

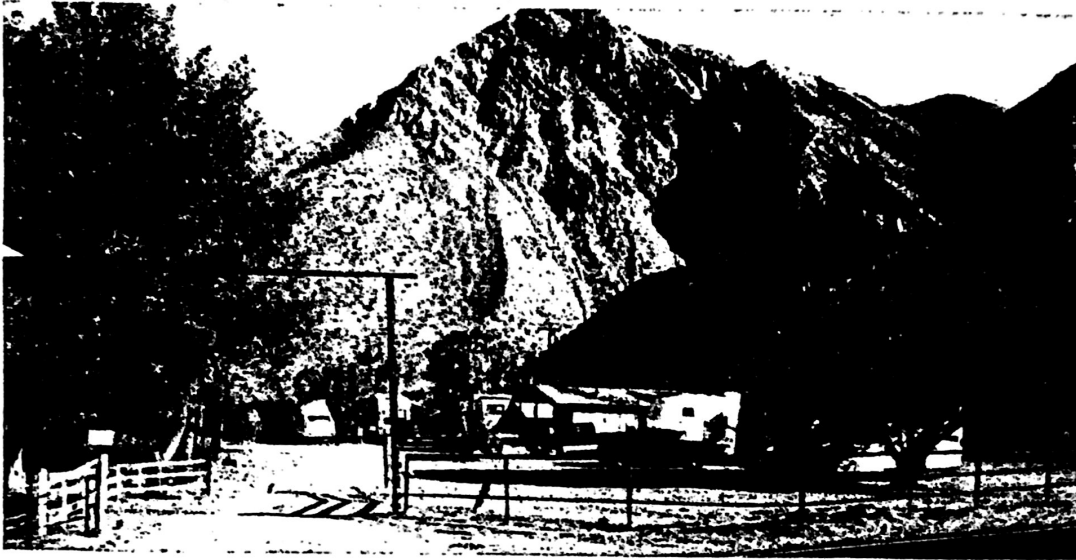
The Lemoore Caller

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE *Lemoore church of Christ*

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Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study.....	9:30
Sunday A.M. Assembly.....	10:30
Sunday P.M. Assembly.....	5:00
Wednesday Evening Classes/Devotional.....	7:00
Birthday Fellowship.....	3 rd Sunday of month after worship
Elder's Meeting.....	last Tuesday of the month
Business Meeting.....	1 st Monday of the month

"Why Worship"

Another seven days pass and we get up, have breakfast, get the kids dressed, make our way from our houses to assemble ourselves on the Lord's Day. We greet others, find a seat, get a song book and wait for the service to begin.

Why? Why do people come to religious services? Some may come because they feel that they have to—because their parents or spouse makes them. Others see it as a tolerable exercise in spiritual attainment—sort of to punch a spiritual clock or get brownie points with the Maker. To others it is a time to socialize—see and be seen. To others it is an essential part of the week, a positive force for good in their lives. The late Batsell Barrett Baxter once observed that "Worship is the most important yet, at the same time, the most difficult experience in the Christian's life." Worship is the Christian's highest duty and will be his occupation in eternity. It is to Christian living what the mainspring is to a watch. It is the very core of our response to God. *Why bother to worship?*

GOD DESIRES TO BE WORSHIPPED—HE "SEEKETH SUCH TO WORSHIP HIM" (John 4:23).

He has commanded us to worship Him (Psalm 46:11 ; Revelation 22:9). This is one of the shortest commands in the Bible, yet it entails much. God is not vain, yet He wants to be worshipped. He made us for this purpose (1 Peter 2:9).

Lemoore Church of Christ

lemoorechurchofchrist.org

March 6, 2016

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 March:

Communion Prep. and Greeters:

Craig and Donna Case

Men Leading Services on March 6th:

Song Leader: Gary Curtis

Opening Prayer: Lynn Atkinson

Prayer List: Gary Cole

Lord's Table: Lead – Mark Lane

Randy McCord, Excell Green, Craig Standridge

Scripture Reading: Garth Radcliff

Announcements: Gary Rice

Closing Prayer: Craig Case

Alternates: Richard Bullough, Taylor Radcliff,

Frank Baldwin, Jeff Mason

Please check the list that is posted on the bulletin board for the current month's schedule.

Short Meeting after service this morning for all the ladies who plan to attend our Ladies Day. Please meet with Becky Bullough in the front rows of seats directly after service.

Men's Business Meeting: Monday, March 7th at 6:00 p.m. will be our next business meeting. All men, we need your support!!

Teacher's Meeting. All teachers and those interested in teaching, please meet with Jeff Mason in the front of the building directly after evening worship on March 13th.

Church Directory Update! Over the next few weeks, please check the copy of the church directory that is on the table in the foyer. If you have an update to make to any of your information, please do so. Also, if your picture is not in it, or if you would like a new picture, please check with Wilma Cole.

Time Changes! Don't forget to "Spring Forward" one hour next week on March 13th, as Day-Light Savings time begins. Mark your calendar!

Cole Ranch Campout! For everyone that plans to go up for the Campout, Gary and Wilma will be there Tuesday through Saturday. You are welcome to come up for any or all of the days and nights. Lunch is planned at the Parkfield Cafe on Thursday / weather permitting. Please let them know if you would like to attend.

Care Packages: We are planning to send care packages to 3 of our members who are away. Erin Bullough, Elizabeth Puckett and Derek Cathey. All of these members will appreciate our support and special gifts we will send. Three boxes will be in the foyer, each with a name. We would like to collect gifts of spiritual literature such as books, cards, pamphlets and website information that may be helpful in continued study of Christ. Also, prepackaged snack foods, (as home baked goods do not travel well in the mail). Please do not include any items the mail would consider "hazardous". We would like to collect all items by March 13th. Thank you.

Lemoore Ladie's Day and Breakfast: March 19 at 9:00 a.m. will be the date for our annual "Ladies Day" here in Lemoore. Special Speakers have been invited and as always, the men of our congregation are putting together a delicious menu for the breakfast. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend this time of fellowship and presentation of inspiring messages. Hope to see you there!

2016 - Celebrating 70 years - Lemoore Church of Christ! May 20th - May 22nd will be a time to come together and commemorate the establishment of this congregation in Lemoore. Mark your calendars and plan to be here as we will welcome speakers including Carroll Davis and Paul Methvin. All three days there will be special events to attend including a potluck style meal after morning worship on Sunday the 22nd. More information will be available as time draws near.

Upcoming Events!

March 19th - Lemoore Ladies Day

March 20th - Birthday Fellowship

March 23 - Bible Bowl / Matthew 27

March 30th - 5th Wednesday Singing- Lemoore

April 3rd - Valley Christian Home Worship Service

April 9th - YBC Benefit Golf Tournament

April 22nd-23rd - Men's Retreat at YBC

June 22nd - 26th: Morro Bay Church of Christ Family Retreat

July 23rd - 29th: Tahoe Family Encampment

YBC 2nd Annual Benefit Golf Tournament! Saturday, April 9th in Fresno. If you are interested in playing in this tournament or would like to help sponsor, please see Denise Dean for more information.

Sermon for Today: "Building a Relationship With The Church".

Prayer List

The Family of Don Chamberlain, as Don passed away February 29th, after a long, courageous battle to recover from surgery. Don will be sorely missed by many people, but fondly remembered for his loving and caring nature and his long life and dedication to Christ.

Lucile Chamberlain – please continue to keep Lucile in your prayers, as this time of mourning is very difficult.

Glen Fraley recovering from foot surgery and will be traveling to Santa Clara for a cardiac procedure.

Mary Young, Brandon Greene's grandmother is scheduled for surgery March 15th.

Shari Kent, a friend of Betty Edwards from Bakersfield has been experiencing health problems and is faced with making difficult decisions.

Randy McCord has been very ill.

Kellen Case – tore his tricep of his left arm and will be consulting with an orthopedist next week.

Charles, a neighbor of Craig and Emily Standridge suffered a heart attack.

Doug Standridge – recovering after a cardiac procedure and hopes to be back on the kidney transplant list soon.

Whitney Broadus will travel to San Diego for a cardiac procedure.

Pat Bennett, wife of Hanford's former preacher, experienced a heart attack.

Eldon Lewis, a nephew of Eula Rhoads – suffering with pneumonia and is in the hospital.

Stoney Dodd recovering after a cardiac procedure on Feb. 11th. He also has another doctor appointment March 28th.

Richard Bullough will have more medical tests on March 23rd to provide more information and a date for his upcoming kidney surgery.

The Family of Bobby Qualle, a friend of Chelsea and Alex Stafford, as he lost his life in a dirt biking accident.

If kindness alone were enough, there would have been no cross. Jesus would have formed a sensitivity group and urged us to share our feelings, or a support group where we could affirm each other. Knowing full well the limits of humanity, the seriousness of our sin, and the depths of evil, he formed a church and charted a different way.
William Willimon, "The limits of Kindness," Christian Century, 99:13 (April 1999), 447-449.

Anna, a niece of Donna Lane, experiencing personal struggles

Paula Ali, a relative of the Standridge and Souza families has been diagnosed with Stage 3 Cervical cancer.

Stacey Ballantyne, Suzanne Mason's sister – cancer has spread and now she is also suffering from lymphedema. She also has other health concerns which will require additional medical tests.

Rita Frankmore has been very ill as she has struggled with ongoing health problems.

Johnny Goodson, a cousin of Mark Lane is recovering well after open heart surgery and is expecting to have gall bladder surgery soon.

Shae McNeeley – ongoing health issues related to a heart and lung transplant.

Lois Gable, a friend of the Lane family has been diagnosed with cancer.

Cami Cassaday, Suzanne Mason's cousin, has been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Irene Aguirre, as she suffers with Macular Degeneration that is causing her eyesight to deteriorate.

Beverly Rice, aunt of Donna Lane has been diagnosed with liver cancer.

Jamie Smith, Jack Otto's granddaughter, has Stage 4 Multiple Sclerosis.

All Members of our Military and their families.

Our brothers and sisters that are traveling: whether it is for vacation, medical appointments or to be with loved ones, may they all have a safe trip.

Our Mission Work

*Our Preachers in Nicaragua

*Agape Village

*Crossover Ministry

*Manuelito Children's Home

*Church of Christ in Branson, MO

*Church of Christ Disaster Relief Fund

Salvation is Free

Paul states it simply: "*For by grace are ye saved...*" The two debtors did not earn their freedom. Their canceled obligation was "a purely gratuitous act" on the creditor's part, on the ground only of their bankruptcy. Forgiveness is a river that flows out of the spring of grace: "In whom we have redemption through his blood, *the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace*" (Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19). Donald Barnhouse said, "Love that goes upward is worship; love that goes outward is affection; love that stoops is grace." That God can love us in spite of our sins is hardly believable. How He can forgive lifelong rebels is unfathomable. It is *graceful*.

"...not of yourselves..." Forgiveness is not something we may purchase or earn. We are bankrupt—we have nothing with which to pay. To show grace is to extend favor to one who doesn't deserve it and can never pay it back. Someone put it this way:

- When we work a forty-hour week and receive a fair week's pay for our time, that is a *wage*.
- When we compete in athletics and receive a trophy for our performance, that is a *prize*.
- When we receive recognition for long service or high achievements in business, that is an *award*.
- When we are incapable of earning a wage, can win no prize, and deserve no award—yet receive a gift anyway—it is *grace*.

"...it is the gift of God..." We cannot make salvation works-centered and man-centered. It is grace-centered and God-centered. The emphasis is on what God does for us, not what we do for God. The little wheels run by man's faith and the big wheels by God's grace.³ When David Lipscomb was an old man on campus a student asked, "Upon what do you base your hope of salvation?" Without hesitation he said, "Upon the grace and the mercy of God." That's the only hope any of us have. Grace is getting what we need (heaven) instead of what we deserve (hell).

Gore Vidal's book, *Lincoln*, tells of the president and his advisors discussing life after the war. It was evident the North would win, so they asked how he planned to deal with the South. Lincoln said, "I will treat them as if they never left." That's grace. It is exactly what the father did for a skinny, humbled prodigal boy coming home from a long summer trip (Luke 15:20-24). "As if he never left," he regained his place in the family (ring), his dignity (robe), his freedom (shoes), and his support (fatted calf).

Salvation is Costly.

Salvation is a "gift of God"—a gift that cost Him dearly. It cost Jesus His life on the cross; He purchased it "with his own blood" (Acts 20:28). Picture Him on the cross with bloody thorns lacerating His scalp, with darkening bruises on His face, with inflamed whip stripes on His back, and with nails protruding from disfigured hands and feet. Hear Him call for water and listen to His agonized plea: "My God, My God, why has thou forsaken me?" Why is He going through with Golgotha? Because He told us our sin will be forgiven. Salvation is free to us, but it was not cheap to Him.