday met with the church on Saipan. I did a seminar for them on "Godly Marriages". They were most appreciative and something happened on the Sunday night session that was truly amazing... The attendance was as good as or maybe better than Sunday morning – a modern day miracle of sorts! Maybe it was the potluck meal after our session that drew the crowd, nearly 50, a great number for the church in Saipan. Holly did an outstanding job on Tuesday night speaking with the ladies. We made many other visits during the day with church members. I also met with the Saipan Police Commissioner concerning a Police Chaplaincy program for the Saipan Police department. He seemed very interested as he told me last year four police officers committed suicide, one after first murdering his wife at her place of work.

We returned to Guam on Thursday, January 21 and stopped by to see the manager of the hotel I had stayed in before. While visiting with him we unexpectedly met the President of Palau. I asked him if he knew Felix Makilong, a convert of mine from 1975. He said yes and referred me to his Consul General on Guam Vic April. Vic is attempting to contact Felix and give him my email address. I also later sent the Consul General a proposal on a Police Chaplaincy Program for Palau. This program has allowed me to get to know many locals on Guam and Saipan and a great way to serve them in the name of Jesus.

On Friday we ate lunch with Curtis Rigsby, the Philosophy Professor at the University of Guam. I shared with him my dream of having a debate with an atheist on the University of Guam campus. I feel this would be a way to show students and faculty that faith in God is rational, relevant and rewarding. Later that same day I dropped in on the University of Guam President Robert Underwood and shared the same dream. Just this past Saturday I got an email from him saying he was interested in this "exciting proposal". Wow. ReRead the verse at the beginning of this article.

On Friday night I rode along with a Police Officer named Joshua and spoke at the grave shift briefing. All the officers were most appreciate and some remembered me from last year. I left my card with my email address and encouraged them to communicate with me if they every had a need. I have already got a response from Joshua via email. I then preached for the church on Guam on Sunday before we left for home on Monday. We are planting and watering, God will give the increase!

Praise God and thank you! John Cooper

**Memory Verse For February: Isa. 40:36**

**"God knows every star by name"**

## Our Gathering today!

**Welcome Guests!** (Guest WiFi is available)

May you be blessed and encouraged by our simple Christ centered gathering as we sing, pray, commune and feast on the word of God. If you would like to know more about us feel free to ask us or go to [grandjunctionchurch.org](http://grandjunctionchurch.org) and click on the "About" tab and then "What we believe." Thank you for being our Guests this morning!

### Feeding on the Word!

The Bible has many strange and amazing stories. Have you heard of a "**Shibboleth**?" Nothing special about the word itself, in Hebrew it means a "grain stalk." However, one of God's warrior Judges, Jephtha, uses it as a military password to determine between friend and foe, who was "in" and who was "out" in a particular battle. There are some lessons to be learned from this word as we consider our walk with Jesus. See you in **Judges chapter 12** in a little while!

### Spiritual Growth Prompt #4

The next *Spiritual Growth* prompt from **2 Peter chapter 1** is "**Perseverance**." Peter has mentioned "**goodness**," "**knowledge**," and "**self-control**" as pathways leading to a mature faith. And now he encourages us to add **perseverance** to our character. As we think about who we are becoming in Christ and how we act and react in the context of Faith, consider these synonyms: **Stamina, fortitude, endurance, patience, steadfastness**. *Is there any part of our day, any issue we are facing, any outcome we are hoping to achieve, any obstacle we are trying to overcome, any challenge that stands in our way that is not blessed by persevering, holding on, hanging on, and enduring as God walks with us? The Bible reminds us that "Jesus, for the joy set before him, endured the cross."* (Hebrews 12:2). This week, ask God to help you to be a person of **perseverance**, ever joyful as we learn, listen, grow, and patiently allow the Spirit to take whatever time He needs to bring us to where we need to be! Most everything about our faith is a **marathon, not a sprint**. Therefore, to your self control, add **perseverance!**

## "Love One Another!"

**Men's Retreat Update**- 22 men have already signed up for our men's retreat on February 26, 27 with Don McLaughlin. We already have one out of town who would like to stay in a members home. We have offered our homes to anyone from out of town needing housing. Are you able to host someone? Sign up on the list in the lobby. All they need is a bed for the night. Breakfast will be served at the building.

Also, for Friday night of the men's retreat we are asking for **homemade desserts** to be donated to be served between sessions. We are calling this our **D2D (Desserts to Devour)** request. Since this is our first **B2B (Brother to Brother)** event of the year maybe some of the **S2S (Sister 2 Sister) ladies** can help us out. However anyone is welcome to donate to this most worthy cause. Sign up on the list in the lobby. The more homemade desserts we get the less **SBS (Store Bought Stuff)** we will have to buy. Thanks, John Cooper

### S2S Event

The S2S event that was scheduled for February 4 has been rescheduled. The ladies will be making valentines for shut-ins on February 9 at 6:30 pm in the fellowship hall. Also the Health Food event has been re-scheduled for February 20 at 10 AM.

### Praise Night:

The Young Professionals would like to invite everyone to gather together at 5 pm on Saturday February 20th for night of singing and praising God. Afterwards we'll have finger foods in the Fellowship Hall. Bring finger foods to share if you can.

### Creative Christian Art Guild

The Guild will meet Sunday at 1 pm in the fellowship hall. They will be enjoying a demonstration on acrylic painting. Everyone is invited.

### Mattress Giveaway

Lynn Briggs has a mattress and box springs to give away if anyone has a need. Give Lynn a call.

### Congratulations!

Gabe and Laci Wilkins are the proud parents of a baby boy. Shepard Brooks was born February 2 and weighed in at 8 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19 inches long. Congratulations to the Wilkins family.

### Midge Downey Update

Midge Downey is at Larchwood, 2846 N. 15th St., Room E05 for some rehab after surgery on her broken arm. Her phone number is 257-4643. We wish her a speedy recovery.

### Thank you!

Supporting Tiny Soldiers would like to thank Matt Lee, Sherry Heath and the wonderful Youth Group for volunteering your time to help make this years Santa Shop a huge success. Your commitment to helping military families is sincerely appreciated. You were a tremendous help. The families were all very grateful for the support. Your big hearts helped many military families be blessed with a brighter Christmas!

## Special Prayer Requests

Please remember the following request we have received in your daily prayers. Thank you, and God bless.

Please pray for Eileen, Melody Haight's neighbor, who fell and is in the hospital with a torn hamstring. Pray for comfort and for healing for her.

Pray for Bill Tidwell's and his family in the death of his sister Inez. Also pray for Bill's brother as he is not doing well at present.

Continue to pray for James Webb, Sherry Bradley's father. He has been suffering with a serious infection for several weeks, he is home now and doing some better. Prayers of thanksgiving for the progress he has made. And continued prayers for complete healing from this infection in his back.

Prayers of thanksgiving for the good report that Ron Wilson received. Continue to pray for his health issues, for comfort and healing.

Pray for Chuck Trice for healing and recovery from open heart surgery.

Prayers of thanksgiving that Midge Downey's surgery went well and continue to pray for a complete recovery her from the surgery on her broken arm.

Prayers of thanksgiving that Frances Blackwelder is home and recovering from the serious infection she had. Pray that it is indeed gone and she will not have anymore problems with it.

Continue prayers for Thelma Davis. Pray for comfort and relief from the back pain she is suffering with. Pray that the treatment she is receiving will work. Also remember her daughter Margie, who is under hospice care with cancer. She is at home at Thelma's.

Prayers of thanksgiving that Jimmye continues to recover from her broken ankle. Continue to pray for her to have a complete recovery with no after effects.

Continue to pray for the men's retreat that is upcoming soon. Pray for its success in every way and for safety in travel for all who attend...as well as the speaker. May much encouragement and good result from this gathering of the men.

Continue to pray for our nation and for the upcoming elections. Pray for those who aspire offices, pray for them to have the right motives and look to God for guidance in the decisions they will make. Pray for our national and the world leaders that we may live quiet and peaceful lives, and that the good of the people will be their motives in what they do.

Continue to pray for those in harms way, military, law enforcement, first responders and firemen. Pray for protection, wisdom and guidance for them as they do their jobs which are often dangerous and life threatening,

Pray for missionaries wherever they are around the world, pray for the persecuted Christians all over also, pray for our church family here as we begin a new year, may we be the kind of people God wants us to be. Pray for our Elders as they shepherd us on the way. Pray for God's guidance, protection and wisdom for all of these people as all try to do the Lord's will and broaden His kingdom wherever we are.

Prayers of thanksgiving and praise to our loving God and Father who is good and merciful, who sustains us through all things, who died to redeem us and who never leaves us, whose Spirit lives within us to comfort and lead us. Praise Him from whom ALL blessings flow!!

## **YOUTH NEWS**

### CCYC

**Dates for our youth camp have changed. Camp will now be June 19-24.**

### Huddle

Sunday, February 7th

Super Bowl gathering at the Fleming's, come for a while or the whole game! Game starts at 4:30 PM. Bring finger foods.

### Praise Night

Saturday, February 20th

The Young Professionals would like to invite everyone to gather together at 5 pm on for night of singing and praising God. Afterwards we'll have finger foods in the Fellowship Hall. Bring finger foods to share if you can.

### Ski Powderhorn

Monday, February 15th Join Matt and other students for a day together skiing building relationships. If you would like to ride on the church van, meet at the building at 8:30 AM and we will return at 5:30 PM. Students are responsible for a lift ticket and their skis/snowboard. Adult Lift tickets \$69, Youth 13-17 \$58, Junior 7-12 \$34. Full day rentals are \$32 on the mountain.

*God Bless*

*Matt Lee (214) 554-1253*

*Grandjunctionchurch.org*



# Church of Christ @ Patterson

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Phone: 970-245-4210  
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### For the Record

Jan 31, 2016

Attendance	297
Weekly Contributions 1/24/16	\$4,115.00
Contribution 4 week average	\$5,909.89
Weekly Budget	\$6,100.00

### Honored to Serve the Lord's Table in February

Ron Wilson  
 Jeff Yeager  
 Wes Yeager  
 Hunt Zumwalt  
 Karl Antwine  
 Jeremy Antwine  
 Jerry Austin  
 Phillip Bagga

### Communion Preparation—February

Shirley Bagga

### Communion Table 2/7/16

Bill Barslund

### Upcoming Children's Bible Verses

March—Isa. 40:22  
 April—Isa. 40:29  
 May—Col. 1:15

### Announcements

February—Scott Delancey

### Sunday Morning Adult Classes—9:00 AM—9:45 AM

Tom Deister—Auditorium  
 Vince Urbina—103  
 Young Adult (Under 30)—Room 207

### Wednesday Evening Bible Classes 6—7 PM

David Scheuerman—Auditorium  
 Singing Class—103

### Sunday Morning Children's Classes

Cradle Roll—Birth to 2—Nursery  
 2 & 3 Year Old—104  
 Pre KK, Kindergarten—205  
 1st & 2nd Grade—209  
 3rd thru 5th Grade—208  
 Middle School—213  
 High School—203

### Wednesday Evening Children's Bible Study

2 & 4 yr. old—104  
 Kindergarten 1st & 2nd—205  
 3rd thru 5th Grade—208  
 All teens meet in—203

### Thursday Morning Bible Classes

Thursday Bible School for Pre-Schoolers—9:30 am—1 pm  
 Ladies Bible Class, starts 9:30 am—207

**Sunday Morning Bible Classes Begin at 9 AM**  
**Sunday Morning Fellowship Time 9:45 AM—10:15 AM**  
**Sunday Morning Assembly Begins at 10:15 AM**  
**Wednesday Evening Bible Study Begins at 6 PM**