



Real Life News & Notes

church of Christ of Grand Junction

A Relevant, Serving, Growing Family of Jesus followers

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Life Group Update

No doubt many of you have already attended your new "life group". It is my hope and prayer that your group is a blessing to you and others. Below is a letter I am sending out to members of our life group. This will let you know what we are doing and I would love to hear from other groups as to their plans. Thanks to Bill and Karen Wade for their hard work in getting these new "life groups" going!

In His love, John Cooper

Dear fellow "life group" member,
Just a note to update you on the goings on in the "life group" you are a member of. We have met twice so far and have made some plans we want you to be aware of.

We have decided to meet on the first three Sundays of each month at 6 p.m. The place of meeting will rotate among our group's homes. Just call Dave Scheuerman or John Cooper for the location of our meeting on any given week. Our next meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Sunday, October 6 at the Scheuerman's home at 2378 So. San Miguel Dr.

The first two Sunday's of each month will be a time of Bible study, prayer and planning. Books have been ordered to be used in conjunction with our Bible study.

The third Sunday of each month will be used to host others, (college age group, teen youth huddle, new members, etc.) and also to go and visit others (those hospitalized, homebound, in retirement homes, or in nursing homes, etc.).

The fourth Sunday of each month will be open for group members to attend the regularly scheduled fourth Sunday singing at the building or for group members to have a special "family night" with their own families.

If you have not attended yet we encourage you to come whenever you can. We want to get to know you better and have you as an active part of our "life group." Any suggestions as to how we can better meet your needs or serve the needs of others will be gladly accepted.

God bless, John & Holly Cooper, Dave and Glenda Scheuerman

Last Minute Urgent Notice!!!!

Don't forget our Special "Does God Exist" Sunday Seminar next week with John Clayton! Invite your friends and neighbors, there are plenty of brochures still available to hand out. And please bring a little extra food in the way of side dishes and dessert as we do anticipate lots of visitors.

Huddle tonight: Tonight we will be meeting at the Tinkle's house at 298 28 1/2 rd. Join us at 6pm for food and fellowship. Bring your Bibles!

Middle school lunch today: Let's go eat! We should be back within about 45 minutes, parents.

Pit on Wednesday: Join us as usual at 7pm in the pit for amazing food, amazing singing, and an amazing devotional talk from one of our amazing guest speakers! Bring your Bibles!

High schoolers, mark your calendars! We are planning our **high school retreat** for November 15-17. Bring a friend!

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 look at the theme of "Friend." The Bible has some challenges as we consider Jesus' words and how friendship looks in our lives.

Guests: thank you for being here! We welcome you and invite you to fill out a visitors card attached to your gift bread. We hope you will choose to return and get to know us better over the next few weeks. Next sunday we will have a guest speaker and a meal together after our morning gathering. Please plan to stay and eat with us!

log on to: grandjunctionchurch.org for announcements, events, sermons and other helpful info!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 and lodging for a 14 day mission. During his stay, Doug will be teaching 40 hours a week. 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 Bryan and Sherry Crowe Ph 256-1127 or Richard and Peg Sisco Ph 523-9854

Thank You

Dearest church family,

I received the lovely cards and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I like living in Craig with Teresa and her family but I miss all of you so much! I feel pretty good most of the time but still have trouble falling. Please give Ted a hug for me! - Alice Jackson

Attention

ALL LADIES—Mark your calendars for a FREE lunch and a fun day of fellowship on Saturday, Nov. 9. Stay tuned for more details.

Welcome

Last Sunday Cherish Urban obeyed the gospel and became a child of God and a member of our church family. Her decision adds beauty and encouragement to our congregation. Welcome, Cherish.

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 barbecue 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.

Eye Glasses For India

Chester Ault is going back to India in December. He is collecting used prescription eyeglasses for the widows, orphans and less fortunate people who cannot afford them. He made arrangements with an optometrist who will fit the glasses without charge to the recipients. Please give Robin English your eyeglass donations. Chester will be here in November to give us an update on his mission work and to collect the glasses. Thank you! And God bless you for your kindness.

Clothing Drive

Our clothing drive dates are fast approaching. The dates for collecting are October 14—October 25. The dates for give-away are October 31—November 2. Again this year, we are going to need lots of help to get this great ministry accomplished.

We will have a short meeting in Room 103, right after the morning service, on September 22. All the ones that would like to be a part of this great work—no matter how much or how little time you can help—WE NEED YOU!!!

Ladies Bunco Night

It returns - Thursday, October 10, from 6 to 9 pm in the fellowship hall! Bring a card table if you can, a finger food to share, and invite a friend to join us! It's an easy dice game with no experience necessary! Direct questions to Lesa Brassette.

NORMA CHURCHMAN—Has been ill and is undergoing tests to determine the cause of an intestinal disorder. She asks for prayers on her behalf.
 Prayers of thanksgiving for the continuing recovery of Aaron Henrie and Tyler Cooper from carbon monoxide poisoning. And continue to remember the family & friends of Reid Gates who lost his life from the same cause.
 Prayers of thanksgiving for the successful surgery of Mary Mendenhall. She is home and doing well. No cancer was found any place else and they have been able to remove the diseased cells.
 Prayers of thanksgiving that Sonia Green’s brain tumor was successfully removed. They are waiting the lab report but the Dr. does not believe it was malignant. Pray it was not...and for her complete recovery.
 Prayers of Thanksgiving for John Akers successful procedures on esophagus and digestive tract this week. He is much better.
 Prayers of thanksgiving that Carolyn DeBerry is doing much better. She is in Larchwood for rehab.
 VICKIE BIOCIC.....pray for relief from severe back pain and also for recovery from pneumonia. Pray for her comfort and peace . She is still in St Mary’s hospital.
 GAVIN WHITROCK.... Late stage cancer,for comfort and peace
 VERNON CHESNUTT.....recovery from stroke
 MARGIE DAVIS... cancer... continue to pray for her comfort and peace
 JOE WADDELL....(Smith/Briggs neighbor) pancreatic cancer .. as he waits to see if the treatments helped. Pray for a good outcome.
 EARL DUBOSE...(Shelda Briggs father) progressive neurological disease. Now under hospice care. Pray for comfort and peace for him and his family.
 AMBER... breast cancer.
 VINCENT PARRA... osteosarcoma.
 TOM DECKER.. esophageal cancer.
 Pray for our church family May we be pleasing to God in all we day and say and bring glory to Him.
 Thanksgiving for being in a loving, active body of Christ.
 Pray the various ministries we are engaged in be instrumental in bringing souls to Christ and each other closer together with Him.
 Pray for guidance for our elders, ministers and all those who are leading or teaching
 Pray for missionaries around the world...for safety, guidance and protection...that God’s word may reach many.
 Continue to pray for the military and families. Pray for safety and for them to keep their faith in difficult situations and danger, and families as they are left to wait for their return.

Grave clothes

“Take off the grave clothes and let him go!” One of my favorite texts is the account of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead in John 11. This phrase is very revealing. Let’s dig a little deeper into the well to drink of some truth that will challenge and bless us.

Immediately after Jesus raises his friend Lazarus from the dead, he tells his friends and family to remove **“the”** grave clothes, not **“his”** grave clothes. Lazarus no longer needed these clothes which just a moment before **defined and restricted** him. These grave clothes were no longer **“his.”** Lazarus, by the power of God, had left death behind, had been raised from his past and was now destined to live anew, again, completely unfettered by his death clothes.

When, by the Power of Jesus’ blood, we are raised from the watery grave of baptism we undergo a similar and even more significant transformation. We leave our old life, our death clothes, and our past restrictive enslavement to sin behind. And, as we rise to live as resurrected beings, Jesus, through our faith in him, joins us in the dressing room as we abandon our old garments of sin, death, and hopelessness and are **re-dressed and re-clothed in life, freedom and hope** from His very personal wardrobe closet. **“All of you who have been baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.” (Galatians 3:27).**

There’s more! It was not up to Lazarus himself to leave his stinking grave clothes behind. His friends and family were vital participants in his release from death. They **shared in and were invested partners** in Lazarus’ new found freedom from his past. They were told by our Lord, **“Take his grave clothes off and let him go!”** They were reminded that in removing these morbid garments **for** him that not only was God releasing Lazarus from his past but **they were** involved in releasing and liberating him as well!

Is Jesus subtly reminding us that the spiritual process of being free is not complete until and unless we unbind others and **“let them go”**? Our forgiving, releasing, and leaving behind the death clothes of others is a deeply personal and relational aspect of our community of faith as we embrace one whose past, like ours, held the stench of dirty rags and rotting flesh. Like Lazarus’ community, at the command of the Jesus, **we untie and unbind others** being compelled by grace to encourage and forgive each other as re-clothed believers who have been **“raised to walk in newness of life!”** (Romans 6:4).

As we sip from this well, two very personal and challenging questions loom: Have you been raised from the dead through the watery grave of baptism by the power of God and Jesus blood? If so, have you likewise forgiven, released and let go of the dirty death rags once worn by the newly raised?



Church of Christ of Grand Junction

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For the Record

Sept. 15, 2013

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Attendance | 271 |
| Average Attendance, 2nd qtr. | 249 |
| Contributions | \$7,442.00 |
| 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 9/22/13

Jerry Austin

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 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.”