I Used to Wonder

I used to wonder, why go to worship, and bow my head in prayer?

But now I know: I find a peace that's ever waiting there.

I used to wonder, why sing those songs, just empty words I'd see?

But now I know the worth of praise
Great joy it gives to me.

I used to wonder, why sit so quiet, and hear the preacher speak? But now I know the strength it gives to the feeble and the weak.

I used to wonder, why break the bread, and drink fruit of the vine?
But now I know Christ's sacrifice that saved this soul of mine.

I used to wonder, why pass the plate, for me to weekly give"

But now I know the selfless joy –

I give to really live.

I used to wonder so very much, when I was out in sin;
But, in God's fam'ly, now I know –
I bid you, friend, come in!
(Tommy Durden)

Kennewick Church of Christ

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

Website: www.Kennewickcofc.com Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: 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: Minister:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com
Bill Gregory (360)710-0449
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com
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 01/03: 32 | Budget \$2484.00 | Contribution: 01/03: \$2102.25



Each Generation Must Dig Its Own Wells

And Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, which the Philistines had stopped after the death of Abraham. And he gave them the names that his father had given them. Genesis 26:18

Each generation must dig its own wells. You must dig yours and I must dig mine.

The source of the water of life stays the same. It never changes. In Jesus we can always find that living water that satisfies our thirst (<u>John 4:10-14</u>). This living water cannot be found in any other well.

The benefit we receive from our forefathers is that they have helped us to see where this water may be found. They have drunk deeply themselves and enjoyed the benefits of a life in Christ.

The enemies of truth relentlessly stop up these wells. The forces of darkness try to block us from finding Jesus and his nourishing words. They block us from this water with the vain and empty philosophies of men and human tradition. Manmade rules and doctrines represent dirt that must be shoveled out.

The call back to the "Old Paths" is not a call to traditionalism. On the contrary, it is a challenge to go back to the original Source: to Jesus Christ himself. Our forefathers who found him do not want us to merely copy them in a ritualistic or legalistic way. They want us to pick up our shovels and dig for ourselves, that we might know Jesus for ourselves and drink deeply from the water of life that only He can offer us.

~David Maxson

To God be the glory! Great things he has done!

The Parable of the Weeds

24He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, 25but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. 26So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also.

27And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?'

28He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.'

So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?'

29But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. 30Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, 'Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." (Matthew 13:24-30)

Keep These Dates in Mind	January Birthdays and Anniversaries			
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. 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.	Linda Lafferty 1/8 Holden Minor 1/15 Norm Hubbard 1/17 Henry Walker 1/18 Larry Moore 1/19 Mary Beth Walker 1/22 Eddie & Eunice Petross 1/24 Shirley Childers 1/24		Loretta Slettene 1/26 Mary Lewis 1/27 Jasmine Lafferty 1/27 Hannah Mendoza 1/29	
	Bible Studies			
	Adult Bible Classes Sunday a - Judges Sunday p -James Wed p - John	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room		<i>Ladies Class</i> Thursday 10:00 a

Ongoing Health issues: 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, Bill & Linda Lafferty's daughter-in-law, Michael Stimson



Linda Bills – Linda reports that Gary saw the eye doctor yesterday concerning his double vision. It was diagnosed as 3rd nerve palsy and is now improving on its own. Linda is still having some light-headedness, but is feeling better than she was.

Lupe Mendoza has an appointment with her cancer doctor on January 21, and that is when she will hear the result of the biopsy.

Pansy Caywood – Isn't feeling very well. She asks for prayers for health issues.

Wanda Danley 's son-in-law, Michael, is now able to use a cane, but his collarbone and leg are not yet fully healed.

Doris Pennington – Her heart tests were good (thanks for that). She is still having some breathing problems She asks for prayers for her continued improvement and recovery.

Jim Preston - was diagnosed with vestibular migraines, but is improving.

Sani Gray's Address is 555 St. Street, Richland, WA 99354, Not 505 Saint as in the directory

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)

Home At Last

For most of us home brings warm thoughts to our hearts as we think about relaxing and being surrounded by our loved ones. However, how often do we spend our thoughts thinking about our Heavenly Home?

As John concludes the Revelation revealed to him by Jesus, he writes about the vision he sees of our Heavenly Home. God uses symbolic language (Revelation 1:1) by which He "signified" the things which would shortly take place and how these things would affect His people. Thoughts of Heaven can motivate us to press on through the trials of life as we long for making it "Home at Last".

What is so great about Heaven? First, it is incredibly beautiful. John describes how it is filled with the glory of God having streets of pure gold, surrounded by walls whose foundations are bedecked with all kinds of precious stones, and the gates of the city are described as pearls (Revelation 21:11-21). There is no need of the sun or the moon to light it because the glory of God illuminates it (Revelation 21:23; 22:5). A pure river of water of life flows through it and by the tree of life (Revelation 22:1-2). Heaven is described for us in terms that cause us to marvel at its beauty and majesty.

Second, Heaven is great because of who will be there. As the opening verses above indicate, God Himself will be there and dwells there (Revelation 21:2-3). Jesus, Our Savior, Who saved us by the shedding of His blood, will be there to greet us into our Heavenly Home (Revelation 21:22; 22:1, 3). Furthermore, all the saved throughout all the ages and from every nation will be welcomed into the gates of Heaven (Revelation 21:24-26). As John sees God upon His throne, he writes, "Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son'" (Revelation 21:5-7).

Finally, Heaven is great because of who and what will not be there. John writes about how there will be no more trials, sorrow and pain: "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4). In addition, the wicked that rejected God and often hindered us on our journey to Heaven will not be there. John adds, "Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie" (Revelation 22:14-15; cf. 21:8). Heaven will not be corrupted by all the pain, sorrows, and ungodly influences that we have had to experience and endure in this earthly life.

This earthly life can be filled with joy at times, but it can also bring its share of sadness and heartache (Job 14:1). I long for Heavenly Home and will strive to allow God to direct my steps through His Word on my earthly journey so that I may make it home at last (Psalm 119:105)!

"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work" (Revelation 22:12). Daily Devo – Susquehanna Valley Church of Christ, 12/25/2020