



# Real Life News & Notes

*church of Christ of Grand Junction*

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

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**Love and the "Slippery Slope"**

People are worried about the slippery slope. They're worried that too many steps in the wrong direction will send us hurtling out of control towards an unknown and negative future. It's a natural fear, and I think it's an instinct most of us are born with.

The problem with "slippery slope" thinking is that it's a very relative term. One person's slippery slope is another person's solid ground. Instead of being a helpful way of looking at important issues, slippery slope thinking is usually more concerned with our own comfort level than it is about truth.

The idea of a slope makes me think of those runaway truck ramps you find coming down I-70 out of the mountains. It's a scary thing to think about - going just a little too fast, and now your brakes don't work and you're hurtling down the interstate with eighty thousand tons of metal and cargo. We're scared of not being in control.

There is a clear difference between being convinced of the truth and being scared because you're not in control. We *need* people with firm and passionate belief. What we don't need are people motivated by fear, because fear breeds resentment and hate. We have to let go of our overwhelming desire to feel comfortable and to be in the driver's seat.

The fact is that none of us really have as much control as we think over other people. Some people will slide off into error. Leaders will sometimes make bad choices. Other times leaders make good choices and the others simply not follow them. If we decide that we are the sole guardians of God's truth - that we are the only thing keeping us on the right track - then we're not only going to get discouraged. We're going to suffer spiritually.

We have to recognize that this is *God's* church. It's Christ's spiritual bride, and God will preserve it as God sees fit. With that knowledge, we can speak on behalf of the truth with real love. As 1 John 4 says, "There is no fear in love."

I've witnessed plenty of church conflict in the past. The problem has *never* been too much love and too much willingness to listen and understand. The problem - on all sides - tends to be too much arrogance, too much anger, and too much fear. Fear of what will happen if we don't change, fear of what will happen if we do.

We are like a stuntman walking across a tightrope. Our job isn't to keep looking down at our feet, desperate not to make a wrong move. It's to look ahead, it's to keep our eyes on the prize. With a love for truth and a commitment to God's word, we can look to Christ rather than worry about slippery slopes. We're all fundamentally broken, and we're surrounded by grace.

Brian Peacock

**Memory Verse For March: Galatians 6-9**

**"Do not grow weary in doing good."**

## Our Gathering This Morning

### Sermon:

As a follow up to our study last week on **Fasting Words**, this morning we will talk about **Words of Blessings and Encouragement**. Thank you for allowing me the honor of trying to be a faithful vessel of God's word as I speak each Sunday. May our time together this morning be a blessing and a challenge as we resolve to use our words to build each other up and offer hope and life.

### 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 in our 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!

### Thank You!

A huge Valentine thank you to Mark & Lesa, Trinity & William, Lynne & Leonard, Summer, Mike & Pam, Hunt & Myrna, Abreail, Sheila, Shirley Bagga and Isa, Dave & Glenda, Bill & Jimmye, Vince & Gail, JJ & Molly, and John & Holly. Plus-Thank you for the candies!

*From a grateful heart—Susan Towles*

### Kidz Quiz

#### True or False

1. A physician wrote the Book of Acts.
2. Samuel had three brothers and two sisters
3. Paul and Barnabas were in prison at Phillippi.
4. Peter, Andrew and John accompanied Jesus to the mount of transfiguration.
5. Cornelius was converted under the preaching of the Apostle Peter.
6. Samuel anointed David to be king over Israel.
7. Joshua led the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage.
8. Ruth was the mother of David.

*(Scriptural answers on page 4)*

### March 30—Agape Sunday

Sunday, March 30, will be Agape Sunday. We will share a Pot Luck meal right after morning assembly on that day. Mark your calendars and invite your friends and neighbors to experience a spiritual and inspirational blessing by attending services with you and enjoy a scrumptious meal with plenty of friendly fellowship afterwards.

### CCYC Scholarships

Youth Camp on the Grand Mesa is right around the corner (June 15 through June 21st.) Some of you have been asking about contributing for scholarships. We are taking donations for scholarships now until time for camp. A donation of \$100.00 will send one child to camp and these donations allow us to keep costs low yet provide a learning, inspiring, uplifting experience for the entire group of campers. If you choose to make a donation, make your check out to CCYC, mark it as a camp scholarship in the memo section and bring it by the office or place it in the collection plate. Thank you so much for your generous, **GENEROUS** hearts on not only this occasion but for many, many more!

### Honduras Mission

If anyone would like to help with the Honduran mission effort coming up in July please ear mark a check for "Honduras Mission 2014." There are several people who are hoping to go who can use any financial help our church can provide.

### Quilting Ministry

During 2013, the Quilting ministry donated 54 quilts. Thanks to all of the volunteers who make this project so successful.

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

Please include the following requests in your daily prayers!!

Continue to pray for LAURA, and TRACY, Jan Nelson's friends and BARB ROTH, Mary Mendenhall's sister, all are fighting cancer. Also VERLYN MATTHEWS for relief from back pain.

Continue to pray for CJ (Abbey Nelson's husband) for complete healing from a blow on the head in an accident at work. Pray the tests they are doing will not find any more injuries.

CHARLENE FRANCISCO, Lee Bradley's mother. She is in St Mary's hospital for treatment (surgery) for pancreatic cancer. Pray for healing and comfort for her. Pray for peace for her family.

JAMES OSMONDSO, Lee Bradley's nephew, was in the house explosion here in Grand Junction, last week He is in Denver in the hospital receiving treatment for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns . He was to have surgery the first of this past week. Pray for comfort and complete healing for him. Also pray for peace for his family.

Keep those in your prayers that are expecting new babies in the next weeks or months. Pray for healthy deliveries for mom and babies...and for the dad's as they wait with concern for all to be well.

Please keep ongoing prayers for our Missionaries, and the persecuted church around the world...there are many countries now where it is very dangerous to be a Christian....and yet our missionaries are willing to go there to spread God's word. They need our prayers daily.

"Please keep Melissa Richardson and her family in prayer the next few weeks as Melissa endures the daily struggle of her MS disease and Lance is out of town working. If you have a chance to call her with a word of encouragement she would be blessed by your words of life."

to pray for our Nation and the leaders, as well as leaders around the world. The only hope our nation (and world) have is God, and they do not realize it or in some instances care. Our prayers can make a difference...as we can invoke the power of our God to change hearts and circumstances. Our fervent prayers are vital.

Another ongoing prayer that is very needful is for our Military people and their families. Pray continually for God to bless them, protect them both physically and spiritually....as well as emotionally. Pray for them to receive the support and help they need from us, & our nations leaders and guidance from our God.

Keep our church family in daily prayers that we may be the people of God He intends us to be and will think, see and act more like our Lord every day....so we may be a blessing to those around us and bring others to Him.

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### Youth News

**Class this morning:** All ages meet in the high school room today for a lesson on Deuteronomy.

**No huddle tonight:** Enjoy a relaxing evening with your families!

**Wednesday night worship:** Join us at 7pm Wednesday in the high school room for snacks and worship together!



# Church of Christ of Grand Junction

2893 Patterson Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81506

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

Mar 2,, 2014

Attendance	251
Average Attendance, 4th qtr.	238
Contributions	\$8,084.00
Budget	\$6,726.00

### Communion Preparation—March Ed & Wilma Seela

### Communion Table 3/9/14

### 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 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

### Answers to Kidz Quiz

1. Luke 1:1-3; Acts 1:1; Col 4:14, 2. 1 Sam. 2:21, 3. Acts 16:23-25, 4. Luke 9:28, 29 , 5. Acts 10:23-47, 6. I Samuel 16:12, 13, 7. Exodus 3:10, 8. Ruth 4:13, 17, 21, 22