

(15)And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. (16)Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved. Mark 15:15, 16

Christ's Closet

Free Clothing for anyone in need. Open Wednesdays 9:00 – Noon.

Mountain States Children's Home

Remember to stock up on non-perishable supplies to bring for the children's home collection which takes place near the end of March each year. Keep this work in your prayers.

Food Pantry

The pantry is located in the room left of the library. There are sacks in the pantry room if you or someone you know is in need of any of these items. Feel free to take what you need. If you have a donation for the pantry please put it on the table in the pantry room.

Peru Ministry

Support Oscar, Anna Maria, Queca and Tony Woods in their outreach in Peru.

Kennewick Church of Christ

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

Website: www.kennewickcoc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ
Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am
Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome.

May 28, 2017

Welcome to the Kennewick Church of Christ

Opportunities Come . . .

From Chances to Serve - Joseph could have blamed God for making him a slave and then, unfairly, putting him in prison. He could have blamed his brothers for turning on him. He could have been angry at his father for not trying to find him and redeem him from slavery and then prison. He could have been mad at the whole world for being so unjust. Instead, he chose to serve the needs of others. He was working in the prison and noticed these two men were upset. Instead of closing his heart and ignoring others in an act of self pity, he paid attention to others and their needs. In place of contempt and letting himself feel they were getting what was coming to them, he chose to be sensitive and thoughtful. Life was hard on Joseph, but he did not have to be hard on others.

It was this outward focus that kept the hard times tolerable for Joseph. He recognized the opportunity to serve the needs of others, even in jail, and took the chance to do so. When we focus only on ourselves, we end up in a pity party. When we keep our focus on others, we find a way to stay busy meeting their needs and we step outside our misery for a while. If all we can do is support others going through hard times, we will feel better about our situations when we do.

From a Focus on God - Once Joseph understood their problems, their troubling dreams, he immediately turned the focus to God. Dreams were considered messages about life and the future. These men could not reach out to the professional dream interpreters (and Egypt was full of these people) since they were in prison. Normally, they would go to a "seer" who would pull out volumes of scrolls to unravel the meaning of their dreams. Incarcerated, they could not pursue that option. Joseph offers help, but not from books or the gods of Egypt. He offers help from the Lord.

After all the harsh things Joseph has experienced, he still has his focus on the Lord. He relies on God to interpret the dreams. He speaks of God with respect and honor. He points these pagan officials to the one, true God. Joseph could have been like many today. He could have blamed God for his problems and ignored God after that. He could have let his resentment toward his circumstance to make him angry at the Lord. Then, he could have let these men stew in their dreams and confusion leaving them with no help. Instead, he turned to God and relied on God to help him and these men understand their dreams. His sensitivity to others is what will eventually unlock his jail cell and his future.

As we go through hard times, we must never turn from God, but toward Him. We should not blame God, but depend on Him, even when we cannot see the plan or purpose in our suffering. God will sustain us, even though we might be in slavery or worse, in prison. In so many ways only the Lord is the key to your future and your hopes. Whatever "jail" you feel like you are stuck in, God can get you out.

–Excerpted from David Thurman; Gospel Minutes, 01/20/2017

Attendance 5/21: N/A | Budget \$2000.00 | Contribution 5/21: \$2629.12

Keep these Dates in Minds:

5/28 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
6/04 First Sunday Potluck
6/10 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
6/11 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
6/25 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
7/02 First Sunday Potluck
7/08 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
7/09 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
7/23 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p

Birthdays and Anniversaries for June

Dustin McCrickard 5/30
Leland Davis 6/01
Henry & Mary Beth Walker 6/02
Don Powell 6/03
Curtis & Nadine Mohr 6/05
Fran Henniger 6/07
Ken & Gwen Merrick 6/12
Darrin Ceriale 6/14
Bob Blankenship 6/15
Craig Bolt 6/15
Maurice Bunker 6/15
Jack & Wanda Danley 6/15
Ken & Sallie Winstead 6/17
Tera Berry 6/18
Thelma Gritzan 6/19
Shannon Mendoza 6/30

Bible Studies:

Adult Class (S) –James
(W) – Romans - Fellowship Hall
Young Adults (S, W) – Acts - Spanish Room
Youth Classes – Classroom Wing
Ladies Class (Thurs. 10am) - Acts

Navigating Rough Waters

I was enjoying the start of my first whitewater rafting experience—until I heard the roar of the rapids up ahead. My emotions were flooded with feelings of uncertainty, fear, and insecurity at the same time. Riding through the whitewater was a first-rate, white-knuckle experience! And then, suddenly, it was over. The guide in the back of the raft had navigated us through. I was safe—at least until the next set of rapids.

Transitions in our lives can be like whitewater experiences. The inevitable leaps from one season of life to the next—college to career, changing jobs, living with parents to living alone or with a spouse, career to retirement, youth to old age—are all marked by uncertainty and insecurity.

In one of the most significant transitions recorded in Old Testament history, Solomon assumed the throne from his father David. I'm sure he was filled with uncertainty about the future. His father's advice? "Be strong and courageous, and do the work. . . . For the Lord God, my God, is with you" (1 Chron. 28:20).

We'll have our fair share of tough transitions in life. But with God in our raft we're not alone. Keeping our eyes on the One who is navigating the rapids brings joy and security. He's taken lots of others through before.

—Joe Stowell

Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. (1 Chronicles 28:20)

The phrase "do not be afraid" is written in the Bible 365 times. That's a daily reminder from God to Live every day being fearless.



Health Issues: Pam Fox's grandson, Canaco & Eli , Abigail Jones, Karen McBurney, Dustin Stecker, Doris Pennington, Betty VanVoorst, Bob Childers, Eddie Petros, Darlena Moon, Jackson Hickman, Jack Pinckert Jr., Amanda McCrickard, Sandy Gray, Bill Henniger, Savannah and Christian Johnson, Marilyn Foster (Gayle Caldwell's mother), Linda Lafferty, Christy Hickman **Oscar and those in Peru** as they deal with the aftermath of flooding **Tom Gritzan** is struggling with complications and infections from a hip replacement. He will need further surgery to fix the complications and the infection has returned.

In the Military: Levi Toombs
All those who are traveling

Decoration Day (Memorial Day)

Monday we honor all who have fallen during periods of war, but the first observance of Decoration day was May 5, 1866 in Waterloo, New York. Its purpose was to honor the fallen of the Civil War. Here are a few facts about Christianity during this time of struggle.

- Before 1830, many leaders in the anti-slavery movement came from the South.
- A "Great Revival" occurred among Robert E. Lee's forces in the fall of 1863 and winter of 1864. Some 7,000 soldiers were converted. Revivals also swept the Union Army at that time. Sometimes preaching and praying continued 24 hours a day, and chapels couldn't hold the soldiers who wanted to get inside.
- Chapels often were built in soldiers' quarters. In 1864, the Army of Northern Virginia alone boasted 15 chapels. One chapel built by the Army of the Tennessee seated more than 1,000 people. Before the Civil War, it was rare to find chaplains in American armies. During the war, they earned a lasting place.
- Millions of tracts were distributed to soldiers during the war. The U.S. Christian Commission alone distributed 30 million tracts, including many through a young agent named Dwight L. Moody.
- Christians who opposed the war on religious grounds were often persecuted. The Brethren eventually were allowed to be exempted from military service if they paid \$500, but most suffered for their stance.
- E.M. Bounds, now famous for such books as *Power through Prayer*, served as a Confederate chaplain. He displayed great courage on the front lines, and he was captured by Union forces at the Battle of Franklin.
- Key Civil War generals, including Braxton Bragg, Joseph E. Johnston, and John Bell Hood, were converted to Christ during the war.
- Many preachers, especially in the North, felt that through the war the final glorious reign of God would begin. Both sides thought the war would be over in three months. Instead, it lasted four years, until 364,511 Union and approximately 260,000 Confederate soldiers lay dead. More Americans died in the Civil War than died in all other American wars combined.