



18, 2025

CHURCH OF CHRIST, 850 MINTER AVE., SHAFTER, CA 93263

## WORSHIP TIME

Sunday Morning

8:30 Bible Classes

1 Samuel 10:1

Classes in English & Spanish



9:00 Prayer Worship

Please give us your requests

9:30 Worship Service

Worship in English & Spanish

### Elders

Eddie Fisher 342-8337

Garry Nelson 331-3858

Mike Westbrook 910-2197

### Deacon

Ron Nunlist 746-6531

### Minister

Jim Young 527-7026

[jimyoung2work@aol.com](mailto:jimyoung2work@aol.com)

Church Office 746-2205

### Office Hours:

Monday ~ Tuesday ~ Wednesday  
8 am to 1 pm

Thursday  
11 am to 4:30 pm

Friday Out of the Office

### Bulletin

Jan Nelson 332-6146

[grammyjan51@yahoo.com](mailto:grammyjan51@yahoo.com)

[Sandy Westbrook 910-8143](tel:910-8143)

[mikewestbrook@att.net](mailto:mikewestbrook@att.net)

Don't forget to check out our  
website

No te olvides de visitar nuestro  
sitio web

[www.shafterchurchofchrist.com](http://www.shafterchurchofchrist.com)

Bible on your phone

MySpectrumWiFi8-2G

MySpectrumWiFi8-5G

password: purplelemon096



Reminder...The sign-up list for the building cleaning is on the back - left table. Please sign up.

If you will help out with a dessert or cookies let LaDona know.

May 22 - Thursday night dinner at 5:30

June 3 - Elders' Meeting at 8:00 a.m

June 7 - Men's Prayer Breakfast in kitchen at 8 a.m.

Women's Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. at TBD



with deepest  
**SYMPATHY**



We are all saddened by the passing of April Barton last Sunday evening. April was such a kind, friendly, tender-hearted and compassionate member of our congregation. Always impeccably dressed, she greeted everyone with a big smile, always inquiring how you are doing. More than anything, however, was April's love for the Lord.

She will be sorely missed. Our prayers go out to Earl and the entire family as they try to adjust to life without April.

Earl, please remember we love you and are here to support you in any way we can. Services were held on Friday.

I look up to the hills, but where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let you be defeated. He who guards you never sleeps. \* As the mountains surround Jerusalem, the Lord surrounds his people now and forever. \* You are my help. Because of your protection, I sing. \*Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 121:1-3; Psalm 125:2

Psalm 63:7; Psalm 124:8



## MAY COOKS:

May 22 – Barbara & LeRoy

May 29 – Ron and Nancy

### PASTOR'S CORNER - Growing and Recharging part 5

Walking the Christian path can be hard sometimes. Jesus indicated this in His instructions for us to do what? To take up our cross and follow Him. Carrying a cross is going to be difficult. But remember what Paul tells us: "I have fought the good fight, ... and there is in the future a crown of righteousness." (2 Tim 4:7,8) Let us all acknowledge that there will be times of sorrow and joy, defeat and victory. **Ecclesiastes 3:** "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. . . ." Read and meditate on this chapter which God has provided of us.

To endure this path set before us we must face the trials while also pursuing God's gift of joy. We can neither deny the challenges nor be so fixated on them that we lose heart. Consider these points: **1. Remember servanthood is supposed to be hard.** Think of the words Scripture uses describing our lives: fighting and racing (2 Tim 4:7, 1 Tim 1:18), soldiering (2 Tim 2:4), laboring (15:58), even dying (2 Cor 4:11,12). Faithfulness will feel frustrating at times. To endure, we need the right expectations about the work we've been given. Don't deny the punches. Face it honestly. Know what Christ has told us: "I have overcome the world."

One of the surest ways to find the motivation needed to keep going is your pick-me-up and encouraging friends. **2. Have fun with your friends.** Even faithful Christians need times that aren't focused on some serving ministry. Paul often writes about friends who refreshed him (1 Cor 16:17,18; Rom 15:32). We can sometimes forget that one of the ways God intends to sustain you is through the joys of friendship. That is the plan behind God's written word: "Consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds" (Heb 10:24) Sometimes what we most need to ensure our perseverance is to take a trip to the mountains or, like Jesus, to go out on a boat with our friends. Sometimes what's most sustaining is just going to a party to feast, laugh, and tell stories.

**3. Withdraw to be with God.** Even with the best of friends, the right expectations, and a heart with joy - we won't last if we aren't connecting with God. Many find it easier to do the Lord's work than to be in the Lord's presence. We find it easier to teach about the Lord than to listen to Him. We find it easier to live as soldiers than as sons. We won't endure without the strength that comes from abiding with Jesus. Paul tells us his secret to ministry endurance: "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13). God strengthens us as we pour our hearts out to Him in prayer and as we hear His voice in His Word. Then the joy of the Lord is our strength. Before going to the cross, Jesus prayed in the garden. His pattern was that in the middle of His busy ministry commitments, He'd "withdraw to desolate places and pray" (Luke 5:16). How much more do we need to do the same?

Serving the Lord can often be hard. It's OK to admit it. But don't give up; don't quit; don't leave. You've started, and you can finish. God will strengthen and empower you. Receive the joys he gives and endure (2 Tim 2:10)

## AN ENCOURAGING WORD:

### *Guidance*

It is hard to have dreams dashed, to have hopes unfulfilled, to face a future that is unknown and unfamiliar and sometimes, if the truth were known, unwanted. But God has a way of guiding us unerringly into the path of righteousness for His name's sake.

*(Taken from Encouragement for Life by Charles Swindoll)*



### **Two Are Better Than One**

There's an old Swedish motto that hangs in many a kitchen in Scandinavia. It says: "Shared joy is a double joy. Shared sorrow is half a sorrow." Without others, life slows to a grind rather rapidly. As the little kitchen motto states,, the secret of survival is not simply enjoying life's joys and enduring its sorrows, it is in sharing both with others.

We gain perspective by having somebody at our side. We gain objectivity. We gain courage in threatening situations. Having others near tempers our dogmatism and softens our intolerance. We gain another opinion. We gain what today, in our technical world, is called input."

In other words, it is better not to work or live one's life all alone. It's better not to minister all alone. It's better to have someone alongside us in the battle.

There are occasions when we need the embrace of a friend who pulls our head close and whispers in our ear words of understanding, encouraging us not to quit, reminding us that life will go on . . .we will make it. Such embraces put steel into our bones. They help us make it through the night.

If you hope to make it through days of disillusionment and times of trouble, the secret is friendship. Or, to put it in the terms of an equation, "One plus one equals survival." There's no bridge quite like a friend, especially when you're forced to live on the ragged edge of troubled waters.

*(Taken from Living on the Ragged Edge by Charles Swindoll)*

# Prayer REQUESTS

*If you need prayer, please let the Elders know, put a note in the box in back of the auditorium or call Vivian Fisher (889-4075) to start the prayer chain.*

## NEW

- ❖ **Lord, give me concern and compassion for the lost I meet today. Open doors so I might share YOUR message.**
- ❖ **Earl and family** for peace and strength
- ❖ **Robert** will have back surgery on May 29<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **Lori**, a young co-worker of Debra, had a double mastectomy on Monday
- ❖ **It was good to see Rose and her granddaughter here last Sunday**
- ❖ **Adrianne and Barbara** are in Iowa; **Ron and Nancy** at the coast

**Julian**, a friend of Mary C's, is traveling to the Middle East for his job.

**Charles Jones**, a brother at Central, is having serious liver problems.

**Russ**, Fisher's family member, had knee surgery; issues with blood clots

**Syble** struggling with various health issues; most likely will need back surgery

**Jason**, 20 year-old grandson of Syble's friend, has bone cancer

**Oliver**, Earl's friend, started his chemo treatment for his throat cancer

**James**, Darlene's brother, will begin chemo; possible surgery after chemo and radiation

**Joyce** is doing better with pain after surgery; has people there to help her

**Adrianne** is experiencing a flare up with her sciatic nerve

**Sammy** ulcer

**Barbara Pflugh** is struggling with back pain

**Rhonda**, Nina's niece, hemoglobin still going low; still trying to figure out the cause

**Casey**, young friend of Nancy's, finished chemo and radiation; still on feeding tube

**Ronnie**, Nancy's son, is need of prayers for physical, mental and spiritual health

**Tom and Joyce** are struggling with some issues

**Jessie**, Earl's relative, had his cancer return and has spread throughout his body

**Kristina**, Debra's co-worker, is struggling with serious liver/kidney problems

**Bill**, Debra's brother, cancer treatments

**Ron's brother/wife**, serious health issues and other difficulties

**Hannah**, Trina's daughter, continued prayer for her

**Wendy**, member of Debra's family, brain cancer

**One of Earl's nephews** is serving in Syria; prayers for all our first responders

**Everett**, a relative of Nancy's, is nearing his final days due to his cancer.

**Chris and Jonah**, friends of Trina's who are soldiers in the Middle East

**Our Youth** to pray to make good choices

**For those that have upcoming tests this week or test results**

**Unspoken Prayers.** We know their names, and, above all, God knows them

