The Lemoore Caller

140 Skaggs St.

Lemoore, CA 93245

559-924-2373



lemoorechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

| Sunday Bible Study | 9:30 a.m. |
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| Sunday A.M. Worship | |
| Sunday P.M. Worship | |
| Wednesday Evening Bible Classes/Devotional | |

Elders: Craig Case and Vernon Garretson

Do You Have a Passport

Most believe that Paul was given a glimpse of heaven (2 Corinthians 12:1–4). If so, he saw and heard things that are reserved for the Christians' reward. We do know that he seemed the most eager of any New Testament character to leave the earth. When he contemplated heaven, he had "a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better" (Philippians 1:23). Do you want to go to heaven? Have you made preparations? You must have a passport signed by Jesus Christ. No other will do. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). The hope of heaven is available only to those who are "in Christ." John wrote, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord" (Revelation 14:13). Those who are outside of Christ, i.e., outside His spiritual body, the church (Ephesians 2:12–13; 5:23; cf. Galatians 3:27; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 John 1:7; Hebrews 5:9), need to make preparation so they will find a welcome at the gate of the eternal city. Think of how wonderful it will be!

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February 5, 2017

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Bible Classes
10:30 a.m. Morning Worship
5:00 p.m. Evening Worship
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. Bible Classes
Members scheduled to serve for February:
Communion Prep. & Greeters:
Vernon & Shirley Garretson

Men Leading Services for February 5th:

CALL TO WORSHIP: ELDER: Vernon Garretson

SONG LEADER: Garth Radcliff
OPENING PRAYER: Randy McCord

PRAYER LIST: Gary Cole

LORD'S TABLE: LEAD: Frank Baldwin Gary Rice, Taylor Radcliff, Mark Lane SCRIPTURE READING: Alex Hubble ANNOUNCEMENTS/CLOSING PRAYER:

Craig Case

ALTERNATES: Lynn Atkinson, Richard Bullough,

Craig Standridge, Gary Curtis

P.M. SONG LEADER: Garth Radcliff

Upcoming Events!

February 6th – 10th – Termite Treatment
February 7th – Ladies Luncheon – 11:30 am, Senor
Poncho's, Lemoore
February 8th – No Wednesday night classes.
February 19th- Birthday Fellowship
March 4th- Lemoore Ladies Day
March 5th, evening – Norman Atchison from Manuelito
Children's Home
April 28th – Lemoore hosts Area Wide Singing

<u>Please Note!</u> Wednesday Night Bible Class will be cancelled on <u>February 8th</u>, as the building will be tented for termite control February 6th through 10th. Services will resume as usual on February 12th.

A Ladies Luncheon is being planned to honor those with February birthdays. All ladies are invited and will meet on February 7th, 11:30 a.m. at Senor Ponchos in Lemoore. Ladies, please let Wilma Cole know if you plan to attend.

Ladies Day 2017 - our annual Ladies
Day and Breakfast will be Saturday,
March 4th. Ladies from all over the
valley are invited and invitations are
being mailed to several congregations.
Special speakers are invited and we will
also hear scripture readings and sing
songs of praise. The men of our
congregation will prepare a delicious
breakfast, as well. Ladies, please plan to
attend this uplifting day of fellowship.

What Is It We're Looking For

So often we try to fill the void
With what the world provides,
In hope that we will find contentment
For our dreary, empty lives
But listen my friend it's only
temporary
And is like chasing the wind,
The things of the world simply won't
fulfil
The unhappiness we have within

We mustn't look for our fulfilment
In pleasures that won't satisfy,
For we can never fulfil what's lacking
Unless Christ comes inside
For God has created us to need Him
And fills us with His love,
So we won't need more worldly things,
Nor crave for ungodly stuff

We need to stop and ask ourselves,
What is it we're looking for?
And can we truly be fulfilled
If we don't allow the Lord
To come inside and bring the change
That's needed in our lives
So we will find that true happiness
Is only found in Christ?

Prayer List

Summer Greer, neighbor of Emily and Craig Standridge, as she was critically injured in an auto accident. Summer has suffered major head trauma and is in ICU. Her sister, Hope, was released from the hospital with less threatening injuries. Their mother remains in the hospital as well, in critical condition.

<u>Lora Virden</u> has been battling Pneumonia and Bronchitis.

<u>John Virden</u>, Lora Virden's nephew, visiting doctors, concerning severe medical symptoms.

<u>Kaye Dodge</u> is scheduled for a thyroid nodule - needle biopsy February 8th.

<u>Douglas Dorn</u>, a relative of the Cole family, as he is in the hospital. His condition is improving and he will be moving to a rehab hospital soon.

<u>Doug Standridge</u>, waiting for a kidney transplant. The results of a recent angiogram showed that he will need bypass surgery before being considered for the kidney transplant. Bypass surgery is scheduled for February 8th.

<u>Jan Rodriguez</u>, Mark Lane's sister fell and fractured 3 ribs and also punctured a lung. She will be staying with Mark and Donna while she recovers.

<u>Tim Nichols</u>, Lynn Atkinson's cousin, had been battling bladder cancer. He now has bone cancer; his prognosis is not good.

<u>Lucile Chamberlain</u> doing a little better, as she continues to live at the retirement home.

<u>Twila Johnson</u>, daughter of Darlene Wilson, needs prayers for guidance to make better choices in life. <u>Anna Stewart</u>, a niece of Donna Lane, as she is having severe difficulty in her life.

Glen Fraley, his heart is still doing well, after having a transplant; he continues to follow up with doctors regarding his heart. He also had to have a partial leg amputation and will be going through physical therapy and be fitted with a prosthesis.

<u>Dorma Atkinson</u>- under the care of medical specialists, after experiencing numerous TIA's.

<u>Richard Bullough</u> – will follow up with doctors for more medical tests before scheduling kidney surgery.

<u>Alana</u>, Jack Otto's granddaughter – Please pray that she will make better choices in life.

<u>Johnny Goodson</u>, Mark Lane's cousin has been diagnosed with COPD.

<u>Emily Carpenter</u>, recovering from a bone marrow transplant; her younger sister was the donor and is recovering from the procedure as well.

<u>Mike Souza</u> – recovering well after hip replacement surgery.

Emmitt Walker, Aguirre's great –grandson, who is less than 6 months old, is battling Cystic Fibrosis. He has already had 6 surgeries and may require more during his treatment.

<u>Merlin Welch</u>, a neighbor of the Atkinsons, as he recovers from a stroke.

<u>Casey Case, Jr.</u>, grandson of Clofas and Jeanne Case, going through treatment for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and an additional blood disorder. He is responding well to treatment.

<u>Lois Gable</u>, a friend of the Lane family, has been diagnosed with cancer. Her health is declining greatly. <u>Beverly Rice</u>, aunt of Donna Lane, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. She is not doing well.

<u>Cold and Flu Season</u>, many people struggle with the effects of these illnesses this time of year.

Members of the Armed Forces: those on deployment and those closer to home. Please remember them all in your prayers, as we pray they are safe and we thank them for their service.

<u>First Responders in all fields:</u> Please keep those in mind who work diligently in keeping up with emergencies and providing medical care, fire protection and security from danger for all our citizens.

Our Mission Work

- *Our Preachers in Nicaragua
- *Agape Village
- *Crossover Ministry
- *City of Children
- *Manuelito Children's Home
- *church of Christ in Branson, MO
- *church of Christ Disaster Relief Fund

1 Chronicles 16:11

Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

1 Chronicles 29:12

Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

Psalm 59:16

But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble.

The Foolish Question to have to ask!

It is a question that should not even have to be asked of those who would make a claim to being a member of the Lord's Church. In fact, it's a question that if our lives are in the order they should be we should never hear; however, at times when we notice the way that some live it is one that must be asked. It is, perhaps, the most foolish question that we <u>have</u> to ask: **Do you want to go to Heaven?**

In 2 Timothy 4:7, 8 Paul gives three steps for making sure that we can answer this question in the affirmative when he says, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." If you want to go to Heaven, you must fight, finish, and keep.

When we say that we must fight, it is not referring to a physical battle as some might think. We are a part of an army that is not guided by some earthly king, rather we are soldiers of Christ (2 Tim. 2:3). As such we must fight according to God's battle plan rendering our allegiance to Christ as our leader (Matt. 6:24). Without even the thought of taking a life, but rather the thought of saving souls, we march into battle for this cause

(Jn. 18:36). Soldiers these days fight and receive medals on the battlefield or shortly after the battle is won; however, our entire lives are spent fighting this battle and we will only realize the reward after we have completed the entire span (2 Cor. 4:17).

As soldiers of Christ as Paul was we may suffer some battle scars (2 Cor. 11:16-23); however, God provides us all of the armor we need for protection and to fight the battle (Eph. 6:10-20). If we will but take up the Sword of the Spirit as our weapon and the Shield of Faith and Breastplate of Righteousness as protection we will be victorious in this battle.

So, do you want to go to Heaven? What kind of soldier are you? Are you one who is in the front of the battle doing your best to swing the Sword of the Spirit or are you one who is lagging behind in the protection of the rear of the army. There is no retreat in this battle, and God wants only front-line soldiers. If you want to go to Heaven you must fight a good fight.

Paul's second point to Timothy about his own life was that he had "finished the course." Some versions use the term "race" instead of course, but the idea remains the same, meaning the whole span of life. We cannot finish the course without completing the work that God has placed us here to do (Eccl. 12:13-14). As one watches a race many runners start and many finish; however only those who complete the entire race have any hope of receiving the prize at the end. Think for a moment if one were to begin a race and halfway through sit down and not get up and run again. Would there be any hope of receiving the prize. Certainly not. The same is true in this race we are involved in for the Lord. Christ demonstrates the attitude toward the race that we should have all of the days of our life (Jn. 4:34). It is not enough simply to begin the race and then quit. The race lasts for the entire span of our lives (Rev. 2:10).

If you want to go to Heaven you must run the race as one who is trying to win it (1 Cor. 9:24ff). Christ likened His coming to the ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom to come. The five foolish virgins who did not stay to complete the wait for the bridegroom were shut out (Matt. 25:1). So, do you want to go to Heaven? Keep running, and keep running as one who hopes to obtain the prize. The prize of winning this race is eternal glory in God's presence.