

The Encourager

April 2 - 8, 2023

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.

Troy Postlethwait, Minister

540-252-7460

The Sting of Death is Sin

By Kevin Cauley

So many people are under the impression that the sting of death is death itself. The Bible says otherwise (1 Corinthians 15:56). That is, it isn't death that is the sting, but sin. Why is that? Because if one dies in one's sins, then that sin stays with him after death and results in condemnation (John 5:29). However, if one is forgiven of sins, then there is no sting in death, instead, there is only blessing. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord" (Revelation 14:13).

However, a person must take advantage of the opportunity to be free from sin by becoming a child of God so that death will have no sting. God gives victory through Christ, not the sting that is sin (1 Corinthians 15:57). In Christ, there is no condemnation (Romans 8:1). How can I be forgiven of sin and be in Christ? We are forgiven of sin by the blood of Christ (Matthew 26:28) when we are baptized into Christ (Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16). When we are baptized, we put on Christ (Galatians 3:27) and belong to Christ. If we then belong to Christ, we are free from sin, and death has no more sting. Instead, "death is swallowed up in victory" (1 Corinthians 15:54-55).

Christians should not be afraid of death. Christ Jesus came into the world to take away our fear of death. "Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (Hebrews 2:14-15). The devil wants us to be afraid of death so he can control us. Let's not give him what he wants!

Announcements

Ladies' Class

The ladies are having a class on Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall for those who wish to attend. There's also a ladies' class on Tuesday mornings at 11 a.m. at the church building.

Friday Night Bible Study

Joel Hope is having an on-line bible study at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evenings. Joel can send you the link if you would like to participate.

Flags

If anyone has an American Flag that they would like to dispose of, please bring it and give it to Bill Adams. The American Legion and the Boy Scouts will dispose of the flags in a proper way.

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.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Danny Derflinger 4/1
Sharon Derflinger 4/14
Fennec Edwards 4/16
Virginia Wright 4/18
Connor Clark 4/21
Maddy Mayberry 4/23
Abby Mayberry 4/27

Anniversaries

Mike & Jane McCool 4/1
Terry & Jeanie Lichliter 4/7
Tim & Kristie Tewalt 4/8
Nate & Olivia Edwards 4/10

Reminder

No food or drinks allowed in auditorium.

Please make sure to silent all electronic devices during class and worship services.

Serving Today

Song Leader:

Eugene Tewalt

Opening Prayer:

Liam Edwards

Lord's Table:

Nate Edwards, Mike McCool,
Joseph Agyenim, David Mayberry

Scripture Reading:

Art Candenuist

Closing Prayer:

Joel Hope

PM Song Leader:

Eugene Tewalt

Serving Next Sunday

Song Leader:

Tim Tewalt

Opening Prayer:

T.K. Edwards

Lord's Table:

Joel Hope, Liam Edwards,
Cyril Edwards, Bill Adams

Scripture Reading:

Art Candenuist

Closing Prayer:

Joseph Agyenim

PM Song Leader:

T.K. Edwards

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

The Cracked Acorn

by Carson Van Arsdall

On the Wall

You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. (Deuteronomy 6:9)

Maybe you haven't noticed it but handwriting has entered a state of demise. I am not sure if we can blame it on doctors' prescriptions or if this is a byproduct of the information age. Using a keyboard your fingers can fly at amazing speeds conveying thoughts and facts that can be saved and edited over and over till every word and sentence is perfect. Try this with your ballpoint or your old fashion NO# 2 lead pencil. You will find that the words have to stand in line while you make those graceful curves and slants and spaces. Teachers are discovering that students would rather word process an essay rather than to take the time to write one.

In grade school I had to use a right-hand desk while I was trying to write left-handed. Fortunately I was never pressured to change so I developed my own style. Later, I found out that many left-handers wrote upside down and backwards and did all kinds of contortions to perform the daily writing assignments. Maybe this is why "every year, 10 million letters end up undeliverable, in the dead letter boxes at post offices." (Quote by Bill Bostick-Bingham Farms handwriting expert). I grew up hearing people say, "put your John Hancock" on this! His was the eligible and bold signature on the Declaration of Independence.

If we listen to the experts, handwriting began 3,000 or 8,000 years ago, take your pick. Ancient shells in China bear marks that could be symbols translated as "writing". Present day Iraq claims to be the home of handwriting. Those who follow the science of the earliest scribbles tell us that much more has to be unearthed before a positive answer is found. Will these findings tell us if the writer was "friendly, emotional, versatile, adaptable, flexible, agitated, stressful, intelligent, easygoing, theatrical,

self-disciplined, a free thinker, cautious, generosity and communicative?" Handwriting is said to reveal some of these traits about the)

Finally this old story, inspired maybe by Daniel chapter 5--A weary mother returned from the store, lugging groceries through the kitchen door. Awaiting her arrival was her 8 year old son, anxious to relate what his younger brother had done.

"While I was out playing and Dad was on a call, T.J. took his crayons and wrote on the wall! It's on the new paper you just hung in the den. I told him you'd be mad at having to do it again."

She let out a moan and furrowed her brow, "Where is your little brother right now?" She emptied her arms and with a purposeful stride, She marched to his closet where he had gone to hide. She called his full name as she entered his room. He trembled with fear - he knew that meant doom! For the next ten minutes, she ranted and raved about the expensive wallpaper, and how she had saved.

Lamenting all the work it would take to repair, She condemned his actions and total lack of care. The more she scolded, the madder she got, then stomped from his room, totally distraught! She headed for the den to confirm her fears. When she saw the wall, her eyes flooded with tears. The message she read pierced her soul with a dart. It said, "I love Mommy," surrounded by a heart.

Well, the wallpaper remained, just as she found it, with an empty picture frame hung to surround it. -A reminder to her-

Prayer Requests

- Linda and Bill Adams
- Deborah Baleskie
- The Baleskie Family
- Eddie Benfit
- Laura Bollhorst
- David and Brenda Born
- John Bost
- Ruth Brooks
- Paula Clark (Carson's sister)
- Pat Derflinger
- Sharon and Danny Derflinger
- Tommy Derflinger
- Jim Foster (Lori Gunter's boyfriend)
- The Furr Family
- Lori Petrow Gunter
- Bobby Jo Henderson
- Kenny Henderson Jr.
- Janet Jones
- Terry and Jeanie Lichliter
- Debbie Martin
- Maria Martin
- Robert & Mary Martin
- Kera Michelucci (Debbie's granddaughter)
- Jane McCool
- The McKeever family
- Vickie Petrow
- Paul Sullivan (Linda's son)
- Jamie Tewalt
- Shirley Williams
- Kim Wines (Debbie Martin's daughter)
- Paige & Jeff (Laura Bollhorst's sister and brother-in-law)
- Sharon Derflinger is in room 230 at Lynn Care
- Laura Bollhorst's father, Mark Dadmun, is in need of prayers.

Answered Prayers

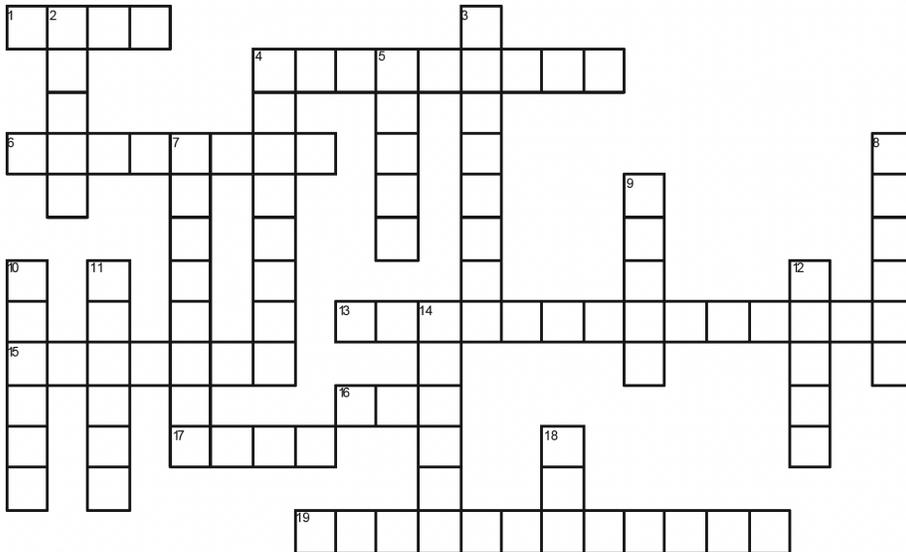
If you have an answered prayer that you would like mentioned, please give it to Tim so it can be printed in next week's bulletin.

Danny is recovering well from his knee replacement.

Debbie Martin is doing better.

The Golden Calf

Exodus 24:12-18; 31:18; 32



ACROSS

- 1 Aaron made from the gold a _____, and the people said these are the gods which brought us out of Egypt. (Ex. 32:4)
- 4 When Moses came near the camp and saw the golden calf, he ground the gold into a powder and _____ it on the water. (Ex. 32:20)
- 6 When the people witnessed the thunder, lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the smoking of the mountain, the people _____. (Ex. 19:16)
- 13 The Lord told Moses to come up to the mount, and He would give him the _____ and the law and commandments that Moses might teach the people. (Ex. 24:12) three words
- 15 Moses said it was not the noise of victory or defeat, but the sound of what? (Ex. 32:18)
- 16 Who stayed with the people to take care of any problems they might have? (Ex. 24:13-14)
- 17 When the people say that Moses was delayed in coming down from the mountain, they told Aaron to make them _____ to go before them. (Ex. 32:1)
- 19 When the people told Aaron to make them gods, he told them to bring their _____. (Ex. 32:2) two words

DOWN

- 2 How did Moses react when he came near the camp and saw the calf and dancing? (Ex. 32:19)
- 3 After Aaron made the golden calf, he built an altar and made a proclamation that the next day would be a _____ to the Lord. (Ex. 32:5)

- 4 When God delivered the Ten Commandments to the children of Israel from Mount Sinai, the desired that the people hear him _____ with Moses. (Ex. 19:9)
- 5 When God spoke to Moses as He gave the Ten Commandments, God want His people to _____ Moses as their leader. (Ex. 19:9)
- 7 After Moses destroyed the golden calf, he told the people to consecrate themselves to the Lord that day in order to receive a _____. (Ex. 32:29)
- 8 When Moses came near the camp and saw the golden calf, he ground the gold into a _____. (Ex. 32:20)
- 9 Who stayed with the people to take care of any problems they might have? (Ex. 24:13-14)
- 10 Who went up the mountain with Moses? (Ex. 24:13-14)
- 11 What did God use to write the commandments on the two tablets of stone? (Ex. 31:18)
- 12 How many days and nights did Moses spend on the mountain? (Ex. 24:18)
- 14 When Moses came near the camp and saw the golden calf, he _____ it in the fire. (Ex. 32:20)
- 18 As Moses sent down from the mountain, Joshua said the noise in the camp sounded as the noise who _____. (Ex. 32:17)

Answers to last week's puzzle

