

MAR. 2, 2014



Real Life News & Notes

church of Christ of Grand Junction

A Relevant, Serving, Growing Family of Jesus followers

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Sips from the Well (by Doug Clayton)

Doves

Reading Psalms this past week I came across a simple daily prayer asking my heavenly Father to give me pause before I speak: **"Set a guard over my mouth, Oh Lord. Keep watch over the doors of my lips."** (141:3).

A beautiful if not curious manifestation of God is at the baptism of Jesus. The Holy Spirit shows up in the form of a little dove. He glides down from the heavens, delicately landing on Jesus and we hear these validating words of truth and blessing, **"This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased."** Why a dove? Why not a majestic eagle, a wise old owl, or a simple sparrow? Despite my short answer being, "I don't know," there is always something to be learned when God manifests himself.

The story is told of a couple who regularly had pigeons roost on their window ledge. These birds, much to the dismay of the couple, were messy and almost impossible to scare away. One day they were surprised and delighted when a delicate dove came and landed on the ledge where the annoying pigeons usually sat. The little dove was quiet as a breeze and seemed content as it perched there without a care. As they seemed to do more often recently, the couple began to argue. They noticed when their tones and words became bitter and harsh that the dove flew away. The pigeons had never flown away as they argued, but the sensitive dove quickly fled. As the couple reflected they saw how God used these birds to teach them that their harsh and critical words grieved the Holy Spirit and reminded them why they seldom felt His gentle presence in their home.

The Spirit of God will abide and dwell like the delicate dove in places where words of gentleness, love, affirmation, and grace are spoken. Where there are angry, judgmental, harsh words echoing around the room, the Spirit, like the sensitive dove, will fly away and seek a more peaceful ledge on which to perch and rest.

My recent temporary voice loss was a very good reminder not only of the blessing and power of listening, but also that God meticulously works in every circumstance, even our silence, to bring about His desire. Although there was a season in my younger years when I struggled much more with my tone and choice of words, God has patiently and persistently mentored me to be more careful and to **seek the Spirit's presence like a dove** as I *set a guard on my mouth and a watch over the door of my lips*. Words are very powerful. They can be avenues of pain, provocation, and discouragement, or vehicles of life, encouragement, calm, and blessing.

Is the window ledge of your heart and home a roosting spot for pigeons or a resting place for doves?

Memory Verse For March: Galations 6-9

"Do not grow weary in doing good."

Our Gathering This Morning

Sermon: This morning we will be looking at "Fasting." Nope, not what you're thinking. It won't be about what you usually associate with when that word "fast" pops in your mind. The *Sips from the Well* article in the bulletin is a clue to the specific topic. May our time and words shared together this morning be a blessing and a challenge to each of us.

Guests: Thank you for being here this morning. We pray you will be blessed and encouraged by the love you experience as we seek to honor God and build each other up in the Lord during our *ekklesia* (assembly) today. Please fill out that little card that is attached to the bread gift and place it in the collection plate as it comes by. Please let us know how we might serve you and pray for you this week!

Warrior at Heart: What an awesome gathering of Christian men yesterday to hear John Eldridge challenge us to be men of God and strong warriors of faith as husbands and fathers. Almost 2000 men attended. Thanks to our very own **Dave Downey** for his leadership in this men's group in our community. If you have questions about Warrior at Heart contact Dave D. or go to the web site at waheart.com

New Sunday Morning Classes Started Today

Bob & Bobby Heath started a new class on the "Old Testament Survey" today. The class will last through June in Room 202.

Jenna Hill started a Ladies class on Making Wise Choices in Room 103.

Tom Deister began an adult class in the Auditorium. Subject matter is not available at this time.

Doug continues his class on 1,2,3 John on Wednesday evening and Shirlene Caraway continues her class on Women in the Bible.

Teachers go to great effort preparing these classes and they are always interesting and thought provoking. It is well worth your while to attend a class of your choice.

Homeless Meal

We have the opportunity to prepare and serve the evening meal at the Homeless Shelter on North Ave. tomorrow evening. Lasagna trays will be distributed in the foyer right after morning services today and servers should be at the Shelter by 5:30 PM tomorrow (Monday, March 3). Thank you so much to the volunteers that work at this ministry.

Creative Christian Guild To Meet

The Creative Christian Art Guild meets today. Jeannette Sanburg will be doing a demo on Porcelain Painting. Everyone is invited. Group meets at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Please remember the following in your daily prayers. “

“The prayers of a righteous man is powerful and effective..” James 5:16

Continue to pray for LAURA, and TRACY, Jan Nelson’s friends and BARB ROTH, Mary Mendenhall’s sister, all are fighting cancer. Pray for healing and comfort for them and their families.

Jan’s friend Gary Wallace lost the battle to brain cancer this past week. Pray for his wife DONNA in his passing.

KATIE, the new baby girl of Alex Barthel born this past week, is having problems with oxygen levels and also has a heart murmur. Pray for these to be temporary and fixable conditions and that they will heal quickly. Pray also for Alex and the family as they wait to take the new little one home.

VERLYN MATTHEWS.... Is suffering severe pain with his back, continue to pray for relief from the pain and comfort for him.

Continue to pray for CJ (Abbey Nelson’s husband) for complete healing from a blow on the head in an accident at work. Pray for there to be no other injuries show up, as they are doing some more testing, and for comfort for him and his family.

We have many of our church family that have a virus or flu, some are just recovering, others are still ill. Please keep all in your prayers. Some are back with us, others are still struggling with it. Debra and Jamie Carrol, Keri Fleming, and Jerry Austin have been very ill.

LINDA, the Tidwells neighbor, is in the hospital in ICU with serious problems with her pancreas. Please pray for her healing and comfort.

Continue to pray for all of our MISSIONARIES, for guidance and protection, and God’s word to be spread to the world through them. And many will come to know Him through their efforts.

Our NATION... pray for our Nation and leaders, that God’s will is done in all the decisions that are being made. Also for the various places around the world where there is so much violence and destruction going on. Pray for those in those areas, like the Ukraine, where so many are being killed... that they will be able to resolve the issues and the violence will cease.

Also please continue to pray for our MILITARY and their families. Pray for God to protect, guide and bless them.

Prayer for our CHURCH FAMILY. Pray we will be beacons to the world and allow God’s love to shine through us. Pray we will show we are Christians by our love...and how we treat one another and respond to the daily challenges.

Continue to always give thanks to God for His abundant blessings and His unfailing Love.

Thank you for your prayers, they are very much appreciated by everyone!!

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, WITH THANKSGIVING, let your requests be know to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6,7



Church of Christ of Grand Junction

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For the Record

Feb. 23, 2014

Attendance	246
Average Attendance, 4th qtr.	238
Contributions	\$7,275.00
Budget	\$6,726.00

Communion Preparation—March Ed & Wilma Seela

Communion Table 3/2/14

Tony Clayton

Honored to Serve the Lord's Table in March

Steve Neff
Brian Peacock
Eric Pennal;
Ted Reaves
Ed Riddle
Tim Riddle
Craig Roberts
Randy Romkee

Announcements: Ron Wilson

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

Tom Deister—Auditorium
Young Adult (Under 30)—Room 207
Jenna Hill, Ladies Class—103
Bob & Bobby Heath, O.T. Survey—202

Wednesday Evening Adult Classes—7– 8 PM

Doug Clayton— 1st John—Auditorium
Shirlene Caraway—103

Sunday Morning Children's Classes

Cradle Roll—Birth to 2—Nursery
2 & 3 yr. 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

Sunday morning worship begins at 10:15 AM

Mesa View Retirement Service Schedule

Meets Sundays at 10 AM

Mar 2	Bill Tidwell, Dave Scheurman	Mark 10:46-52
Mar 9	Chuck Tourney, Hunt Zumwalt	Mark 11:1-11
Mar 16	Bud Treu, Mike Hurd	Mark 11:15-19
Mar 23	Bill Barslund, Sandy Harris	Mark 11:12-14,20-25
Mar 30	Wes Yeager, Scott Delancy	Mark 12:13-44
Apr 6	Bill Tidwell, Dave Scheurman	Mark 14:12-26
Apr 13	Chuck Tourney, Hunt	Colossians 1:1-14
May 4	Wes Yeager, Scott Delancy	Col. 1:15-2:5
May 11	Bill Tidwell Dave Scheurman	Col. 2:6-23
May 18	Chuck Tourney, Hunt Zumwalt	Col. 3:1-17
May 25	Bud Treu, Mike Hurd	Col. 3:18-4:1
June 1	Bill Barslund, Sandy Harris	Col. 4:2-6

1 Corinthians 16:13

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men of courage; be strong.
(NIV)