

<b>July Birthdays</b>		<b>July Anniversaries</b>	
14	Gene Petersen		
26	Shea Moss		

### **Mission Work Areas**

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

### **New Prayer Requests**

Austin Petty (Zirkle's grandson) – Spiked a fever yesterday which was bad news. He spent the night in hospital and the fever resolved on its own. They will be checking to see what caused the fever. His latest scans showed some shrinkage of his tumors which is very good news. Thank you for the prayers and please continue to keep him and the family in your prayers.

Ian Stewart – took a fall and broke two bones in his foot. He had surgery last Saturday and is doing okay. He has been moved to Leadville for recovery for several weeks. Please keep him in your prayers.

Larry Brower – passed away on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. He had been suffering with Alzheimer's. No service is planned and there will be a private memorial for the family. Please remember Pam and the family in your prayers.

Diane Spomer (a previous member here) – diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.

Jane Webb (Debbie Oguin's life friend) – just diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Please keep her 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

<b>July 16, 2023</b>		
Greeters:	Terry Reader	Len Gates
Announcements:	Kelly Beek	
Song Leader:	Kelly Beek	
Opening Prayer:	Joe Autry	
Closing Prayer:	Len Gates	
Lord's Table:	Ken Davis	Terry Reader
	Gene Petersen	Lincoln Gates
Coordinator:	Jim Richards	

### **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



**When you visit us...**

July 9, 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  
P.O. Box 1479 \* 16310 County Road 306 \* Buena Vista, CO 81211  
(719) 395-8753 \* email: mvccbv@hotmail.com  
www.mountainviewchurchofchrist.org

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

- Terry's contact (719) 427-7141 [tdr1960@yahoo.com](mailto:tdr1960@yahoo.com)
- Linda's contact (928) 965-5708 [lnreader@q.com](mailto:lnreader@q.com)

### **Sunday**

10:00 am ....Bible Class  
11:00 am.....Assembly  
Noon.....Fellowship Meal  
1:30 pm.....Devotional

### **Wednesday**

7:00 pm.....Devotional  
or Bible Class

## Doldrums or Tantrums

Doldrums are those low down feelings of listlessness. Tantrums are just the opposite. Doldrums comes from a word that describes a certain area in oceans near the equator. This region is known for dead calms that often last for days. Back when ships depended on the wind for propulsion, the doldrums represented delays and boredom. Waiting for a favorable wind could be very dull.

It is not difficult to imagine how doldrums grated on sailor's nerves. With a precious cargo either to deliver or pick up and no wind, about all ancient sailors could do was loaf, do minor meaningless chores, and wait. That was probably very depressing.

A tantrum, on the other hand is "a willful outburst of annoyance." I doubt that many parents ever stopped to look up the definition to that word when their children threw one, but that's what it means.

Some local churches hit the doldrums and get that listless feeling. They don't appear to have much get up and go. They occupy themselves with minor and often meaningless duties. What causes it? Well, they hit calm waters. Everything is calm and undisturbed and they are simply listing in the water. Precious cargo is tightly held in the hold and all forward motion stops.

A listless church in spiritual doldrums is exactly what the Devil is looking for. The Jews asked Jesus for a sign (Matt. 12:38). Read his response. To Jesus they were an adulterous and evil generation. He promised them a sign, the sign of Jonah, but concluded by saying, "*When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none,*" he will return. Finding the place empty and available, the evil spirit brings seven very wicked spirits with him. Jesus concluded, "*and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation*" (vss. 44-45).

When a congregation becomes idle and indifferent about the work God gives it the Devil sees it as a fertile field -- a place for him to play. Idleness and indifference is like hanging out a vacancy sign. It is an open invitation to the evil spirits of idleness and laziness.

We have seen tremendous activity and growth in churches of Christ that have become liberal in their approach to scriptural authority. "Don't they ever have problems?" I've been asked that several times. The obvious answer to that question is that liberal churches have more problems than they can count. Liberal churches have a pretty good

formula for fixing their problems, though. They quell internal problems with a generous portion of getting people involved in something — anything — but involved nonetheless.

But a church in the doldrums is at peace. They don't need to worry about personal involvement of every member. They don't support Sponsoring churches, Institutional Orphanages, or anything that smacks of the "Social Gospel." But they are at peace, and some wiseacre once quipped, "That's also true of a cemetery."

So, is it worse to be involved in institutionalism or remain dead in the water? I remember it well, a liberal preacher in Oklahoma City once said, "*I would rather go to Hell for doing something wrong, than for not doing anything!*" To each his own, I guess. I would rather just not go there. Both failure to do God's bidding and doing it wrong reach the same destination. Taking different routes to Hell is not much of choice.

Those who allow the church to drift into unauthorized activity and those who allow it to drift into idleness are heading in the same direction. Those who allow the church to become a strife-ridden sect, who fractures it with factionalism are following right along. None of these alternatives are acceptable.

The remedy? A good old fashion tantrum. "a willful outburst of annoyance." I urge faithful churches to become annoyed with indolence and indifference. It is high time to express that annoyance with a willful outburst of standing up and being counted for what is right and acceptable to God. If we have the spiritual "blues" there is only one cure for it. Get busy serving the Lord. Show your interest in the activities of the local church where your worship by faithful attendance, liberal giving, and zealous volunteer work. Teach a class, have a home Bible study in your house. Visit the shut-ins, send cards to the sick, invite your neighbors, co-workers to study with you and worship with you.

Which will it be — doldrums or tantrums? Each individual member of the church has to make a personal survey of his or her situation and make whatever changes are required. When there are no favorable winds for propulsion, it's time to paddle. So grab one, put it in the water and heave ho. The cause of Christ needs you.

For we are his  
**WORKMANSHIP**  
created in  
**CHRIST JESUS**  
for EPH 2:10  
*Good* works  
which  
**GOD PREPARED**  
before that we would  
**WALK** in  
them  
EPHESIANS 2:10

Marilyn Bartlow

New Address

828½ E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ada, Oklahoma, 74820  
970-901-6229



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 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday Singing	August 2 – 7:00 PM