

| December Birthdays |                   | December Anniversaries |  |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| 2                  | Al Olguin         |                        |  |
| 5                  | Gabriel Davis     |                        |  |
| 5                  | Judy Taylor       |                        |  |
| 14                 | Sybil Atha        |                        |  |
| 23                 | Teclia Cunningham |                        |  |
| 25                 | Linda Beek        |                        |  |
|                    |                   |                        |  |
|                    |                   |                        |  |
|                    |                   |                        |  |

| December 22, 2024 |              |              |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Greeters:         | Ken Davis    | Terry Reader |
| Announcements:    | Len Gates    |              |
| Song Leader:      | Terry Reader |              |
| Opening Prayer:   | Joe Autry    |              |
| Closing Prayer:   | Len Gates    |              |
| Lord's Table:     | Terry Reader | Ken Davis    |
|                   | Joe Autry    | Dan Greene   |
| Coordinator:      | Stacey Moss  |              |



**When you visit us...** December 15, 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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(719) 395-8753 \* email: mvccbv@hotmail.com  
www.mountainviewchurchofchrist.org

|                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>            | <b>Wednesday</b>       |
| 10:00 am ....Bible 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**

|  |
|--|
| Marilyn Bartlow – has had a mini-stroke and is still struggling with vision after shingles got into her eyes. Please keep her in your prayers.   |
| Teresa Gradv – has been in the hospital due to pancreatitis, however, she was released. She is still struggling with extreme pain. Also, they will need prayers for their financial situation. Please keep her and John in your prayers. |
| Jonathan Longstreth (Stewart's Grandson) – His esophagus surgery went well. He has gone home and is doing well. Please continue to keep him and the family in your prayers.  |
| Jim & Judy Taylor – remember them in your prayers as there is unrest in Mexico with the cartels.   |
|  |

**Long Term Prayer List**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Stanten Sikes – TIA and testing                               | Richard Pedrie   |
| Ian Stewart   | Greg Pyle  |
| Gary Stewart  | Ron Hansen   |
| Marilyn Bartlow   | Norma Bartlow  |
| Joan Lawrence   | Betty & Danny Sidebottom   |
| Diane Spomer – Cancer   | Crystal & JJ Autry and family  |
| Kelly Mortensen (Toni G's dad)– kidney cancer                 | Lola Gates (Len's mom) – recovering from her fall – will likely have surgery |
| Dane Tate (Stanten's brother-in-law) – recovering from a fall | Jean Riffel (Marion's sister) – fall and other problems                      |
| Glendell Tims (Glenda's mom) – recovering from broken hip     | Richard Inyang (preacher at Stanten's brother's church) – severe burns       |
| David Reader (Terry's uncle) – at home with hospice.          | Mike Cavasos – heart issues - testing  |
|   |  |
|   |  |
|   |  |

**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  
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](mailto:tldr1960@yahoo.com)
- Linda's contact (928) 965-5708 [lntrader@q.com](mailto:lntrader@q.com)

## Studying "Bible People"

Greg Chandler

Character studies have long been a staple of Bible teaching and preaching. This is certainly a God-approved plan since the divinely inspired New Testament writers reached back into ancient times to discuss people like Abraham, Sarah, Noah, and Moses to bolster their points about faithful service to God. In consideration of this type of teaching, consider three thoughts:

- **People fit into a larger narrative:** While there are occasions where God explicitly states His law, there are many occasions where implementation of His law is taught through how people responded or refused to respond to His will. Paul used this method of teaching in I Corinthians 10 concerning rebellion. Using ancient Israel as an example, he admonished 1st century Christians to pay attention: "Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did" (vs. 6). Always determine how Bible people fit into the larger narrative.

- **Context and culture are important:** One of the biggest mistakes in studying any period of history is viewing those of the past through a modern lens. Understanding the situation surrounding the person and understanding the time and culture in which the person lived is essential to fully understand the point God seeks to make. Israelites under the Law of Moses illustrate this point. While to 21st-century readers, the Law can seem primitive, it was one of the most progressive laws of the ancient world and one of the few giving rights to women and the poor. God wanted His people to illustrate to the nations how true righteousness is exercised.

- **People are complicated:** Categorizing people as "good or bad" is sometimes detrimental to a full understanding. Hebrews 11 illustrates this point. While this chapter is often called the "Faithful's Hall of Fame," most everyone discussed in this chapter had a darker moment. Noah became drunk after exiting the ark; Abraham had a child with a servant girl in a plan developed by his wife Sarah; Moses did not honor God in front of the people. God demonstrates that faithful people fall short of His glory. Only Jesus Christ lived a perfect life!

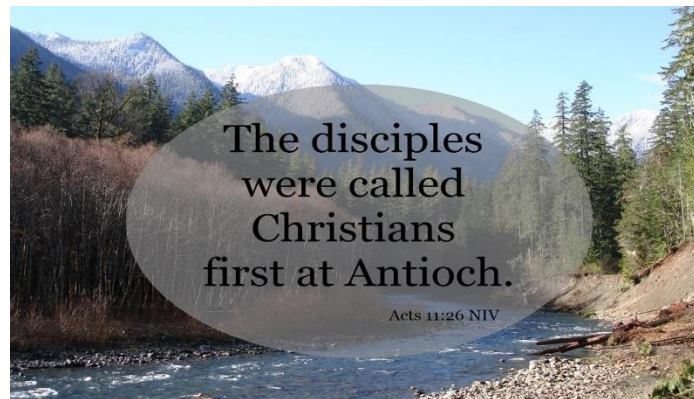
Though many humans have walked the earth, only a few are recorded in the Bible. This means they serve a purpose: they teach God's expectations to people of later times. May each Bible student learn the rich lessons provided in these examples God has preserved for the ages.



This Wednesday, December 18 at  
6:00PM, we will have a short  
devotional followed by an evening  
of singing Christmas carols along  
with hot cocoa and Christmas



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.



From Glenn Orr  
(Mike Cramer's friend)

Stanten Sikes,

WOW, what a blessed occasion spending today with you and your congregation of believers. Thanks to our Heavenly Father and Mike Cramer. As many, I am familiar with the story behind "It Is Well With My Soul".

Many hours in the past month, I have wrestled with accepting and submitting my heart completely. I've been okay knowing my wife was in heaven and all that I believe heaven to be, no tears, no pain, no sickness. Still, I'm having difficulty meshing emotions of missing my wife and "well with my soul".

Your teachings today have brought me closer, thank you and God.

Sincerely in Christ,

Glenn Orr

719-628-9791

705 Oak Street

Del Norte, CO 81132

Terry & Linda Reader have eliminated their home phone. If you need to call them, you will have to use their cell phones.

Linda - (928) 965-5708

Terry - (719) 427-7141



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    |
| Santa Visit                       | Dec. 18 - 6:00 PM      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday Singing | Jan. 1, 2025 - 7:00 PM |
|                                   |                        |