

DEC. 8, 2013



# Real Life News & Notes

*church of Christ of Grand Junction*

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

## **Outreach Minister**

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## **Visitation Minister**

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## **Youth Minister**

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## **Preaching Minister**

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## **Church Office**

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## **Some Great Gift Ideas!**

Many of us are thinking of gifts we can give others during this time of year. Not always easy to know what someone else wants or needs. It can be expensive as well. I thought it might be nice to think of some gifts that everyone needs and don't cost a lot of money. Maybe we all could give others more quality time. Maybe we could listen better. Perhaps we could give the gift of love and encouragement.

Many of us are married and could give the gift of prioritizing our relationship with our spouse. In fact, to facilitate this, during the months of January and February I will be leading an interactive workshop on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. entitled "Fearless Marriage." This eight week course is for couples who want to improve their marriages and make it one of the great joys of their lives.

Several things are necessary for this workshop to truly benefit the marriages of those who attend. First, there needs to be a commitment to attend all eight sessions if at all possible. These sessions will deal with "The Three Keys to Marital Success", "Understanding the Personalities of those Involved", "Dealing Successfully With Anger and Stress in Marriage", "Positive Communication Techniques", "Realistic Expectations", "Problem Resolution", "Having Fun in Marriage" and several other relevant topics.

If you are interested see me ASAP so I can order enough materials for all who want to attend. Both spouses need to attend and have a "Fearless Marriage" notebook which costs \$16.00 per person (\$32.00 per couple). This is the price I pay and if it is a problem for you to come up with that much let me know.

For the gift of great marriages, John Cooper

**Memory Verse For December— Isa. 9:6**

**"to us a child is born, a son is given".**

Our Gathering Today

**Sermon:** This morning we will take a short walk, two miles to be exact. We will explore our Messiah's words that distinguish the first from the second mile of our faith journey. I hope you brought an open heart, a desire to be challenged and changed, your Sword, and a friend!

**Change of date:** Due to a very busy holiday season we will re-schedule our **New Member Class** to early 2014.

**Wed night class:** This Wednesday night **Bob Heath** will finish up his class on the parables and miracles of Jesus. Bob is a wonderful, wise and passionate teacher and we thank him for leading that study. The following Wednesday night (December 18th) Doug will be starting a textual study on the Apostle John's minor epistles (I, II, III John). Hope to see you here

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Over 60's Dinner

The annual Over 60's Dinner will be on December 14. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5 PM with dinner at 5:30 PM. Immediately following the dinner, a play (Twas the Real Night Before Christmas) will be presented starting at 7:30 PM. If anyone would like to donate ornaments for a stage tree, Please give them to John or Barbara Akers.

Decorating Work Party

Cindy King has scheduled a work session right after assembly today to start decorating for the Over 60's Dinner. Meet in the fellowship hall if you would like to help.

Empty Nester Christmas Party:

Tuesday, December 17, 6:00pm. Each person needs to bring a white elephant gift. Please reply to Wilma Seela at 985-4726 by Wednesday, December 11 with your name and phone number. The location will be determined according to the number attending. RSVP required by December 11. You will be contacted for food assignments.

Mary Clayton Rwanda Project

As many of you know Mary Clayton will be leaving December 29th to go to teach in Rwanda for 5 months. The missionaries who she will be working with have sent a list of items they hope Mary can bring. There is a clip board/sign up list in the foyer. If you can purchase one or more of these items please place your initials by the item (so they don't get duplicated) and bring the item(s) to the church office or Doug no later than December 22nd. Thank you!

Christmas Day Dinner

Darlene Rettig will host Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day for those who have no family to share it with. Dinner will be served about Noon. See Darlene for further details.

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** Needed. Carolers to sing on Main Street Friday, December 13 from 6 p.m. till 7 p.m. We would like to have all parts represented. This is part of a Music happening for area music students and musicians. It would be special if our Church could be represented as acappella singers/carolers. Everyone is welcome to be part of this fun time of singing and sharing good tidings and a merry heart. See Lane or Brenda for further information. "Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord". Eph. 5:19 P.S. This is open to all ages.

Angel Tree

The angel tree is up in the foyer. If you take an angel, Please sign out on the sheet provided for you that is under the tree.

Youth Group News

**Huddle tonight:** Join us tonight at 6pm for dinner and a devo at the Roberts' house! Ty and his folks live at 2950 Pheasant Run Circle. Hope to see you there!

**Wednesday night worship:** As usual, we'll be meeting at 7pm in the high school room on Wednesday evening for a time of fellowship, fun, praise, and worship. This is a great place to bring a friend.

**Progressive dinner:** December 20th is the date! Meet up at the church a 5pm for an evening of adventure and delicious food. Bring a cheap (under \$5) white elephant gift.

Continue to pray for those with ongoing illnesses, and their families...GARY WALLACE extensive brain cancer, EARL DUBOSE, has PSP, under hospice care. Also pray for continued recovery for ROSE BRANSON, PAUL DELANCEY, DONNA DELANCEY, CHESTER AULT, & MARY LOU (S. Gabriels daughter, Gina Reed, blood clots.

THE LARRY LUCERO FAMILY....2 year old ALYSSA, had surgery on Monday in Denver to remove a piece of peanut she had aspirated into her left lung. Thank you for all the prayers on their behalf and thank you to the church in Denver who has been ministering to Larry' immediate needs in Denver.

PRESTON DIXSON, had a pacemaker put in this past week. Pray it will work and improve his condition. and a quick recovery from the surgery to implant it.

MARY CATHEY ....fell and broke some ribs. She is in Larchwood #1. Pray for healing and relief from pain.

JOHN AKERS.....Pray for John Akers as he deals with his health issues and prepares for surgery in Denver, Dec 9. and for comfort for Barb.

Continue to Pray for travel safety for the many that are and will be traveling during the upcoming Christmas and New Years holiday season.

RAGS RAGSDALE—He is suffering from recurring lung cancer and the future is uncertain. May God's will be done and keep him comfortable and at peace.

Pray for the son of Millie, a dear lady very active in the quilting ministry. Her son is suffering from Lou Gehrig's Disease. Pray for their peace of mind and comfort through this ordeal.

Continue to lift up prayers of Thanksgiving and Praise to God for his abundant blessings, among which are answered prayers.

Pray for the MISSIONARIES...for safety, strength, guidance and wisdom...and success in the work God has sent them to do. For God to open the hearts and minds of those they are trying to reach.

Pray for the MILITARY...they need our prayers perhaps more than ever at this time...for physical and emotional safety, for protection from the evil one and those who would take away their religious freedoms. For encouragement for them and their families....both those on active duty and those who our home but trying to adjust to so many things.

Continue to pray for OUR NATION and all those who are in leadership positions...pray their hearts be turned to God so they will lead in His will. (Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.)

If you look at a map from the 1940's, you can easily see the power and extent of the British empire just seventy years ago. Great Britain - an island about the size of Oregon - controlled 1/4 of the world's landmass and 1/5 of its population. It boggles the mind to think of how such a small nation could have so much power, and yet it took less than a generation for the British Empire at the height of its power to *completely dissolve*. By 1970, it simply no longer existed.

The British Empire, like the countless empires that came before it, was just a temporary thing in spite of all the power it once held. History teaches us that power is not permanent. It never has been, and it never will be.

So why do we crave power so much?

Well, we don't just crave power because we want to accomplish things. We crave power because of the way it makes us feel. It makes us feel strong. It makes us feel confident important. And so we seek out power as much as we can. Like nations at war, we try to build up alliances and get as many people on our team as possible. Like lawyers in a courtroom, we try to dig up as much dirt as we can on the other side.

All of this can help us to do the things we want to do, but more importantly, it gives us a sense of security. We don't want to be tyrants or dictators, and we don't want to run an empire. We just want to feel safe and secure.

But we do manipulate people for our own advantage. We talk certain people up and other people down. We play politics. We lie to make ourselves look appealing and important. We lie to make ourselves powerful.

When we act in accordance with our desire for power, we repudiate the gospel of Jesus with our actions. For Jesus, although he was "in the form of God," chose to abandon power as a way to advance his agenda. Instead, as Paul writes in Philippians 2, he "emptied himself, taking the form of a slave." He traded power for weakness. He traded the rights of kingship for total obedience "to the point of death - even death on a cross."

Jesus wasn't just a god among men. He was *the* God among human beings, and yet he chose to suffer and be killed rather than use his power to save himself and punish his enemies. Similarly, he didn't start whispering campaigns against those who opposed him. He didn't care whether or not he scored political points.

Are we going to follow his example? It's all too easy to place our trust in the things that the world sees as powerful. Our nation is powerful. Our bank accounts might make us powerful. And yet as we've seen earlier, that power is temporary. It's phony. Because in rejecting earthly power, Jesus revealed a different kind of power. It expresses itself exclusively through love, sacrifice, and humility. The only lasting power comes through obedience to God in imitation of Christ, not through the selfish pursuit of our own security.



# Church of Christ of Grand Junction

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Grand Junction, CO 81506

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### For the Record

Nov. 24 2013

Attendance	231
Average Attendance, 3rd. qtr.	265
Contributions	\$5,186.00
<b>Dec 1 Contributions</b>	<b>\$6,486.00</b>
Budget	\$6,208.96

### Honored to Serve the Lord's Table in December

Tony Clayton  
Lane Coale  
Bryan Crowe  
Tom Deister  
Lonnie DeLancey  
Paul DeLancey  
Scott DeLancey  
David Downey

### Communion Preparation—December

Dielle Norton & Daughters

### Communion Table 12/8/13

Ron Wilson

**Announcements: Ron Wilson**

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

Bill Wade—Auditorium  
Young Adult (Under 30)—Room 207  
Sermon On The Mount—Vince Urbina—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**

Dec 8	Bill Barslund, Sandy Harris	Mark 7:31-37
Dec 15	Scott Ferguson, Dave Scheurman	Mark 8:1-13
Dec 22	Bobby Heath, Matt King	Mark 8:22-26
Dec 29	Jerry Austin, Craig Austin	Mark 8:31-9:1
Jan 5	Chuck Tourney, Bud Treu	Mark 9:2-13
Jan 12	Bill Tidwell, Wes Yeager	Mark 9:14-32
Jan 19	Bob Heath, Darren Mahoney	Mark 9:33-36
Jan 26	Paul Delancy, Scott Delancy	Mark 9:42-50
Feb 2	Hunt Zumwalt, Steve Bagga	Mark 10:1-12
Feb 9	Bill Barslund, Sandy Harris	Mark 10:13-16
Feb 16	Scott Ferguson, Dave Scheurman	Mark 10:17-31
Feb 23	Bobby Heath, Matt King	Mark 10:32-45