

Reverence Toward God

It is necessary for us to learn, when we are gathering together as a church, that our purpose is to honor and glorify God. We ought, therefore, to practice the greatest reverence possible. Neither you nor I meet with the intention of having a social visit. We want to please God, and He requires that we learn to love and respect Him. Let s remember the words of the writer of the letter to the Hebrews. *“For our God is a consuming fire”* (Hebrews 12:29). Therefore, *“Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil”* (Ecclesiastes 5:1). ~Joel Esparza

The Mountain State Children’s Home is returning at the end of October. Our contribution last time was small. Let’s make it a priority this time that we give liberally, willingly and let God’s goodness be seen through our gifts to those who have need. A few items on the list are posted below. Let’s try to bring something from this list next week. Next week, I will post new items that are needed.

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| Picante Sauce | Olive Oil | Individual Bags of Chips |
| Soy Sauce | Granola Bars | Graham Crackers |



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: Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; cbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; Vern.engelke@gmail.com
Minister: Bill Gregory (360)710-0449
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)
Open Congregational meeting – 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 08/02 32 | Budget \$2484.00 | Contribution 08/02 \$3319.93

August 09, 2020

Kennewick Church of Christ

God

As a part of his stern rebuke of Israel, the prophet Amos drew the people’s attention to a series of natural calamities – famine (4:6), drought (4:7,8), pestilence (4:9), plague and war (4:10). What the people may have thought were mere coincidences, the prophet said were messages from God. After each calamity was mentioned, God said, *“Yet you have not returned to Me.”*

While it is true that some things seem to just happen in the natural course of life’s events (Ecclesiastes 9:11; Genesis 8:22), it is also true that *“the Most High rules in the kingdoms of men”* (Daniel 4:25). God is still very much active in the affairs of His world (Romans 8:28) and we bear witness to our belief in such activity every time we pray (James 5:16-18). Here is my question for your consideration: is it not *possible* that God still providentially uses natural calamities in an attempt to get the attention of rebellious people?

The nature of providence is such that we *cannot pinpoint with absolute certainty where God was active in the chain of providential events* (note Paul’s use of the word “perhaps” in Philemon 15). We affirm the fact of God’s providence because the Bible (a God-inspired, trustworthy document) reveals the reality of it. Yet, it would be going beyond our human knowledge to claim that all natural calamities are a specific message from God for a specific group of people. On the other hand, should we not at least leave open the possibility that God – as He has clearly done in the past – may be trying to turn the hearts of a rebellious people back to Him? Should we not use occasions of calamity as an opportunity to take inventory of our spiritual lives (2 Corinthians 13:5)?

After the Twin Towers fell in New York on 9-11-01, some suggested that God might have been trying to get our attention. We’ll never know whether or not that was true this side of eternity. But I’m willing to affirm the possibility of it based on passages like Amos 4:6-11.

When the towers fell, for a few days America seemed to have been turning back in God’s direction. Yet the sad part is that the brief turn was much like that of God’s people centuries ago – *“Your faithfulness is like a morning cloud, and like the early dew it goes away”* (Hosea 6:1).

Brethren, let’s learn from the past and not repeat its fatal mistakes. ~Eddie Parrish

¹Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength, ²ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness

⁷The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire. ⁸The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. ⁹The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth and strips the desert bare and in his temple all cry, ‘Glory!’ ¹⁰The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever, ¹¹May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace. (Psalm 29:1-3;7-11)

Keep These Dates in Mind	July 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.	Debbie Bolt 8/8 Danny Mendoza 8/13 Clarence & Melinda Botts 8/13 Ron & Ila Stephens 8/13 Maddison Reeser 8/18 Bill & Fran Henniger 8/19 Merry Bunker 8/22	Harvey & Lynette Jones 8/25 Sue Minor 8/25 Eddie Petross 8/28 Bonnie Johnson 8/28

Please come and join us in our worship to God. We will be studying Matthew on Sunday Mornings and Ephesians on Sunday night,
Please be respectful of those who need to wear masks and practice social distancing because of health issues in their family.

Bible Studies

Adult Bible Classes Sunday a - O.T. Sunday p -Colossians Wed p -Thessalonians	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Cancelled until further notice
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Those of us who are struggling with long term and short-term illnesses. Let's not grow weary in asking God to heal and comfort them.

Bill and Fran Henniger were not able to move into Brookdale due to the open wound on his foot. Keep them in your prayers as they continue to find the best path forward for them.
Norm and Phyllis Hubbard are facing some struggles right now and have requested that we remember them in our prayers.

Panzy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Marilyn Davis Sandy Gray Bill and Fran Henniger Bill and Bonnie Johnson Linda Laferty	Pat Lindsay Karen McBurney Lupe Mendoza Shannon Mendoza Tami Pennington Eunice Petros Helen Pierce
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Open Our Eyes, Lord

The Word of God is just so full of things that are imminently pertinent and important for our personal application that we cannot possibly commit them all to memory. It becomes quite evident that we need periodic reminders that confront us again and again with these inspired messages that can provide substantial assistance to us on our daily journey through life. God, in His matchless wisdom, dictated that throughout the Old Testament period His people were to be given regular reminders of His promises to them, of His love and concern for them, and of their responsibilities. Throughout the New Testament we see a continuation of His emphasis of our need to be reminded of our blessings and responsibilities, and His inspired spokesmen call attention to specific commands and principles, repeating them again and again. One of the means that God has commanded to be used in the church to combat our forgetfulness of His will for us is the use of congregational singing. Paul, in Colossians 3:16 wrote that we are to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Thus, if our singing is as it is intended to be, it will among other things) serve to assist us in teaching, admonishing, reminding, and helping each other.

We need to greatly appreciate the marvelous ability that only a few people possess to write the great songs that help us to worship God acceptably. Many of our songs are the result of the influence of specific portions of Scripture that stirred the heart and soul of the songwriter to the extent that he or she felt a great need to express his or her emotions and thoughts in verse and music. One such verse in the Old Testament is found in Psalm 19:18, where the psalmist beseeches the Heavenly Father, "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your law." I don't know the history of the writing of this song, but I am confident that this verse served as the inspiration for Clara H. Scott way back in 1895 when she wrote both the words and the music to the wonderful song, "Open My Eyes, That I May See." Ms. Scott was undoubtedly sensitive to the significance of the words from the psalm as she wrote:

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me; Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see: Open my eyes, illumine me, Savior divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear; And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev'rything else will disappear. Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see: Open my ears, illumine me, Savior divine!

Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere; Open my heart and let me prepare love with Thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for Thee, Ready, my God, Thy will to see: Open my heart, illumine me, Savior divine!

These heartfelt expressions ought to comprise our daily prayer, that the Lord would indeed open our eyes, our ears, and our heart to the truth of His Law. It is my assumption that this same verse of Scripture provided the impetus for Robert Cull's writing of the short, but very touching song, "Open Our Eyes, Lord."

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus, To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.

Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen, Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

May we all be more attentive to the reminders that can keep our focus on Jesus, who can lead us from earth to heaven. ~Byron Nichols

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)