

June Birthdays		June Anniversaries	
10	Seth Moss	6	Teclia & Paul Cunningham
13	Frank Smith	8	Judy & Larry Fulton
16	Colleen Sikes	18	Linda & Ian Stewart
28	Ron Hansen	19	Shaundra & Stacey Moss
		23	Carole & Frank Smith
		28	Judeen & Gene Petersen

June 25, 2023		
Greeters:	Terry Reader	Ken Davis
Announcements:	Ian Stewart	
Song Leader:	Paul Cunningham	
Opening Prayer:	Joe Autry	
Closing Prayer:	Kelly Beek	
Lord's Table:	Len Gates	Joe Autry
	Stacey Moss	Paul Cunningham
Coordinator:	Kelly Beek	



When you visit us... June 18, 2023

You can expect to find your friendly neighbor, assembled to worship God the Father, and proclaim the love and grace He has given to us; and remember Jesus, the Christ, our example—our Savior. We will strive always to provoke love and good deeds of one another.

As in the 1st Century New Testament Church, our worship to God is simple - without mankind's rituals. You will find a wholesome respect for the Word of God as inspired by the Holy Spirit. We study only the Holy Scriptures—no human creeds will be used by us.

In addition to the worship of our Creator, we strive to fulfill our Savior's stated plan for us by sharing His Gospel message with this community and throughout the world.

Sermons every Sunday will be based wholly upon the Word of God. They will be Christ - centered and Biblically based so we can develop a deepening relationship with God through our understanding and personal involvement with Him and His truth in our everyday life.

Pulpit Minister—Stanten Sikes
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Sunday	Wednesday
10:00 amBible Class	7:00 pm.....Devotional
11:00 am.....Assembly	or Bible Class
Noon.....Fellowship Meal	
1:30 pm.....Devotional	

Mission Work Areas

Quito, Ecuador
Mazatlán, Mexico
Reitoca & San Carlos, Honduras

New Prayer Requests

Austin Petty (Zirkle's grandson) – had new scans recently and some tumors have increased. He has opted to try traditional chemo. Please keep him and the family in your prayers.
Diane Spomer (a previous member here) – diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
Jane Webb (Debbie Olguin's life friend) – just diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
Loretta Gooden (Terry's mother) – passed away early Thursday morning. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Long Term Prayer List

Ron Hansen	Richard Pedrie
Ian Stewart	Greg Pyle
Gary Stewart	Beth Pedrie
Marilyn Bartlow	Norma Bartlow
Joan Lawrence	Melissa Wagle (cancer)
Dr. Dick Burt (Margo's Brother)	Betty & Danny Sidebottom
Austin Petty (Zirkle's Grandson) - cancer	Kendra Tate (Stanten's niece) – recovering from accident
Crystal & JJ Autry and family	Dick McClain (friend of Readers) – lung cancer – some new spots

Elders

Stanten Sikes (719) 207-0629
Ian Stewart (720) 878-2919
Terry Reader (719) 427-7141

Deacons

Stacey Moss (719) 207-0588
Ken Davis (719) 748-8654
Kelly Beek (719) 342-5856
Larry Fulton (719) 398-9987
Len Gates (719) 207-0039

If you have bulletin information or updates, please send them to Terry or Linda Reader

- Terry's contact (719) 427-7141 tldr1960@yahoo.com
- Linda's contact (928) 965-5708 lintreader@q.com

Be Humble or Be Humbled

Jonathan Carswell

First John 2:16 states that the vices of the world reside in one or a combination of three things: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. I believe that all sin finds root in one or a combination of these three things. I find myself daily struggling with all three of these vices and believe there have been moments where each one has had a stronger grip on me than the others. The pride of life is the vice that can be subtle in its consumption of the heart. Pride seeks to preserve the individual; this preservation can even appear as though it is for the betterment and aid of others. But thanks to our God for providing a foil for each of these vices: for the lust of the flesh there is self-control and marriage, for the lust of the eyes there is contentment, and for the pride of life there is humility.

Humility is defined as being brought low and absent of pride and arrogance (Webster). Humility is a vital quality to receive the crown of life. Its bears the ability to overcome the pride of life by bringing one low--very low, in fact. Humility is a horrible tasting medicine and a dish served cold on this Earth, but its nourishment and healing properties can extinguish the pride of any who will partake.

Manasseh (2 Kings 21:1-18; 2 Chronicles 33:1-20)

Manasseh is the son of King Hezekiah, arguably the most righteous king since King David. But he does not follow in his father’s footsteps; he reverses the reforms of Hezekiah (2 Kings 21:3) and returns the people to a state of unrighteousness. His unrighteous acts include: Rebuilding the high places; erecting altars for Baal; creating new Asherah; building idolatrous altars in the temple; burning his children as sacrifices; practicing witchcraft, fortune-telling, sorcery, and necromancy.

The Lord attempts to draw Manasseh and the people back to Him. Still, they disregard the Lord’s call for repentance (2 Chronicles 33:10). The Lord then uses the Assyrians to punish Manasseh and the nation of Judah. Historically, the Assyrians rank high in their cruelty to conquered peoples. Second Chronicles 33:11 describes Manasseh being led by hooks and chains. These hooks seemed to have gone through one’s nose, lip, or both, and were attached to a rope to pull the captive along the way. The tribulation the Lord brought seems appropriate; a king with riches, territory, and power is reduced to a humiliated slave. God brought Manasseh low; in this abyss Manasseh makes a change (2 Chronicles 33:12).

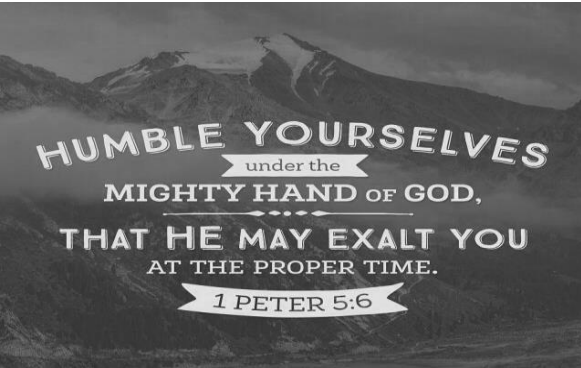
Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:28-37)

Nebuchadnezzar had known and acknowledged the Most High God (see Daniel 3:28-4:3). But over time, Nebuchadnezzar’s prosperity

nurtured his pride. The king stated: “Is this not Babylon the great, which I myself have built as a royal residence by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty?” (Daniel 4:30). The Lord addressed Nebuchadnezzar’s proclamation saying, “King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: sovereignty has been removed from you, and you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling place will be with the beasts of the field. You will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over you until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes” (Daniel 4:31-32). To teach Nebuchadnezzar humility, God stripped him of his humanity. The only thing Nebuchadnezzar retained was survival. I have shuddered at this passage of scripture because Nebuchadnezzar lost everything that separated us from the animals in Genesis 2-3. The power he had gained as the king of Babylon was completely eradicated, and the poor and enslaved of his kingdom had more authority than he did during this period. After seven years, Nebuchadnezzar looks up to the heavens and praises the Most High. He acknowledged God’s dominion, kingdom, authority, and the manifestation of His will (Daniel 4:34-35). God is even gracious enough to return him to his position as king of Babylon. God brought Nebuchadnezzar low; he took him to a depth that I don’t know if I can fully comprehend. As with Manasseh, it is another method that is perfect for the individual. The once powerful king is stripped of his kingdom, honor, glory, power, dignity and, most of all, humanity in order to acknowledge and honor the Most High. That is a testament to how vital it is to recognize what God has done for us and what God will do to us.

Consider these lessons on humility from Manasseh and Nebuchadnezzar:

- 1. God CANNOT resist the humble--When we submit ourselves to God in prayer, if we come humbly, the Lord hears. The Lord desires to listen to the prayers of a humble man; it is something He cannot resist.
- 2. Humility is worth adversity to every degree--God used very jarring and extreme methods to bring humility among these men and others in the scriptures. If humility is obtained through adversity, then it is worth it. Perhaps certain adversity we endure is God’s attempt to bring us back to Him and remind us of His sovereignty.
- 3. “God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble” (James 4:6). God’s grace is sometimes incomprehensible if we truly reflect on what we have done against Him and what He has done for us. We are never too low for God to not raise up the humble.



From Jim Taylor Regarding Mazatlan Preacher

Greetings, Julio is the preacher for the church in Mazatlan, he also goes several times a month to Villa Union to hold services there. He has a car, much needed for his work, and Judy and I have helped him keep it running for the past two years or so, the last time was about two weeks ago. I think it died because he asked us if we could help him get another car, it is very much needed for the work he does. We told him we would help him. No money for the dispensas and the work of the church can be used for this purpose, so if any of you would like to help in this special matter, it is real and it is needed. Let us know what you can do, and we will put it into a special fund and see that he gets another serviceable auto. Jim and Judy

If you would like to help, please make your check to Poncha Church of Christ and note Julio – Mazatlan in the memo.



We invite you to stay for our Weekly Fellowship Lunch & Afternoon Devotional! We hope you'll stay and eat, fellowship and worship with us immediately following morning services.

For your calendar.....

Weekly Fellowship Luncheon	Sunday – 12:00 Noon
1 st Wednesday Singing	July 5 – 7:00 PM