

Our Ministries

Mountain States Children's Home

There is a list of supplies that the children's home would like to receive on the bulletin board at the top of the ramp. Some of the personal/ non-perishable items could be collected early and stored in the room next to the teachers' room. Next collection is in August.

Peru Ministry - Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru.

Food Pantry

Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library. Please bring your donations and leave them in this room. If you need help or know of anyone who is in need, ask one of the members to assist you. Feel free to take what you need.

Kennewick Outlet 2018

Bible Bowl & Youth Rally - (June 22-24)

Ben McRee - Speaker

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.kennewickcoc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ
Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome.

Attendance 05/13: 72

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 05/06: \$ 2631.50

May 20, 2018

Welcome to the Kennewick Church of Christ

The Providence of God

We often rehearse what God has done for us in centuries now past, and such is proper. God created the world, made man, provided our salvation through Christ, and established the church. We are thankful for these mighty works of the past. Yet, we must not ignore the fact that God is still very much active in human affairs.

"The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will" (Daniel 4:17). Of course, there are extremes to avoid. Pitfalls of extremism are a danger in most all areas of biblical study, and this area is no exception. Some defend the extreme notion that God cannot take an active part in human affairs without working miraculously or eliminating our freedom of choice. Others teeter at the opposite extreme, flatly denying that God has any current role in the matters of men. We believe the Bible teaches both of these extremes to be false and equally dangerous. "Nevertheless, what saith the Scriptures?" (Galatians 4:30). "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea" (Psalm 46:1,2). "I will fear no evil; for thou art with me" (Psalm 23:4). "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10). "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And not one of them shall fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows" (Matthew 10:29,31). "...and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:30). "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28). "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me" (Hebrews 13:5,6).

We may never come to fully understand the how of these promises, but we may be assured of their veracity, "For he is faithful that promised" (Hebrews 10:23). Our confidence and reliance upon God's providence is manifested each time we earnestly pray, "Give us this day our daily bread. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil" (Matthew 6:11,13). Such entreaties would be shallow pretense at best were it not for our confidence in divine providence. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" only if God answers such prayers providentially (James 5:16). Who will deny it?

~Dalton Key

Did You Know?

We are to wear the whole armor of God (Eph. 6:11), not just part of it. The Greek word for armor is *panoply* (used in at least one song we sing). The word "stand" can indicate "hold up." We are to "hold up" against the devil. The "**wiles of the devil**" means the ways he tempts us to follow him and forsake God. First John 2:16 tells about the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. These are the three ways Satan gets us to leave God. Every temptation we face will fit into one of these categories. James 1:13-15 further explains how this works. The devil places before us the things of this world that we want. When we give in and partake, the temptation turns to sinful actions, and unrepented sinful actions lead to spiritual death. The armor that we are to put on allows us to protect against the devil's methods.

Keep these Dates in Mind:

05/06 First Sunday Potluck
 05/12 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship
 05/13 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 05/27 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 06/03 First Sunday Potluck
 06/10 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 06/22 Youth Rally
 06/24 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p

Birthdays and Anniversaries for May

Lynette Jones 5/4
 Gerald Funnell 5/5
 Cathy Heston 5/6
 Jared Bolt 5/7
 Bill Lafferty 5/8
 Barbara Goldsmith 5/16
 Tom Gritzan 5/17

Our Graduates

Be sure to congratulate Joshua Mendoza and Casey Berry for reaching this major milestone in their lives. It is a great accomplishment. (Rejoice with those who rejoice Rom. 12:15a)

Bible Studies:

Adult Class –
 Fellowship Hall
 (S) – Mark
 (W) – Romans

Youth Classes
 Classroom Wing
Teen Class -
 Teen Room

Ladies Class –
 Fellowship Hall
 Thursdays -
 10:00a



Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Bob Childers, Shirley Childers, Amanda McCrickard, Kaleb McCrickard, Joshua Hickman, Vern Mast, Sue Aldrich, Lupe Mendoza, Marji Lindholm, Bill and Fran Henniger, Pansy Caywood, The Johnson family



Bill Henniger has surgery put off indefinitely until doctors review his case. He has a rare infection in his stump that is now being treated with strong antibiotic and the fluid that was building up in his lung decreased. There is some optimism that the fluid might be related to the infection.

The Mendoza Family requests continued prayers as Lupe's mother's health is failing, Lupe continues her chemo treatments and Hannah is tested to find out why she is experiencing double vision.

Providence

Providence is one of the hardest concepts to understand in the Bible, yet it is taught, without any doubt. When Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery, they did not have anything in mind other than ridding themselves of a "nuisance" and making a little extra money. Though Joseph handled the situation very well, working in Potiphar's house, rising to importance in prison, and eventually coming to be second in the kingdom, he did not – at the moment his brothers sold him – have a grand plan for saving his brothers from a future famine. However, after all of these things had passed and Joseph could look back on this accumulation of events, he told his brothers, "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life" (Genesis 45:5). Joseph did not mean to excuse the wrong that his brothers committed, but he did see the bigger picture – that events had turned out well in the long run, despite what had appeared to be a situation from which nothing good could come. Providence does not interfere with nature. It is God using natural means to accomplish His will. Though we can never know for sure when something is providential, even in hindsight, we should always look back upon events to see the good that came from them instead of dwelling on the bad. ~Kevin Rhodes

God is Not Unjust

These words are found in He-brewns 6:10 where it is stated, "For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name. These words should encourage each of us, because they reassure us that our labor is not in vain. Some may piously declare that we should not serve God merely for hope of gain, which is true; nevertheless, we all hope and believe that we will eventually be rewarded for our service. As Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:19, "If in this life only, we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable." Let us think about the statement in Hebrews 6:10 for a few minutes. "God is not unjust ." This means that God does not change His mind or regret His decisions. When God makes a promise, He will keep it. This assures us that God is not like man. We often change our minds. We cannot predict the future. Therefore, we have to adapt to new situations. Sometimes we are hindered by forces more powerful than we from keeping our promises, and at other times, we may do it out of greed. We think we can get a better deal. Regardless of the reasons, man is often not very reliable. That does not describe God, though. God does not have to adapt to new situations because He knows and controls the future. Nothing can hinder God from accomplishing His purposes, and He is certainly never controlled by greed. God is reliable, and He wants us to know and believe that. In order to assure us that we can trust Him, the writer reminds us that God made a promise to Abraham and confirmed it by an oath (Hebrews 6:13-18). Thus, we never have to wonder if there is a reward waiting for us when this life is over. God has guaranteed us that there is, and it is impossible for God to lie (Hebrews 6:18).

Next, we find that "God is not unjust to forget." Man often forgets. Our minds are weak and fallible. Sometimes, we intentionally forget because we do not want to do something, so we just conveniently proclaim that we forgot. The idea of forgetting carries the connotation of simply neglecting to do something. Frequently, we have the best of intentions, but we neglect to carry them out. In Hebrews 5:12, it is stated that the readers of this book had neglected to grow spiritually as they should have. In Hebrews 2:3, we are warned against neglecting our salvation. Later in this book, the writer encourages Christians never to neglect to show hospitality (Hebrews 13:2). Yes, we often neglect things, but God does not. He will never neglect or forget His promises. Thus, we never have to worry about coming to the judgment seat, and hearing God say, "Sorry!"

On the other hand, God does forget some things. He forgets our past sins (Isaiah 43:25). The writer of Hebrews stated in 8:12, "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." Again, this is frequently in contrast to what man does. We tend to forget the good and remember the evil. Hence, if you wonder how God can ever reward you because you have done so much wrong, then you do not have to be unsure any longer. God does not remember the sins of His people (when they repent of them, Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9).

Finally, we read that "God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love" (Hebrews 6:10). Love is the motivation for doing these deeds of service, and we do them with no hope of recompense. It is not a labor of love, if we do it hoping to receive something in return. Our labor proves our love. Knowing that God will not forget our labor can be a great source of comfort and encouragement to us, because it assures us that God will not overlook our deeds. We must never think, "No one cares about what I do". God does! We have a trustworthy and reliable God. We serve a just, loving God who shows His appreciation for faithful service. Therefore, let us rely on His many promises and always endeavor to serve Him and our fellow man. Be assured, our labor will not be in vain. ~Jerry Bates

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)