

December 20, 2015



Real Life News & Notes

Patterson Road church of Christ

A Relevant, Serving, Growing Family of Jesus followers

Outreach Minister

John Cooper
Home: 241-4075
Cell: 216-5782
jscooper1952@gmail.com

Worship Minister

Lane Coale
Cell: 712-4921
lane.coale.bass@gmail.com

Youth Minister

Matt Lee
Cell: 214-554-1253
MattLeez2015@gmail.com

Preaching Minister

Doug Clayton
Cell: 201-3470
dclayton12@aol.com

Visitation Minister

Hunt Zumwalt
Cell: 210-8960
hmzumwalt@bresnan.net

Church Office

Office: 970-245-4210
Fax: 970-245-4211
jtidwell@bresnan.net

Web: grandjunctionchurch.org

Sips from the Well (by Doug Clayton)

Manger

"Behold I bring you good news of great joy. Today in the town of David a savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you, you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:10-12).

Augustus Caesar's census provided the venue, the first century version of *Black Friday* as the bustling hamlet of Bethlehem had no vacancy and every shopkeeper smiled. Behind the scenes, below the Christmas chaos, off the beaten path, a young unwed mother gives birth to the Savior of the world. King Jesus coos and gurgles from a feed trough in a stable. How could the world's most holy and sacred event be so inconspicuous and disregarded? How could something so ordinary and deficient in spectacle and ceremony have any resemblance to kingship and power? The answer, accessible only to those listening like shepherds of old tending their flocks, rests in the subtle, the practical, and the easy to miss. It rests in the **manger**. Where would you look for the Messiah? Probably not in a **manger** or in the face of a newborn sharing a cave with farm animals? Yet that is precisely where God chooses to break into our lives, bringing good news of great joy to those willing and wise enough to seek him.

Immanuel in a **manger** reminds us that God is approachable, not to be feared. I mean really, who is afraid of a baby? Babies are irresistible! The soft, warm, tiny, inviting arms of infant God reach out to us even as we are caught up in our busy Bethlehem's of materialism, our pursuits of fleeting pleasure and worldly success, relying on sin and self to satisfy, and trusting in the grand and prideful schemes of men that disappoint, always promising but never delivering. As we search for meaning and fullness eternity's Son beckons to be held, embraced, loved.

Mangers as a rule are fairly unsanitary (all that fodder, animal slobber, splinters, and such) and certainly not a place one would expect to find Jehovah's anointed Deliverer. The reason Mary gave birth in a barn and made a crib out of a **manger** is the same reason so many miss the Son of God altogether. Listen to that beloved Christmas carol: ***"Joy to the world the Lord has come, let earth receive her King.... Let every heart prepare him room, let heaven and nature sing..."*** Did you catch it, the reason for the **manger**? ***There is No. Room. For. Jesus. Any. Place. Else!*** This child of Mary, the son of God is looking for a **prepared heart** that will make room for him. No inn, no temple, no palace nursery could contain the infant King! The **manger** of your heart is the only suitable place for the Son of God!

Unlike fleeting tinsel and fancy wrappers the **manger** is simple, humble, barely a whisper, revealing the joyous mystery that God has breached the curtain of time and is "with us" and here to stay! The **Manger** is the gathering place of shepherds and truth seekers of all generations who would look up and hearken to angels on starry nights as they long to find the Christ child, the Savior!

Have you prepared Him room? Is the Inn of your heart ready for the arrival of King Jesus? If so, the message of the **manger** is indeed "Good news of great joy!"

Merry Christmas :-)

Memory Verse For December—Isa 9:6

"for unto us a child is born"

Gathering Today

Feeding on the Word!

This morning we open the Bible to conclude our *Jesse Tree* study as we consider "**Good news of great joy for all people.**" Our video asks a profound question not only of Mary, but of us..."**Did you know?**" As the eternal God breaks into time through a manger, hope is restored, joy is renewed and God wants us to know what we might not have otherwise known. See you in **Luke chapter 2** in a few minutes!

Welcome Guests! (Guest WiFi is available)

May you be blessed and encouraged by our simple Christ centered gathering as we sing, pray, commune and feast on the word of God. *If you would like to know more about us go to grandjunctionchurch.org and click on the "About" tab and then "What we believe."*

For your convenience we have a **nursing/cry room** (with audio) at the back of the auditorium, an **attended nursery** across the hall from the cry room, as well as a **Kid friendly program** during the worship assembly for **ages 3 years to 3rd grade** (we dismiss them just before the sermon). **Thank you for being our Guests this morning!**

Acts of Service...The Face of Jesus

As is our custom in this space each week we thank and recognize members of our church family who through their acts of unselfish service show us what Jesus looks like. These folks do not seek recognition or want others to know of their good deeds done in private or otherwise but we are blessed by their example of humility and living faith and do our best to share that with our church. **(BTW, if you know of someone whom we might mention please drop me (Doug) or Jimmye a note any time.)**

This morning we are in awe, we are amazed at the most unspeakable, unimaginable act of service ever done. In the ultimate Act of Service **God** showed us, in **Jesus**, His face. He was born in a stable, grew, lived, laughed, loved, healed, served, and was rejected, tortured and brutally crucified for us, for our sins, so that we might be reunited with the Father, live a purpose filled and full life on earth as kingdom dwellers, overcome death, and live forever in a restored, immortal body in a renewed heaven and earth forever in the light of His eternal love. **Thank you Father** for your gift! **Thank you Father** for your unconditional love! **Thank you Father** for your incomprehensible **Act of service** for me, for all humanity!

Love One Another

Change of Address

Richard Moore has moved. His new address is:

Comfort Care Homes
442 1/2 Sandia Dr.
House 1, Room 6
G.J., CO 81507

There are several buildings at this address and Richard is in the one next to the sign. If you have trouble finding him, go to the Comfort Care office for information.

Creative Christian Art Guild

The Art Guild will meet in the fellowship hall today at 1 pm. Their project is candle making and they will be exchanging Christmas ornaments. See Cindi King about supplies will be needed.

Thank You!

Kay Gehrett wishes to thank everyone for their help with the angel tree. Angels disappeared from the tree almost as fast as they could be put on. This is just another example of our church family's giving spirit.

Buy-A-Bed Night

Having a hard time finding a Christmas gift for that special someone that already has everything? Consider "Buying a Bed Night" in their honor. For \$10.37 a homeless individual in our community can receive a warm and safe one night stay, dinner, breakfast at Homeward Bound of the Grand Valley. Thank you for your support as we continue "Encouraging a Pathway Home". (See bulletin board outside office for more information)

Ride to Sunday Morning Assembly Needed

Shaun Barrientez is in need of a ride to church on Sunday morning. The lady who had been bringing him recently passed away. If you can help, Shaun's address is:

Shaun Barrientez
972 Walnut Ave.
GJ, CO 81501
Phone: 245-2326

Shaun's group home could be located on your route to church. It is located very near Community Hospital and CMU.

Special Prayer Requests

Please add the following to your daily prayers this week Thank you and God bless!

Darlene Rettig will be traveling, please pray for safety for her. And for anyone else that you know that will be traveling. Many will be for the Christmas holiday, so include them in your prayers.

Continue to pray for Ron Wilson and and prayers of thanksgiving that there is treatment for his kidney issues. Pray it works and for complete function of the kidney to return.

Bonnie Orr, Taylor Lamkin , Taryn Connell, and Reece Norton are continuing to recovery from their recent surgeries. Roy Karo struggles with heart problems. Continue to remember them in prayer.

Margie Nelson...cancer, at home under hospice care. Please pray for her and for her family. Pray for Thelma as she continues to recover from a stroke.

Prayers for Delaney the little girl who is losing her battle with cancer...and for her family. and for Safyre the 8 year old who lost her whole family in an arson fire when she was 6. She was burned over 75% of her body and has undergone many surgeries in the last 2 years.

Rick Kauffman struggling with alcoholism and Tyler Johnson discouraged and needs our prayers and encouragement, currently in Mesa County Jail. Pray for all those who suffer from any kind of addiction, pray for their healing and their reliance on God for His help.

Please also pray for our nation and those making decisions that affect its future and the future of our next generations. Pray for their hearts and minds to be opened so that they can see the truth and act accordingly. Pray for the leaders of the nations around the world also...Pray for God to once again be a factor in all of the decisions made.

Pray for guidance for Christians that we may know God's will in all things, so that we will respond as He would have us in the things that we face in today's world.

Pray for our military people and their families as well as the law enforcement and first responders and firemen. Pray for their safety and God's strength, courage and direction for all.

Pray for our church family here....for each of us as we seek to do God's will. Pray for our leaders and all of the work for the Lord that is being undertaken. Pray for His guidance for them and for what we do is His will and will bring glory to Him...and many into His kingdom.

Prayers of thanksgiving to our loving God who sent His Son to earth to live among us and to die to redeem us. For His love and mercy and His continual watch over us. Prayers of Thanksgiving to God for the loving family of His that we are a part of here at Patterson Road.

YOUTH NEWS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM Our Youth group will not meet for the next 2 weeks.

HUDDLES

We have huddles planned for **January 3rd, 17th and 31st**. If you would like to host a huddle please contact Keri Fleming at curtiskeri@yahoo.com.

COLORADO CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP

Plans and preparation for camp 2016 have already begun. Please pray for camp and mark your calendars for **June 5th- 11th**. The theme this year will be Crazy for God. ***"We will share in all that belongs to Christ, if we trust God just as firmly as when we first believed and are Crazy for God to the end" - Hebrews 3:14***

--
God Bless,
Matt Lee (214)554-1253



Patterson Road church of Christ

2893 Patterson Road
Grand Junction, CO 81506

Phone: 970-245-4210
Web: grandjunctionchurch.org

For the Record

Dec. 13, 2015

Attendance	268
Contributions	\$7,121.00
Budget	\$6,098.00

Honored to Serve the Lord's Table in December

Craig Roberts
Randy Romkee
Ed Seela
Richard Sisco
Ryan Smith
Bill Tidwell
Eddie Tinkle
Herb Tinkle

Communion Preparation—December

Jan Nelson & Amey Collazo

Communion Table 12/20

Gabe Wilkins

Announcements

Dec.—Scott Ferguson

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

Tom Deister	Auditorium
Vince Urbina	103
Young Adult (Under 30)	Room 207

Wednesday Evening Bible Classes 6—7 PM

Doug Clayton	Auditorium
Singing Class	103

Sunday Morning Children's Classes

Cradle Roll—Birth to 2	Nursery
2 & 3 Year 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

Thursday Morning Bible Classes

Thursday Bible School for Pre-Schoolers	9:30 am—1 pm
Ladies Bible Class, starts 9:30 am	207

Sunday Morning Bible Classes Begin at 9 AM
Sunday Morning Fellowship Time 9:45 AM—10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Assembly Begins at 10:15 AM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study Begins at 6 PM