

SEPT. 8, 2013



Real Life News & Notes

church of Christ of Grand Junction

A Relevant, Serving, Growing Family of Jesus followers

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What the World Needs Now!

"What the world needs now is love sweet love...that's the only thing there is just too little of." These are the lyrics, as best I can remember, (I am too lazy to Google the song) of a song sung years ago. I believe the words of this song are oh so true. Most of us need more love. Many of us may need to give more love.

The message of Jesus is a message of love. Love has a healing power. It enables us to overcome past hurts and disappointments. Loving others is a risk. Our affections and efforts will not always be welcomed. Loving requires courage to continue when rejection or ridicule or unpleasant recollections surface. Love can rejuvenate us. It can give us new life, new purpose, new hope.

Our new "life groups" are an attempt to revive and deepen the love we Christians have for God and for each other. We begin today to make these groups a place of encouragement, learning, sharing and loving. At times in my career as a minister people say to me, "I don't feel a part of the church" or "it seems people ignore me" or "others don't seem to care for me" or "If I left no one would notice." Life groups are a great opportunity to reconnect, to re-establish relationships, to recommit to loving one another.

"What the world needs now is love sweet love...that's the only thing there is just too little of." Will you try and love again? Will you forgive and forget the hurtful past? Give God and others another chance. "This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another....We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death...This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers...Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth." (1 John 3:11, 14, 16, 18)

Let's love again, John Cooper

Youth News

My job involves a lot of talking - talking on the phone, talking in front of groups, talking, talking, and more talking. One of the challenges of mature Christian life is to learn to be silent. Silence is a hard thing to find these days. We have iPhones, iPods, and talkative youth ministers that take up so much of our time! But it's important to make time to have some peace and quiet. Even a few minutes of simple prayer can transform your day. What we find when we pray is that God uses our prayers to focus our hearts on him, which helps us to meet each day's troubles with love, forgiveness, and courage. So be sure to set aside some time each day, no matter how busy you might be. God will use the smallest moments to transform our hearts!

Huddle tonight: Join us at the Jennings' house at **6pm** tonight for food, fellowship, and a devo. The Jennings live at **7368 Reeder Mesa Road** in Whitewater.

Pit on Wednesday: It's starting to get dark earlier, but that won't stop us from meeting at **7pm** for dinner and a time of praise in the pit! **Bring your bibles** and maybe a flashlight!

Memory Verse For September 1 John 5:4

This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

Our Gathering Today

Sermon: This morning we will continue with Part 2 of our **Self-Control** series. Last Sunday The Bible reminded us that living without self-control is like a city without walls; unwise, defenseless, vulnerable to attack, and destined for destruction. Today, we will let the Apostle Peter talk to us about "**Making Every Effort**" to be self-controlled. If anyone could speak from personal experience about the need to control themselves it would be Peter; impetuous, loose tongue, and ready to cut off ears...!

Guests: Thank you for being here this morning! We are honored that you made the choice to be with US for an hour or so this morning. I hope you have helped yourself to donuts, juice, and coffee! **Please fill out a visitor's card (attached to the yummy bread you will get if you raise your hand) if this is your first time here.**

New and recent members: We will honor you at our 5th Sunday Love Meal this month!

See grandjunctionchurch.org for announcements, events, sermons and other helpful info!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are collecting change for Mountain States Children's home again this year. Please place your extra change in the cans and return them to the church office by November 3rd. If you have any questions please contact Chuck Tourney.

EEM Special Contribution

The date for the special contribution for EEM (Eastern European Missions) is Sunday October the 6th.

Singapore Mission Trip

Doug Clayton is going on a mission trip to Singapore next February to help Brandi and Penny Kendall at the Sunset International Bible Institute. It is calculated that the trip will require a \$4,000.00 budget for airfare, meals, for a 14 day mission. Anyone who would like to help Doug financially with this trip can do so by placing a check in the collection plate on Sunday morning during the coming months and designating it for Doug Clayton - Singapore. Any amount you can give will be greatly appreciated.

EMPTY NESTERS September Activity

Tour CDOT's Hanging Lake Tunnel facility in Glenwood Springs on Sept. 28. Meet at 8:00 AM in Church parking lot. We will arrange to take the Church van. \$5 for fuel per couple. We will have lunch following the tour at a place to be decided. RSVP to Brain and Sherry Crowe Ph 256-1127 or Richard and Peg Sisco Ph 523-9854

Soul Care Providers Meeting

September 18th at 6:00 pm in the middle school room. We will discuss new handouts and new business. Please make every effort to be there.

JOHN CLAYTON SEMINAR—Sept. 29

John Clayton will be delivering 4 talks on Sept. 29 on the topic "Does God Exist". He will speak first to the adult bible classes starting at 9 AM, preach during morning assembly and two more talks after lunch.

Speaking of lunch, during this time, we will be honoring our newest members (those recently placing membership and baptisms.) who will go first in line. Eddie Tinkle will prepare barbeque chicken and pork. Everyone else is asked to bring side dishes and desserts to share.

Mr. Clayton's lectures will be different than what we have heard and it will be a great time for faith building, fellowship and getting acquainted.

Welcome!

We rejoice with our new members who obeyed the gospel and placed membership with our church family last week. Donna Turner was baptized by John Cooper and Debra, Faith and Luke Urban recently having moved here from Kansas placed membership. We welcome each one of you and we give God the glory for the increase.

Please keep Martha Caddel and family in your prayers. She is a friend of Mary Ann Rayside and has pneumonia in addition to advanced cancer.

RICH AND MARY MENDENHALL.....Rich is having an MRI to determine what caused numbness in his one side. Pray they can get a diagnosis and can treat the cause. Mary, will be having surgery soon (no date yet) for a precancerous condition of the cervix. They will also determine if it has spread any where else. Pray that they found it soon enough to be able to remove it all and that it hasn't spread anywhere else, for healing for both Rich and Mary, and comfort and peace during this stressful time.

VERNON CHESNUTT.....recovery from stroke

RUBY MORRILL...comfort and peace,decisions for care
Lori and MATT (her son)

Jan Nelsons friend....tumor on his thyroid ..healing

MARGIE DAVIS... cancer...pray for her comfort and peace

JOE WADDELL....(Smith/Briggs neighbor) pancreatic cancer ..successful treatment

EARL DUBOSE...(Shelda Briggs father) progressive neurological disease. Now under hospice care.

AMBER... battling breast cancer.

VINCENT PARRA... osteosarcoma.

TOM DECKER.. esophageal cancer.

DAVID JUSTUS...Jimmie's brother... complete recovery from Bells Palsy

VERLYN MATHEWS... healing of his many health issues.

Pray for those who are ill with various viruses and 'bugs' ...there are a number of folks suffering from them. The Gadberry family have all been ill for over a week with it...and some of the ladies day care children and families also have had them.

Pray for the FIRE FIGHTERS continue to pray for their safety and success in containing the fires...pray for all those affected by the fires.

Pray for our church familyMay we our lives always bring glory to God....and others to His saving grace.

Also pray for the Life Groups that will be starting soon. May they be what God would have them to be. Ask for Gods guidance for the leaders and all who are in the groups...that we can better serve Him and grow closer to Him and each other through these groups.

Also continue to pray for the various missions that we are involved in. May many be reached for Christ through them. Both locally and around the world.

Continue to pray for our military people and their families, for safety and strong faith to endure. Also for our nation and the world leaders. May they lead in a way that God will bless our nation and we may live godly and peaceful lives. Pray for the leaders to come to know God.

Pray for Divine guidance for us and our leaders.

Pray for our newest Christians, who have been baptized in recent months....pray that they won't let the devil discourage them, ask God to protect them from the evil one...and encourage them.

Many Christians are asked about various subjects, everything from God's role or lack thereof in various events to inquiries about some simple piece of information. If you don't know, "**I don't know**" is not only the truthful response, but the humble, God honoring response. As you might imagine I am often asked specific questions about topics for which ministers are assumed to have answers. The assumption is that not only do "**The secret things belong to God**" (**Deuteronomy 29:29**) but the secrets of the universe also belong to me, or theologians or really smart people with light speed web service.

While writing this (no kidding!), I got a phone call asking me a question. You guess it, I said, "**I don't know.**" As I did a strange feeling of freedom washed over me. It's not important that we know all, or most, or even some of the answers to questions we are often asked. It is more honest, more humble, more liberating to simply say, "I don't know." Such admissions of ignorance can be a bit uncomfortable, especially if people are in the habit of turning to you for answers and you are in the habit of feeling you must always provide one. Certainly there is always a place for godly advice and counsel, yet we must fight the temptation to be the answer person, as if our words somehow had the power to fix the inquirers' problem, solve the life mystery, or remove the struggle.

I love the image of a pilgrim on a long, difficult trek up the mountain to find the guru. When the pilgrim finally reaches the top he finds the short, bald, bearded guru sitting wearing a robe, and asks him the meaning of life. The guru, in between several very long, meditative pauses usually gives a vague response, answers in a question of his own, or simply says, "**Sorry you came all the way up here but if I knew the answer to that I wouldn't be up here myself.**"

I see well intended people often attempting to respond as if they know more than they actually do. Sometimes we even attempt to solve the mystery by assigning God credit or blame for our choices. Such is a very slippery and subjective practice. Yes, God **can do** and **has done** many things, yet we must be cautious about assigning actions to God that may be more a result of the natural flow of a fallen creation or our imperfect choices than they are His desire or actions. Make no mistake, **I do know** that God can and will work meticulously and relentlessly in our life to bring about good in any situation (**Romans 8:28**). **I do know** there is a God, and **I do know** that I am not him.

If I were the guru my answer might be: "**Who** you know is much more important that what you know...(long, meditative pause)...Now be careful walking down the mountain."

This week practice the spiritual discipline of saying, "I don't know."



Church of Christ of Grand Junction

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Phone: 970-245-4210
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For the Record

Sept. 1, 2013

Attendance	253
Average Attendance, 2nd qtr.	249
Contributions	\$7,918.00
Budget	\$6,208.96

Honored to Serve the Lord's Table in September

Marvin Trumbo
A.J. Urbina
Vince Urbina
Dan Vorse
Parish Williams
Rick Wilkins
Scott Webb
Jeff Yeager

Communion Preparation—September

Susan Towles

Communion Table 9/8/13

Announcements: Ron Wilson

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

Bill Wade—Auditorium
Young Adult (Under 30)—Room 207
Sign Language Class—Room 103

Wednesday Evening Adult Classes—7- 8 PM

Bob Heath—Jesus Miracles & Parables—Auditorium
Shirlene Caraway—(Starts Sept. 18)-----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

Sept 8	Bobby Heath, Dane Jennings	Mark 4:1-20
Sept 15	Chuck Tourney, Bud Treu	Mark 4:21-25
Sept 22	Bill Tidwell, Wes Yeager	Mark 4:26-34
Sept 29	Bob Heath, Daran Mahoney	Mark 4:35-41
Oct 6	Jerry Austin, Scott Delancy	Mark 5:1-20
Oct 13	Hunt Zumwalt, Steve Bagga	Mark 5:21-43
Oct 20	Scott Ferguson, Dave Scheurman	Mark 6:1-6
Oct 27	Bobby Heath, Dane Jennings	Mark 6:7-13

Psalm 95 :7 (NIV)

“For He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care.”