

(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 07, 2017

Welcome to the Kennewick Church of Christ

A Picture of Grace

In his record of the Savior's death, Luke includes a choice vignette not found in any of the other gospels. It is the account of how Jesus, hanging in agony on the cross, bearing the sins of the world, nevertheless turned aside to rescue a single condemned criminal from eternal damnation. The thief was a career criminal, and Roman law had condemned him to die on a cross. Sovereign grace placed him on the same hill as the Savior, where he watched the Lord of glory die for the sins of the world.

In the early hours of the crucifixion there were two thieves on either side of Jesus, both arrogantly adding their taunts to those of the crowd (Matthew 27:44; Mark 15:32). But before one of the thieves died, his mocking changed to a confession of his own guilt and Jesus' innocence. "We are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong" (Luke 23:41). Then, turning to the Lord, he added, "Jesus remember me when You come in Your kingdom!" (Luke 23:42).

The reply to the thief was as glorious a promise as a dying sinner could receive: "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). As far as we know, those were the only words Jesus ever spoke to the man. There was no verbal pre-evangelism, no four-point message, no appeal of any kind. But as the thief watched the sinless Savior die, faith was kindled in him. His conversion, even though it occurred as he passed into eternity, was no less genuine than the apostle Paul's. The thief received the same everlasting life, even though his entire earthly life had been wasted in crime and disobedience. The moment his repentance wrought faith, the Savior received him into the kingdom.

(Note that although the thief was saved in the final moments of his earthly life, his faith bore all the marks of genuineness. Repentance wrought a dramatic change in his behavior; he turned from mocking Christ to defending Him. His admission of guilt, his acceptance of his own cross as just, and his acknowledgement that Christ was guiltless (Luke 23:41) showed that he had forsaken himself and surrendered to Christ. He probably knew little about the facts of the gospel, but he embraced Christ wholeheartedly as Lord.)

There will be many in heaven who were more faithful, who worked harder and endured longer under greater stress than that thief. Still, by the grace of God, he was assured a place in Jesus' eternal presence.

When it comes to entering heaven, a thief has no advantage over a Pharisee. A fisherman will be no better or worse off than a tax gatherer. The first finish last and the last first, and in the end all enjoy the fullness of eternal life to the maximum.

—John F. McArthur Jr., *The Gospel According to Jesus*

Attendance 04/30 A.M. Worship: ~86 / Budget: \$2000.00 / Contribution 04/30: \$2196.50

Keep these Dates in Minds:

- 5/07 First Sunday Potluck
- 5/13 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
- 5/14 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
- 5/27 Game Night 6:00p
- 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
- 6/23 Game Night 6:00p
- 6/25 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

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

Birthdays and Anniversaries for May

- Lynette Jones 5/4
- Gerald Funnell 5/5
- Jarod Bolt 5/7
- Bill Lafferty 5/8
- Barbara Goldsmith 5/16
- Tom Gritzan 5/17
- Ken Merrick 5/18
- Sheila Calzadillas 5/23
- Dustin McCrickard 5/30

The Ministry of Memory

Our experiences of loss and disappointment may leave us feeling angry, guilty, and confused. Whether our choices have closed some doors that will never reopen or, through no fault of our own, tragedy has invaded our lives, the result is often what Oswald Chambers called “the unfathomable sadness of ‘the might have been.’ ” We may try to suppress the painful memory, but discover we can’t.

Chambers reminds us that the Lord is still active in our lives. “Never be afraid when God brings back the past,” he said. “Let memory have its way. It is a minister of God with its rebuke and chastisement and sorrow. God will turn the ‘might have been’ into a wonderful [place of growth] for the future.”

In Old Testament days when God sent the people of Israel into exile in Babylon, He told them to serve Him in that foreign land and grow in faith until He brought them back to their home. “ ‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future’ ” (Jer. 29:11).

God urged them not to ignore or be trapped by events of the past but instead to focus on Him and look ahead. The Lord’s forgiveness can transform the memory of our sorrow into confidence in His everlasting love.

—David McCasland

Let them judge you. Let them misunderstand you. Let them gossip about you. Their opinions aren't your problem. You stay kind, committed to love and free in your authenticity. No matter what they do or say, don't you dare doubt your worth or the beauty of your truth. Just keep on shining like you do. – Scott Stable



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

In the Military: Levi Toombs
Shannon Mendoza's mother as she deals with cancer and surgery
Gayle Caldwell as she finishes her move to Montana

Regret City

I had not really planned on taking a trip this time of year, and yet I found myself packing rather hurriedly. This trip was going to be unpleasant and I knew in advance that no real good would come of it. This is my annual "Guilt Trip." I got tickets to fly there on "WISH-I-HAD" airlines. It was an extremely short flight. I got my "baggage," which I could not check. I chose to carry it myself all the way. It was loaded down with a thousand memories of "what might have been."

No one greeted me as I entered the terminal to the Regret City International Airport. I say international because people from all over the world come to this dismal town. As I checked into the "Last Resort" Hotel, I noticed that they would be hosting the year's most important event -- the annual "Pity Party."

I wasn't going to miss that great social occasion. Many of the towns leading citizens would be there. First, there would be the "Done" family; you know, "Should Have," "Would Have" and "Could Have." Then came the "I Had" family. You probably know old "Wish" and his clan. Of course, the "Opportunities" family; "Missed and Lost," would be present. The biggest family there would be the "Yesterday's."

There are far too many of them to count, but each one would have a very sad story to share. Of course, "Shattered Dreams" would surely make an appearance. "It's Their Fault" family would regale us with stories (excuses) about how things had failed in their life. Each story would be loudly applauded by the "Don't Blame Me" and "I Couldn't Help It" committee.

To make a long story short, I went to this depressing party, knowing full well there would be no real benefit in doing so. And, as usual, I became very depressed. But as I thought about all of the stories of failures brought back from the past, it occurred to me that this trip and subsequent "pity parties" COULD be canceled by ME!

I started to realize that I did not have to be there. And I didn't have to be depressed. One thing kept going through my mind, I CAN'T CHANGE YESTERDAY, BUT I DO HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE TODAY A WONDERFUL DAY. I can be happy, joyous, fulfilled, encouraged, as well as being encouraging.

Knowing this, I left Regret City immediately, and didn't leave a forwarding address. Am I sorry for mistakes I've made in the past? YES! But there is no way to undo them. So, if you're planning a trip back to Regret City, please cancel all those reservations now. Instead, take a trip to a nice place called: "Starting Again."

I like it so much that I made it my permanent residence. My neighbors, the "Been Forgiven" and the "We're Saved" are so very helpful. By the way, you don't have to carry around the heavy baggage anymore either. That load is lifted from your shoulders upon arrival. Just thank God for salvation.

If you need directions, just look into your heart, and enter by "Grace Way." No taxes or other cost. God's Son paid the price, in full, for all sins and transgressions, a long time ago. Look me up if you're ready for a total change in your life. I now live on "His Will Way." Sincerely, "Born Again." -Anonymous