

The Encourager

December 4 - 10, 2022

FRONT ROYAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome Visitors

We are glad you chose to worship with us today. Please fill out a visitor's card and sign our guest book in the foyer. Let us know if we can help you in any way.

The Church of Christ

1. The Bible is its only guide (Romans 1:16; 1 Thess 2:13).
2. Wears a Biblical name (Romans 16:16).
3. Established at the right place (Isaiah 2:2,3; Acts 2).
4. Established at the right time (Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2).
5. Established on the right person, Jesus Christ (Matt 16:18; Acts 2:36).
6. Saved are in it (Eph 5:23; Acts 2:47).
7. Its members are enrolled in heaven (Hebrews 12:23).
8. Membership is obtained by obedience to God's commands including baptism (Acts 2:41-47; 1 Cor 12:13)

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Worship 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study 7 p.m.

For Thine is the Kingdom... Really?

by Dan Jenkins

So many individuals know the words of the prayer Jesus gave in the Sermon on the Mount. It begins by addressing God with the words, "Our Father which art in heaven. . ." and ends with "For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen" (KJV—Matt. 6:9-13). What can be so easily overlooked is the prayer of David as he discussed the building of the temple by his son, Solomon. He said, "Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power and the glory, and . . . the kingdom" (1 Chon. 29:11).

What does the expression "Thine is the kingdom" really mean? Look at the NKJV rendering of the words of David, "Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power and the glory. . . Yours is the kingdom, O Lord." The kingdom is God's. Thine (Yours) is the kingdom!

Now when we understand that John the Baptist, Jesus, the twelve and the seventy proclaimed that the kingdom of God was at hand, about to come in the first century (Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:7; Luke 10:9), should we be surprised that Jesus taught His disciples to pray, "Thy kingdom come"? Jesus said that the kingdom would come with power in the lives of those who heard His words (Mark 9:1). We know what that kingdom is. Those in the early church had been translated into the kingdom (Col. 1:13). Jesus said the kingdom would come in the first century. What came? That which came was the church.

Now note how the prayer the Lord gave said that the kingdom belongs to God! He said that kingdom is Yours (Thine). He planned it and the blood of Emmanuel bought the church (Acts 20:28). It is His and His alone! He is the King over the kingdom. He is the head over the church (Eph. 1:22-23). Look again at the prayer. The kingdom belongs to Him forever.

O the folly of any mortal, whose very life is dependent on the breath God gives him, to usurp the right of the King to govern His kingdom, to rule His church. But isn't that what has been done in Christendom?

The whole basis of denominational division is that God has abdicated His throne and given the kingdom to mortals and the right to change anything in the church any man desires. God did not give men the right to change His rules for His kingdom about worship, the Lord's Supper, congregational singing, church organization, baptism, and a host of other matters. Where is the authority for all these changes? Does it come from a church synod, the reverend pastor, the church board, etc.?

Read the Bible. Let God be King over your life. Let's return to the way He designed His kingdom, the church. Let's not just say the words, "Thine is the kingdom." Let's give the kingdom back to Him.

Announcements

Fellowship Meal

The fellowship meal will be December 18. The men's meeting will follow.

Holiday Baskets

We are collecting donations for holiday baskets. See Gene or Juanita if you would like to donate.

Church Directory

All new information for the new directory should be given to Mike McCool.

*Please check the bulletin board for events going on at other congregations.

Speakers

	AM Worship	PM Worship
Dec. 4	Eugene Tewalt	Art Candenquist
Dec. 11	Nate Edwards	Joel Hope
Dec. 18	Mike McCool	Eugene Tewalt
Dec. 25	Eugene Tewalt	
Jan. 1	Nate Edwards	T. K Edwards
Jan. 8	Mike McCool	Art Candenquist
Jan. 15	Eugene Tewalt	Joel Hope
Jan. 22	Mike McCool	Eugene Tewalt
Jan. 29	Nate Edwards	Mike McCool

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Linda Sullivan 12/22

Anniversaries

Eddie & Marian Benefit 12/12

David & Brenda Born 12/22

Reminder

No food or drinks allowed in auditorium.

Potter Children's Home

Potter Children's Home is taking donations. They will be picking up from church building on Dec. 5th.

Item's needed:

- Wheat Thins
- White Icing
- Cooking Spray
- Mac and Cheese
- Q-Tips

See Mike or Eugene if you would like to make a cash donation.

Serving Today

Lord's Table:

T.K. Edwards, David Mayberry,
Joseph Agyenim, Joel Hope

Song Leader:

Tim Tewalt

Closing Prayer:

Liam Edwards

Scripture Reading

Art Candenquist

Serving Next Sunday

Lord's Table:

Mike McCool, Trevor Bollhorst,
Joel Hope, David Born

Song Leader:

Eugene Tewalt

Closing Prayer:

Joseph Agyenim

Scripture Reading

Art Candenquist

Please make sure to check to see if you are on the list of servers.

The Cracked Acorn

by Carson Van Arsdall

LOVE

Ah, the season of love and Valentine's Day. The newspaper published a short article to further show the power of this amazing human emotion. Our U.S. ambassador to Mexico had found the love of his life. He is the son of hard-working parents and has worked his way up the political ladder to this high office. His lady love is wealthy, not several millions but 1.5 billion worth. She is one of Latin America's wealthiest and most powerful women. The couple are ignoring this. "Love is not about money. Love is about the values you carry inside." There will be a prenuptial agreement. Will this marriage work out? Maybe! We will have to keep buying the daily paper. Will Antonio and Maria be able to ignore the King Kong of wealth and enjoy the simple life of love and happiness. This relationship has all the ingredients of a nice long-running soap opera.

Our Modern media uses "love" in all its forms to promote, sell and circulate all types of products and propaganda. I remember a radio preacher of years ago who said everyone is looking for love. When they find it; it is like a well. They drink and drink till the well is dry. Then they move on to the next well where it is repeated over and over. Are we that way today? Times have changed. Morals have changed. We have more freedom to question and seek our own answers to our needs and wishes. Resources are available to aid us in our search for fulfillment. We have not strayed too far from our ancient roots of seekers and gatherers. We still look up at the evening sky and wonder about its mysteries and see ourselves small but vital in an important universe. Yes. We are all looking for the eternal love that cannot be severed by time and our puny problems. Will wealth come between our two love birds in the newspaper? The mathematical odds are heavily weighted that it could, but in the field of human attachments; we just can never know for sure.

from the Bible:

"I may be able to speak the languages of human beings and even of angels, but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell. I may have the gift of inspired preaching; I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets; I may have the faith, needed to move mountains- but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burned-but if I have no love, this does me no good."
1 Corinthians, 13:1-13.

"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else."
Thessalonians 3:12.

"Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away."
1 Corinthians 14:1.

"...Love comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." 1 Timothy 1:5

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13

"There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear." 1 John. 4: 18

"Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it." Song of Solomon 3:7

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believes on him may not perish, but have life eternal." John 3:16

"Love is a many splendored thing
It's the April rose that only grows in the early Spring
Love is nature's way of giving a reason to be living
The golden crown that makes a man a king!"
(Williams & Williams)

Prayer Requests

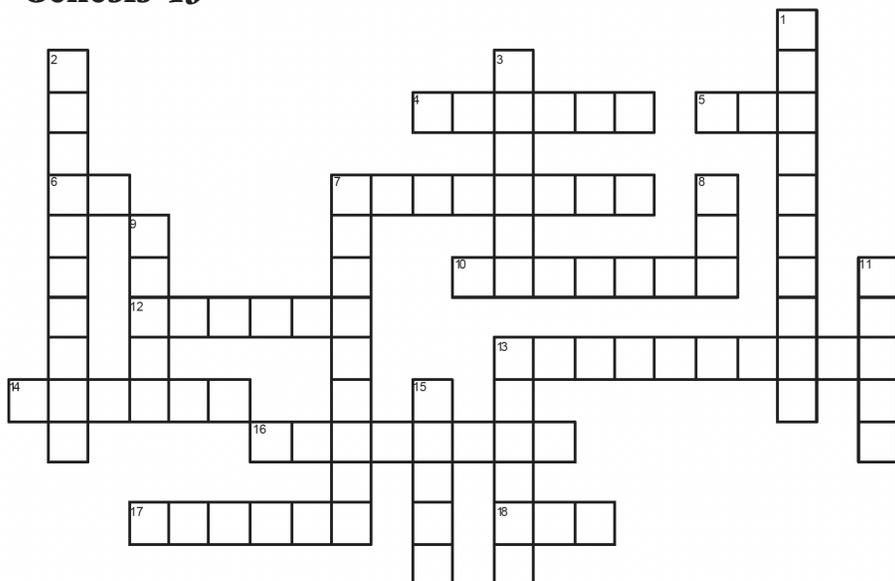
- Linda and Bill Adams
- Bob and Deborah Baleskie
- Eddie Benfit
- Laura Bollhorst
- David and Brenda Born
- John Bost
- Ruth Brooks
- Paula Clark (Carson's sister)
- Sharon and Danny Derflinger
- Jim Foster (Lori Gunter's boyfriend)
- Lori Petrow Gunter
- Bobby Jo Henderson
- Kenny Henderson Jr.
- Terry and Jeanie Lichliter
- Maria Martin
- Robert & Mary Martin
- Jane McCool
- The McKeever family
- Vickie Petrow
- Paul Sullivan (Linda's son)
- Jamie Tewalt is recovering from surgery
- Kim Wines (Debbie Martin's daughter)
- Paige & Jeff (Laura Bollhorst's sister and brother-in-law)

Answered Prayers

If you have an answered prayer that you would like mentioned, please give it to Tim so it can be printed in next week's bulletin.

The Second Journey of Joseph's Brothers to Egypt

Genesis 43



ACROSS

- 4 It was the _____ to present gifts to your superiors when you visit them. (Gn. 43:11)
- 5 Whom did the steward credit for giving them the silver in their sacks? (Gn. 43:23)
- 6 Was it the custom of the Hebrews and Egyptians to eat together? (Gn. 43:32)
- 7 Who accompanied the sons of Jacob to Egypt? (Gn. 43:16)
- 10 The brothers responded that Joseph questioned us closely about our family. (Gn. 43:7)
- 12 When instructed by Israel (Jacob) to return to Egypt, he told them to take a double amount of the silver. (Gn. 43:12)
- 13 When the brothers arrived at Joseph's house, they were _____ because they thought they were going to be punished for everything that had happened. (Gn. 43:18)
- 14 Both Joseph and Benjamin had the same _____. (Gn. 43:29)
- 16 Their father Jacob then consented that they should return to Egypt. He also told them to take down the best products of the crops. (Gn. 43:11)
- 17 Who had been in prison and was brought out to the other brothers at Joseph's home? (Gn. 43:23)
- 18 When the brothers arrived in Egypt and saw Joseph, even though they did not know who he was, Joseph ordered the steward to kill an animal because they were to have dinner with him. (Gn. 43:16)

DOWN

- 1 The brothers who were invited to Joseph home failed to _____ the exact details of Joseph's concern for this family. (Gn. 37:27-29)
- 2 The brothers told the steward at Joseph's home that they _____ how the silver found its way into the sacks of grain. (Gn. 43:21-11) three words
- 3 Who asked, "Why did you bring this trouble on us by telling him (Joseph) you had another brother?" (Gn. 43:6)
- 7 This action was an additional fulfillment of Joseph's dreams. (Gn. 37:7, 9) two words
- 8 After Jacob's family had eaten all the grain they had brought from Egypt, He instructed his sons to go back and _____ more grain. (Gn. 43:1-2)
- 9 Who mentioned that they would not see the man's (Joseph's) face unless Reuben goes with them? (Gn. 42:37-38; 43:3-5)
- 11 Who requested permission to take Reuben and go back to Egypt to buy food to survive? (Gn. 43:8)
- 13 When Joseph arrived at home, he inquired if their aged _____ was still living? (Gn. 43:27)
- 15 Who said he would personally guarantee that he would bring Reuben back and, if not, will bear the blame? (Gn. 43:9-10)

Answers to last week's puzzle

