

December Birthdays		December Anniversaries	
2	Al Olguin		
5	Gabriel Davis		
5	Judy Taylor		
13	Larry Fulton		
14	Cybil Atha		
23	Teclia Cunningham		
25	Linda Beek		

December 10, 2023		
Greeters:	Larry Fulton	Ken Davis
Announcements:	Len Gates	
Song Leader:	Dan Greene	
Opening Prayer:	Ian Stewart	
Closing Prayer:	Ken Davis	
Lord's Table:	Terry Reader	Larry Fulton
	Ken Davis	Kelly Beek
Coordinator:	Stacey Moss	



When you visit us... December 3, 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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www.mountainviewchurchofchrist.org

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

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

New Prayer Requests

Dan Greene – knee replacement surgery on Tuesday – Dec. 5. Please keep him in your prayers.
Dewell Hardesty (Linda Reader's oldest brother) – had a heart attack on Wednesday and is in the hospital in Las Cruces, NM. He is doing okay, but is scheduled for a heart procedure on Monday, Dec. 4. Please keep him and his wife – Patty – in your prayers.
Glenda Cox – eye surgery went well. Please keep her in your prayers for a good recovery.
Austin Pettv (Zirkle's grandson) – He has been in the hospital off and on for issues following his chemo treatments. Please continue to keep him and 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	Dick McClain (friend of Readers) – lung cancer – some new spots
Crystal & JJ Autry and family	Randy Stewart - Cancer
Diane Spomer – Cancer	Jane Webb (friend of Debbie) - cancer

If you have bulletin information or updates, please send them to Terry or Linda Reader
• Terry's contact (719) 427-7141 tdr1960@yahoo.com
• Linda's contact (928) 965-5708 lntrader@q.com

Thanksgiving In Colossae

Greg Chandler

Turkeys are cooking, cranberries are being washed, and the family table is being prepared for a yearly feast. However, Thanksgiving is not simply a once-a-year event for the Christian. Those who have been saved by the blood of Jesus Christ have reason to rejoice every day and to thank the Lord for the great blessings He has given. The Apostle Paul certainly believed this and encouraged the Christians at Colossae to have a life permeated with thanks. Throughout this short and powerful epistle, the apostle admonished these first-century Christians to live a life that overflows with thanksgiving. His encouragement also extends to those of the twenty-first century.

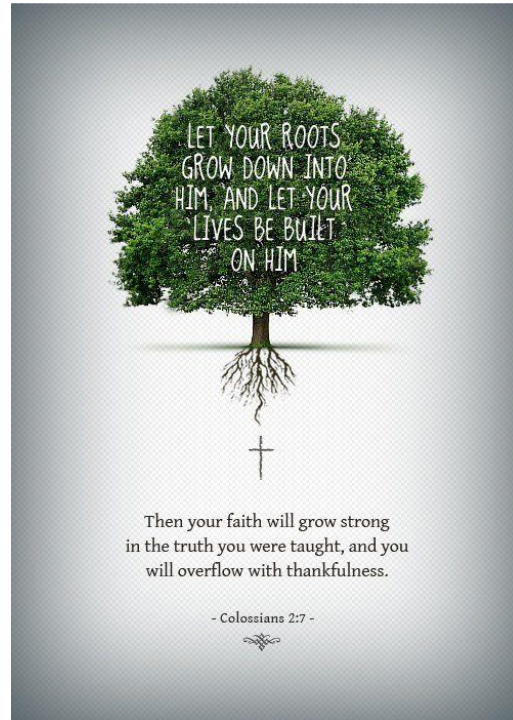
In chapter 1 of the epistle, Paul explained the qualities that mark a worthy life. Included in these qualities are bearing fruit, growing in knowledge, and finding strength in God. Verse 12, however, takes the list one step further to demonstrate that a Christian's worthy life must also encompass the giving of thanks. As the Christian examines his life, he appreciates the great blessing of qualifying to share in the inheritance of the kingdom and being translated from the realm of darkness into the kingdom of the dear Son. Considering these great blessings, the one seeking a worthy life will constantly fall in praise to the God who provided His own Son for salvation.

Chapter 2 also adds to the concept of thanksgiving. As the Christian considers Jesus Christ, he knows the great price that was paid for salvation. Because of this, he seeks to walk in the ways of Christ, to be rooted and built up in Christ, and to be established in the faith. With this, he abounds in thanksgiving for what has been done. The word "abound," as used by the apostle, literally means *to overflow the perimeter*. The concept is that the one who keeps Jesus Christ central is the one whose life will overflow in praise and thanks to Him. When this is done, there will be no opportunity given to fall away from this great Savior. However, the apostle warns that faith can be lost if Jesus is not given the place He deserves. Verse 8 describes those who are led astray because they allow other doctrines and philosophies to hold the place that should be held by the Son of God. When the Christian's life overflows with thanksgiving, he never allows the opportunity for this loss.

Chapter 3 takes thanksgiving into the realm of worship. As Paul admonishes Christians to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, he instructs that this be done with "thankfulness in your hearts to God" (vs. 16). Singing is a form of worship that illustrates the overflow of the heart. It is as if the Christian is so full of praise and devotion, he can do nothing but allow this to flow out in songs that give thanks to God. When Christians take occasion to worship God in song, they allow those around to know of this overflow; therefore, singing is the verbal acknowledgement of thanks for all that God has done. It is also teaching others to share in this spirit of thanksgiving in remembering what God has done for them.

Finally, chapter 4 links thanksgiving to the prayers of the Christian. As Paul admonished the Christians of Colossae to pray, he instructed them to be steadfast and watchful in their prayers (vs. 2). He also instructed them to be thankful when they pray. For every Christian, there are times when prayers of thanksgiving need to be offered to God. When such prayers are prayed, personal wants and needs should be forgotten, the cares of life should be put away, and total devotion should be given to thanking God for His bountiful blessings. When this is done, the Christian is reminded of the greatness of God and how He showers His people with daily blessings.

As you enjoy a day of thanks this week, take time to spend thanksgiving in Colossae. Feast upon the rich teachings of the Apostle Paul as he reminds the faithful of their need to overflow in thanksgiving to God. When this is done, God will be glorified by a grateful people who know they are nothing without Him and who desire to honor and thank Him for the rich blessings He has no beneficently provided.



For your calendar.....

Weekly Fellowship Luncheon	Sunday – 12:00 Noon
1 st Wednesday Singing	December 6 – 7:00 PM
Turkey Shoot	November 19 – following lunch
Christmas Party with Santa	December 13 – 6:00 PM



Wednesday, December 13
6:00PM

We will be having a short devotional followed by an evening of singing Christmas carols along with hot cocoa and Christmas treats

Please bring your favorite finger foods and let's enjoy this evening with the kids and hopefully a visit from our old friend – Santa Claus.



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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.