

July 5, 2015



Real Life News & Notes

Patterson Road church of Christ

A Relevant, Serving, Growing Family of Jesus followers

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Sips from the well (by Doug Clayton)

Aliens

The Supreme Court's decision to make Gay marriage legal should not shock Christians. Actually, I am shocked that so many are shocked, as if we as "**strangers and aliens**" (1 Peter 2:11) in this world actually expect the kingdoms of men to align their rulings with God's holy nature and legislate Biblical morality. **Consider these words** from John Mark Hicks (*Professor at Lipscomb University*)

*"Many Christians in the US live in such fear of the future and the loss of a "Christian nation." This fear generates anger, suspicion, hateful rhetoric, and despair. I suspect that the loss of the "Christian nation" (which was never "Christian," since the church is God's holy nation...) has shocked some, generated fear among many, and led to despair for most... **This is an opportunity for believers to live authentically in the present; that is, to bring heaven to earth.** We find ourselves in an analogous situation as the original audience of 1 Peter, which Peter characterized as a fiery trial that will refine the people of God for the sake of authentic witness. **In many ways, we ought to welcome this...** Perhaps the clarity of the cultural shift may help us refocus our message on what God has done in Christ. Perhaps Christians... can focus on cross and community because they are truly "**aliens**" without the temptation to embrace political agendas. Perhaps we might consider such a focus and leave the political agendas to others. **This is not a plea for withdrawal or isolation from culture, but the sort of presence within culture that bears witness to cross and community.**"*

Peter challenges us to "**respect everyone, seek and pursue peace and refuse to retaliate or insult**" (1 Peter 2-3). Christians are called to be salt and light. Yet as we influence we remember **because of grace we are rescuers who have been rescued, aliens whose language is hope and whose dialect is restoration and renewal by the power of the resurrection.** As citizens of a spiritual country, God calls us to submit to our physical rulers without becoming overly invested in the politics of earthly government. Instead, through our good works, validated by grace seasoned speech, we live as vessels of peace and truth to transform darkness into light. Jesus' followers are called to love God and love others regardless of laws or lifestyles inconsistent with biblical morality. Loving others includes loving those who are caught up in the confusion and deception of any and all sin including sexual sin (heterosexual or homosexual). Picking and choosing sins or selectively doling out God's love and grace is a subjective judgment filled with pitfalls counter to the Spirit and commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Yes, homosexuality (along with lying, stealing, gossiping, adultery, indifference, etc.) is sin. How we address sin is crucial. Consider Rick Warren's timely words: **"Our culture has accepted two huge lies. The first is that if you disagree with someone's lifestyle, you must fear them or hate them. The second is that to love someone means you agree with everything they believe or do. Both are nonsense. You don't have to compromise convictions to be compassionate."**

These are not new challenges we aliens face. Christians are sojourners on a fallen, rebellious planet. God's holy nature always transcends civil law and what may be "legal" is not always moral. Even though it seems like darkness gained a little ground last week, rest assured the light of our gospel testimony now has an opportunity to shine ever brighter for Christ!

Memory Verse For July—James 4:7

"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

Our Gathering Today

Feeding on the Word!

Despite the current Supreme court ruling regarding the legalizing of same sex marriage nothing has really changed, just because something is legal does not mean it is moral. Jesus guides and tempers our mind set and reaction by his example of purity, compassion for sinners and conviction for truth. Christians find themselves, as the apostle Peter says, "**as aliens and strangers**" living in a culture hostile to God's nature. The recent SCOTUS ruling reminds us both of opportunities and challenges to live and love differently as we obey the greatest command to love God and to love others. The book of **First Peter** will provide the framework for our study this morning. See you there :-)

Welcome Guests!

Thank you for being here this morning! Our Sunday assembly is only an hour or so of our week when we come together to be encouraged, to open God's word, and to share communion in memory of Jesus life, death and resurrection. If you would like to know more about us as a church family go to **grandjunction-church.org** and click on the "**About**" tab and then "**What we believe.**" We will be honored to answer any questions you may have. Please let know how we might serve you.

Acts of service...the face of Jesus

Thanks to our middle schoolers who combined with the Littleton Church of Christ middle schoolers to do service projects around the building and at the homes of a few of our members this past week. Also, thanks to Darlene Rettig and Jan Nelson for being here early Monday and Tuesday morning to fix and serve breakfast for all the kids, Amanda Gerber and Sue Olree for cooking marvelous meals for the Homeless. Nothing like a community of Christians working together in love to bring the kingdom of heaven to earth! Thank you all!

"Love One Another!"

Homeless Shelter Meal

It will be our opportunity to prepare and serve the evening meal on Monday July 6 and the shelter on North Ave. Lasagna trays will be distributed in the foyer right after assembly this morning and servers should be at the shelter by 4:30 PM on Monday.

Upcoming Baby Shower

There will be a baby shower on Saturday, July 25, 10 AM for Hailey Austin (wife of Brian) at Brenda Austin's house. See Jenna Hill if you have questions.

Bread Ministry Needs

Della Fiske/Turner is coordinator of the Bread Ministry and is in need of at least 7 more bakers to sign up to bake small loaves of bread for visitors on Sunday morning. Her list has shrunk due to people moving away, etc. Please contact her if you would like to be put on the list. Also, the Bread Ministry is using a different type visitor card. There is a rose decal attached to the information card and we hope our visitors will put that on their lapel so that we may recognize them and get better acquainted.

Mountain States Change Cans

The Mountain States Children's Home change cans are set out in the foyer. Pick yours up and fill it with change. The funds go towards purchasing perishable foods for the Children's Home. Randy Schow comes to pick them up in November. See Office or Chuck Tourney for questions.

Empty Nester Schedule

The Empty Nester Group will have a Ladies Lunch Thursday, July 9th, 11:30 AM at Tequila's Mexican Food, 2454 WS Hwy, 6 & 50. RSVP to Sherry Crowe (970) 256-1127.

Also, the Nesters will have a game night on Friday July 24th. More info to come.

Jeremy Gadberry Address

Jeremy is undergoing treatment at Summit View Rehab. Facility and he would love to get cards and letters of encouragement. His address is:

Jeremy Gadberry
CJSD Dept. 5018
PO Box 20000
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Drop him a note. Paper and pen are provided in the foyer. Leave your note in the basket and we will mail it to him or you can write him direct at this address. Thank You.

The Creative Christian Art Guild News.

The Guild is cancelling the meeting of July 5 due to the 4th of July holiday. They will resume meetings on the 3rd Sunday of the month (July 19) and they will be doing papermaking. See Cindi King with questions.

Thank you

Your generosity and thoughtfulness will always be appreciated—*Alex Gomez*

We are so warmed by the loving send-off we received from you. We miss you.—Rowena & Marvin Trumbo

(Complete text not published. See cards on info board in foyer.)

Ladies' Bunco Night

Been needing a ladies' night out? Well ... Bunco returns on Thursday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m. No experience necessary; it's an easy game of dice. Invite a friend and bring a finger food to share and a card table if you have one. If you can bring a prize or pick up ice, please let Lesa Brassette know ahead of time!

Special Prayer Requests

Requests we have for this week. Thank you for your prayers. Many have expressed thanksgiving for all of your prayers. They have made a huge difference. God hears and answers.

Continue to pray for:

Travis Robert's friend Josh Garcia, who is recovering from surgery.

Terry Meredith, who had a stint put in his heart.

Chuck Tourney who is recovering from broken bones received in a motorcycle accident.

Pray for Joe Jones who injured his hand in an accident....losing a part of his little finger and injuring other fingers. Pray for a quick recovery and comfort for him.

Pray for Kyle Beaver who is in the VA hospital in Denver with diverticulitis and very ill. Pray for a quick recovery and for comfort for him. Pray for Brent and Amanda Williams as they move to Boulder. And pray for Wes and Bridget as they feel concern for their children.

Always remember our military people, missionaries and the families. And the families of the ISIS victims and the persecuted Christians in the path of the radical Islamists.

Pray for our nation and for the leaders, Pray for God's will to be done in the decisions that are made and the next election. Pray those making decisions will come to realize that God is real and that He is in control, that their minds and hearts be somehow wrestled away from Satan's grasp. Pray for God to bring about the candidate we should elect at the 2016 elections.

Pray for our church family here that we may be pleasing to our Heavenly Father and be about doing His will and work. Pray for guidance for our leaders as well as each member here. Pray that we always bring glory to God by our words and actions.

Prayers of thanksgiving and praise always to our Heavenly Father who cares and watches over us, who sustains us and who has answered our prayers in ways that are always best and timely.

YOUTH NEWS

Huddle

Our next Huddle will be Tonight July 5th at 6:00 PM at the Nortons house please bring a drink or dessert. The Norton's address is 2930 Hwy. 50, GJ, 81503.

Pit

Pit is every Wednesday at 7:00 PM. We are in need of meal coordinators. As coordinator you don't provide all the food, just coordinate for the month of August, September or October.

Middle School Swerve

A big thank you to Kathleen Lee, Vince Urbina, Amanda Gerber, Lesa Brassette, Sarah Jennings, Kloe Nelson, Kelsay Heath, Darlene Rettig, Jan Nelson and all the people who made this short week successful.

Please let Keri Fleming know if you are willing and able to host a huddle or coordinate the pit food for a month. Thank you!

Keri at her email: curtiskeri@yahoo.com or her cell (call or text): [970-712-8361](tel:970-712-8361)



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Grand Junction, CO 81506

Phone: 970-245-4210
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For the Record

June 28, 2015

Attendance	?
Average Attendance, 1st qtr.	277
Contributions	\$4,512.00
Budget	\$7,035.38

Communion Preparation—July

Darlene Rettig

Communion Table 7/5

Sandy Harris

Honored to Serve the Lord's Table in July

Lane Coale
Shawn Collazo
David Cooper
John Cooper
Tom Crist
Bryan Crowe
Tom Deister
Lonnie DeLancey

Announcements

July—Mike Hurd
August—Ron Wilson
Sept.—Scott Ferguson

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

Curtis Fleming	Auditorium
Tom Deister, Gracious Living	103
Young Adult (Under 30)	Room 207

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 Adult Classes—7– 8 PM

John Cooper, Philippians	Auditorium
Ladies Class	202
Singing Class	103

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 at Mesa View Retirement Center Starts At 10 A.M.

Jul 5	Bill Tidwell, David Olree	Acts 15:36-16:5
Jul 12	Vince Urbina, Leonard Silence	Acts 16:6-15
Jul 19	Bob Howard, Dave Scheuerman	Acts 16:16-40
Jul 26	Chuck Tourney, Hunt Zumwalt	Acts 17:1-9
Aug 2	Bud Treu, Mike Hurd	Acts 17:10-15
Aug 9	Bill Barslund, Scott DeLancey	Acts 17:16-34
Aug 16	Bill Tidwell, David Olree	Acts 18:1-17
Aug 23	Vince Urbina, Leonard Silence	Acts 18:18-28
Aug 30	Bob Howard, Dave Scheuerman	Acts 19:1-10
Sept. 6	Chuck Tourney, Hunt Zumwalt	Acts 19:11-22
Sep 13	Bud Treu, Mike Hurd	Acts 19:23-41
Sep 20	Bill Barslund, Scott Delancey	Acts 20:1-6
Sep 27	Bill Tidwell, David Olree	Acts 20:7-12