

March Birthdays		March Anniversaries	
3	Kelly Beek	19	Linda & Kelly Beek
4	Paul Cunningham		
5	Judy Fulton		
7	Margo Greene		
25	Shaundra Moss		

April 7, 2024		
Greeters:	Terry Reader	Len Gates
Announcements:	Kelly Beek	
Song Leader:	Kelly Beek	
Opening Prayer:	Terry Reader	
Closing Prayer:	Ian Stewart	
Lord's Table:	Stacey Moss	Terry Reader
	Joe Autry	Ken Davis
Coordinator:	Dan Green	



When you visit us... March 31, 2024

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) – His family made the decision to move him to a Hospice Care center so that he could have the best care possible. Please continue to remember him and his family in your prayers.
Sandy Cavazos – knee replacement surgery went well and she is recovering and starting her physical therapy. Please keep her in your prayers.

Long Term Prayer List

Ron Hansen	Richard Pedrie
Ian Stewart	Greg Pyle
Gary Stewart	Jane Webb (friend of Debbie) - cancer
Marilyn Bartlow	Norma Bartlow
Joan Lawrence	Betty & Danny Sidebottom
Dr. Dick Burt (Margo's Brother)	Crystal & JJ Autry and family
Austin Petty (Zirkle's Grandson) - cancer	Dick McClain (friend of Readers) – lung cancer – some new spots
Diane Spomer – Cancer	Randy Stewart - Cancer
Dewell Hardesty (Linda R's Brother) – Heart issues	Richard Inyang (preacher at Stanten's brother's church) – severe burns
Gene Mayfield – severe burns	

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 lntrereader@q.com

Parable of the Rich Fool

Michael Molloy

Throughout the Bible, the Lord emphasizes His desire for relationships over everything else. We see this in Genesis 1 when He made Adam, the crowning creation of all that He had made. When He created Eve, He spoke of the relationship between the man and the woman as being so close, they become one flesh. The effect of sin in Genesis 3 affected both the relationship of Adam and Eve with God as well as with each other. In Genesis 4, we read about God's anger toward Cain when he, who should have loved his brother, became his brother's murderer and ended that relationship out of anger and jealousy. We continue reading about God's relationships with Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and ultimately the children of Israel.

In Matthew 5:9, Jesus spoke of peacemakers: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Peacemakers "shall be called sons of God" because they are making peace between God and man by teaching people about the kingdom, where their relationship with God is restored upon entering. In His prayer recorded in John 17:3, Jesus said, "And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." When we come to know Jesus and the Father, we begin a relationship that will continue throughout eternity.

What gets in the way of our relationship with God? What causes relationships with our brethren to break down? In multiple scriptures, Jesus suggests that physical possessions can become a barrier between ourselves, others, and God. In Luke 12, Luke records an interaction between Jesus and an unnamed man who seemed to have a grievance with his brother. Relationships are the focus of this parable as well, but we may miss it if we're not careful.

13 Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." 14 But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?" 15 And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." 16 And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, 17 and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' 18 And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." 20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' 21 So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

The fact that this man is appealing to Jesus to tell his brother to divide the inheritance gives us some context. If this man's brother had the

authority to divide the inheritance and this man didn't, that indicates that this man was the younger of the siblings and the older brother hadn't divided the estate. This suggests the younger brother may have had a valid argument: if the older brother refused to divide the inheritance, then he controlled all the wealth, and indeed, the younger brother was not getting the share of their father's estate to which he was entitled. The man is crying out to Jesus for justice. But the justice he is asking for indicates an issue with covetousness and an indifference toward his brother. He doesn't ask for Jesus to help heal the division between them; instead, he asks for Jesus to use His authority to make his brother give him his stuff.

However, Jesus refuses to answer this man's request. If He had simply used His authority to force the older brother to divide the inheritance, He would have contributed to finalizing the brokenness of their relationship. As the literal Son of God, He came as the ultimate peacemaker, not someone who contributes to division based on the things of this world.

The Lord is concerned with our spiritual needs, not our physical prosperity. When Jesus heard a misguided cry for justice, He understood it to be a symptom of a sickness. Rather than granting the man's request, He addressed the condition that produced it in hopes of healing the man's heart.

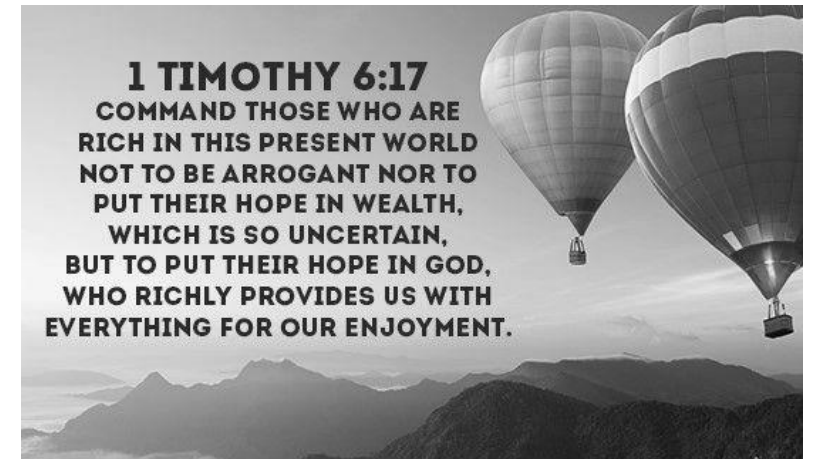
In Matthew 22, Jesus reduces the entirety of God's revealed will to two commands:

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Love is the basis for a relationship with God and it is the basis for our relationship with others, whether it is our brothers or our neighbors. Satan uses the things of this world to try to break down those relationships, but a heart that is seeking God is not going to be sidetracked by covetousness.

Matthew 6:33-34

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. "So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."



1 TIMOTHY 6:17
COMMAND THOSE WHO ARE RICH IN THIS PRESENT WORLD NOT TO BE ARROGANT NOR TO PUT THEIR HOPE IN WEALTH, WHICH IS SO UNCERTAIN, BUT TO PUT THEIR HOPE IN GOD, WHO RICHLY PROVIDES US WITH EVERYTHING FOR OUR ENJOYMENT.

Austin Petty

from Lisa Woolrich (his Mom)

We took care of him at home for as long as we could, but we went ahead and moved Austin Petty to the care center so he can have the best care for his final transition. It was a really hard decision to make, but it was definitely the right one. The care team has been so wonderful. I couldn't imagine going through this without them.



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	April 3 – 7:00 PM