

## Writing, Saying and Doing

Sometimes we are calling upon to state our “position” with regard to some issue that is confronting the church. We are even called upon to put on paper our position with regard to issues that confront or threaten a previously accepted doctrine. The apostle Peter told us to “*be ready always to give an answer to any man that asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear*” ( 1 Peter 3:15). Every Christian should not only be ready to do this, but should yearn for the opportunity to speak out for his or her faith. It was because of this desire to impart the experience of joy that made it possible for Christianity to have the success it did in the early centuries. I am confident that if we today had the same conviction and joy of purpose that early Christians had, Christianity would experience similar growth in our day.

There is a great need today for Christians not only to be able to vocalize their beliefs, but also to translate those beliefs into actions. Anyone can say that he loves the Lord with all of his being, that he loves his neighbor, that he is a Christian and that he believes in following the Bible. It is a different matter for one to truly live by those stated beliefs. Our need today is for Christians to truly love God with all of their hearts, souls, minds and strength; to love their neighbors as themselves and to practice the Golden Rule of “*doing unto others as we would have them do unto us*” (Matt. 7:12); to love Christ, keeping His commandments (John 14:15); and to truly live by the principles laid down by the Christ in His *Sermon on the Mount* (Matthew 5-7).

People just may be inclined to listen better to our statements of beliefs and read our positions if they can see from our lives that we truly believe them and are willing to live and die for them. When the contradictory actions of Christians stop making so much noise, then folks might be able to hear the message we are trying to deliver – a message that they desperately need to hear. Let us silence the voice of the enemies of Christ by so living that they will have no justifiable grounds for their hateful charges. Practicing Christianity speaks much louder than professing Christianity! ~Dean Fugett

### Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336  
509-783-4013

Website: [www.Kennewickcofc.com](http://www.Kennewickcofc.com)

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: [kenncoc@gmail.com](mailto:kenncoc@gmail.com)

#### Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

#### Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; [ccbotts@hotmail.com](mailto:ccbotts@hotmail.com)  
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; [Vern.engelke@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.engelke@gmail.com)

#### Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449  
[billgreg67@gmail.com](mailto:billgreg67@gmail.com)

Bill Gregory's office hours are from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. (Please call to make sure he is in before stopping by)

Attendance 02/14: N/A

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 02/14: N/A

February 21, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



### Our Reconciliation in Christ

Only Jesus can save us from our sins. “*And in none other is there salvation: for neither is there any other name under heaven, that is given among men, wherein we must be saved.*” (Acts 4:12) Thus, it is only in Christ that we can come back (be reconciled) to God. Jesus said, “*I am the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me*” (John 14:6). He went to the cross to shed the blood that was necessary to bring us back to the Father. “*Having made peace through the blood of his cross: through Him, I say, whether things upon the earth, or things in the heavens*” (Col 1:20). Only those who come to the blood of Jesus can be reconciled, for the blood of Jesus is the only means of being reconciled to God.

The apostle wrote of this in the book of Romans. “*But God commendeth his own love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, shall we be saved from the wrath of God through him. For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life*” (Rom. 5:8-10). Just a few verses later, he adds, “*Or are ye ignorant that all we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him through baptism unto death that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life*” (Rom. 6:3-4). It is in Christ that we are reconciled, by His death and by means of his blood. Thus until one is baptized into Christ and into His death, he is not reconciled to God.

There are many who will claim that man cannot live righteously, that we are saved by “faith only”, and that righteous living has nothing to do with salvation. But Jesus proved that man can live righteously, for “*we have not a high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but one that hath been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin*” (Heb. 4:15). And note the importance of God's righteousness. “*The righteous shall live by faith*” (Romans 1:17). “*For the grace of God hath appeared, bringing salvation to all men, instructing us, to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously and godly in this present word*” (Titus 2:11-12). If one is living by faith, he is righteous. If one is living for Christ, he is living “*soberly and righteous and Godly.*” When we are *baptized into Christ*” (Rom. 6:3), we then, “*become the righteousness of God in him*” (2 Cor. 5:21).

When we are “*in Christ*” (Rom. 6:3), we are in fellowship with God. The apostle John writes of great blessings that are ours as a result. “*If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin*” (1 John 1:7). Because we are in Christ, living for Him, “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus*” (Rom. 8:1). Paul expressed it this way earlier in Romans. “*Blessed is the man to whom, the Lord will not reckon sin*” (Rom. 4:8). Being “*in Christ*” means that his blood constantly cleanses us so that we are in constant fellowship with God. ~Clem Thurman

<b>Keep These Dates in Mind</b>	<b>February Birthdays and Anniversaries</b>		
<p>Since we have entered into this time of uncertainty with those in the government asking us to keep our assemblies to a minimum and to use caution and discretion as we meet, any activities that may be planned will be announced in a timely fashion a week before they are planned to happen and will be put out on the call multiplier.</p> <p>Sandy Gray has volunteered to put out an informational email during the week to update the church of immediate prayer needs or information that needs to be disseminated before/in-between our scheduled meeting times. If you wish to be on this list, please contact her and give her your email information.</p>	Gary Koci 2/1 Leland & Marilyn Davis 2/8 Ron Stephens 2/14 Linda Bills 2/14 Joe Botts 2/15 Al Lindsay 2/16 Wanda Danley 2/16 Jim Preston 2/22		Josh Mendoza 2/27 Stephanie Leger 2/28
<b>Bible Studies</b>			
<b>Adult Bible Classes</b> Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John	<b>Youth Classes</b> Classroom Wing <b>Teen Class</b> - Teen Room	<b>Ladies Class</b> Thursday 10:00 a	
<b>Ongoing Health issues:</b> Pansy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Marilyn Davis, Sandy Gray, Fran Henniger, Linda Lafferty, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Lupe Mendoza, Shannon Mendoza,, Tami Pennington, Eunice Petros, Helen Pierce Michael Stimson			



**In Our Prayers**

**Karen McBurney** fell and is bruised up, but thankfully nothing worse  
**Lupe Mendoza** has started her chemo

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(1) Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, (2) by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, (4) and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)

(16) For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (17) For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (John 3:16-17)

**Our Ministries**

**Mountain States Children's Home**

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

**Peru Ministry** - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

**Food Pantry** - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

**Moving the Comma**

Alexander III was Tsar of Russia from 1881-1894. His rule was marked by repression, and in particular by persecution of Jews. His wife, Maria Fedorovna, provided a stark contrast, being known for her generosity to those in need. On one occasion her husband had signed an order consigning a prisoner to life in exile. It read simply, "Pardon impossible, to be sent to Siberia." Maria changed that prisoner's life by moving the comma in her husband's order. She altered it to "Pardon, impossible to be sent to Siberia."

"All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) "And the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

Jesus taught that each person is traveling one of two roads: "Enter by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it" (Matthew 7:13, 14).

Because of our sin, we are traveling down the road to destruction, to Hell. Our situation was hopeless until, through Christ "the comma was moved".

Because of His great love for us, God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (John 3:16). Jesus paid the price for our sins so that we might have forgiveness and receive the gift of eternal life (Eph. 1:7); Rom 6:23)

God has promised to save those who will place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30,31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30,31), confess Jesus before men (Rom. 10:9,10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of their sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7).

"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death" (Romans 8: 1,2,4).

In Christ, God has changed the comma that stood against us. From "Pardon impossible, send to Hell" comes the good news of salvation: "Pardon, impossible to send to Hell."

Won't you all God to "move the comma" in your life by accepting His offer of forgiveness and life?

~David A. Sargent

**21Blessed be the Lord, for He has shown me His marvelous kindness in a strong city! 22For I said in my haste, "I am cut off from before Your eyes"; Nevertheless You heard the voice of my supplications when I cried out to You.**

**23Oh, love the Lord, all you His saints! For the Lord preserves the faithful, and fully replays the proud person. 24Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all you who hope in the Lord. (Ps. 31:21-24)**