

Ministers

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Long

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2020 NW CIRCLE BLVD.

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2020 Circle Family Times Sunday: 9:30AM Bible Classes for all ages 10:30AM Worship Wednesday: Various Life Groups Office Hours: S: 2-5; M-R: 8-4; F: 8-12

Family Newsletter



We know Sunday Morning Worship is not the same as it used to be. There are **SO MANY** extra things we need to do: sign in, have our temperature taken, wear a mask or face shield, and stay 6 feet away from everyone not in our household. There are **SO** MANY things we do differently: recorded songs instead of a song leader, picking up our own prepackaged communion when we walk in, and dropping our offering into a box when we walk out. We can't even make ourselves a cup of coffee when we come here! **BUT**, we can still worship God. We can still see people we haven't seen in SO LONG! We can still **ENCOURAGE** each other with our presence. We realize these guidelines may



seem overly restrictive to many. However, they are guidelines recommended by our state to make sure everyone who comes into our building stays healthy. As a congregation, we need to show our willingness to abide by these requirements, both out of love and concern for each other and, as the Scriptures encourage us, to show our respect for the authorities and provide an example to those who may be watching our actions as they are broadcasted on Facebook, YouTube, and our website.

"The Main Thing"

1. To love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength.

2. To love our neighbors as ourselves.

3. To go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything Christ has commanded us.

Upcoming Events

October 18th, 9:30am: "Encouragement For Today" class continues online and in person October 18th, 10:30am: Livestream Worship on our website, Facebook & YouTube; In person meeting at Circle Church of Christ Join A Life Group Today!!!

Please Pray For Our Family

Please pray for God's healing hand to be on those with cancer: Les Brooks (malignant leukemia); Renee Gunselman's parents; Gregg's cousin Susan, serious cancer Please continue to pray for: Keith Cornell, Phil & Linda Weimer, Paul & Donna Johnson, Jean Woods, Betty Carter, Al Hendrickson, Reneé's mom, Linda Holland, Charlotte Bibb, Les & Joyce Brooks, Bill Perry **Pray Also For These Health Requests:**

Joe Hammar's brother Jerry, back in an adult care facility. Please pray for continued improvements. Barb Hammar, to make a quick, complete recovery from shingles. Aiden McPartlin, for his recovery from his injuries and surgery to go well. Mark's coworker's 23 year old daughter who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. She is a home nurse, and we pray that none of her patients were exposed to the virus through her, and that she will have a quick recovery. Gail McCaughan's nephew, Terry, who is back in the hospital. We pray for the correct diagnosis, effective treatment, and that he will quickly return to good health.

Jackie Parsons' brother who broke his ribs, and for his upcoming surgery that will repair them. Jennifer House's dad, once again waiting for a kidney match. We pray for him to have peace during this waiting, and for God to take care of him and his family.

Physical:

Jean Woods, Ron Eastridge, Linda Holland, Hallas Family

Please keep the Hallas family in your prayers as they process and adjust to their new lives. Please pray especially for big court decisions being made soon.

We pray for Loryn, Bill and Gail's granddaughter, to find her place in her new community and connect to a body of faith. Military: Jordan Paul, stationed in N Carolina in extensive training; John, Betty Carter's grandson, Navy Engaged Couples: Cody Parsons and Michelle Maeda; Gabriel Gunselman & McKenzie Kemp Expecting Mothers: Marissa Veik, Alicia Gollakner, Naomi Smith, Summer Shore, Shima Kanani

Spiritual:

We pray that God will help us not only love our neighbors as ourselves, but also help us point them to Christ.

Praise:

We are so blessed to have those comfortable doing so meeting in person once again!

Please make sure to submit your prayer requests by phone (541-758-4456) or email (2020circle@gmail.com) by Saturday at 12pm to have them included in our Worship Service.

Deacons: Eric Bracht, Adam Goddard, Ed Gunselman, Rolland House, Eric Jensen, Ryan McPartlin, Bob Parsons, Jose Reyes, Jake Shore, Jordan Strawn, Josh Wise

Outreach Programs: Bay Area Rescue Mission, Christian Relief Fund, Clothing Drive, East Asian Missions, Food Boxes, Mountain States Children's Home, Orphan Sunday, Quilts for CASA, Special Situations, University Christian Center

Thoughts, Questions, Notes



Thomas' Takeaways

God's Will

"...so I'm just not sure which one God wants me to do." The frustrated college student sitting across from me took an exasperated sip of their coffee. "I've been praying for 3 months and the choice has gotten no clearer. I don't know what God wants me to do."

This isn't just common among college students; many of us have faced choices where we've probably asked God, "OK...which one?" Which...potential spouse? Job? Location to move? Car? Dessert? We want to make the right choice, the one that is God's will, and the fact that God doesn't always make which choice IS God's will can be frustrating.

Here's the thing which we often forget – God doesn't work in a binary way. What I mean by that is that there are few and very clear choices in which something is either God's will or not – don't murder, commit adultery, worship idols, pretty cut and dry. But the two jobs choices you have don't fit into those categories. Hopefully a potential marriage partner doesn't...So that doesn't help.

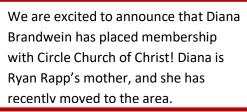
There are indeed times when God closes a door or opens a fire escape which at least make things clearer choice wise, even if we're not sure who's behind it. But then, I've been asked, the fire escape led me deeper into the fire! That wasn't God's will, was it?

If you search the phrase "will of God" or "God's will" in a more literal translation, you get about 30 results. Most of those don't explain it but simply refer to it. Only four blatantly say something like 'this is the will of God.' They are 1st Thessalonians 4:3, 1st Peter 2:15, 1st Thessalonians 5:18, and I'd reference Romans 12:1-2 too.

This week look them up and reflect on them. I'll elaborate on my point of referencing these passages next week, but while you look them up, ask these questions:

- What are they explaining as God's will?
- What do those things look like in my life?
- What answers from God do I need to find those things?
- Are these things what I ask for God when I ask His will?

Here's a spoiler: God's will is much more complicated but yet so much more simple than simply this choice or that choice. And that's a good thing, both for God and for us.



We are still preparing food boxes for Thanksgiving and Christmas 2020! However, due to COVID-19 precautions, we cannot accept food donations. At this time, we can only accept cash, checks, online donations, or gift cards to aid us in shopping for these boxes. Please contact Maria (541-758-4456) if you have questions or would like to help.



Contact Numbers: 541-753-4310 UCC 503-866-9117 cell

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"I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God than to live the good life in the homes of the wicked." ~Psalm 84:1-12

I've read this Psalm many times, but I've always interpreted it poetically: It's better to have a simple, holy life than a rich, wicked life. During COVID-19, I'm thinking about its literal meaning. The Jewish Temple had a literal gate (the Beautiful Gate, where Peter and John healed a beggar) and literal gatekeepers. Jewish believers would be granted or denied access to the temple for many reasons. One reason to be denied was infectious disease (leprosy, contagious skin diseases, etc.). COVID-19 restrictions are irksome for us, but health restrictions at places of worship would have been a given for Jesus. I am now one of the "gatekeepers" for our church, managing check-in before Sunday Morning Worship. This job is simple, challenging, and yet, incredibly important. It's kind of like being a church bouncer. ③

The Psalmist here says "I long, yes, I faint with longing, to enter the courts of the Lord" (Psalm 84:2). Was he under quarantine? Was there some reason this descendant of Korah could not worship in the traditional way? Who knows? However, this psalm expresses a deep longing to enter into the house of God and experience the joy that comes from worship. That's how I'm feeling. I can't wait for a vaccine so we can get back to unrestricted worship. It makes me realize how blessed I have been to be free to worship in safe, healthy churches for so many years. But, in the end, we put our trust in God: "O Lord Almighty, happy are those who trust in you" (Psalm 84:12).

Sunday Servants

Elder of the Month: Mark Johnson Deacon of the Month: Jake Shore Service Monitor: Maria Zhang A/V: John Baxter Opening Prayer: Mark Johnson Communion: Rolland House Closing/Pastoral Prayer: Casey Long Speaker: Thomas Pruett Ushers: Dave Franklund

Sunday Morning Attendance	49
Last Week's Contribution	\$4,290.29
Year to Date Weekly Average	\$4,600.06
Weekly Budget	\$4,705.29

Many H	lands Make Light WorkGet Involved!	
Circle Facilitator Inside	Eric Bracht	
Outside Circle Facilitator	Jim Calkin	
	Nathan Lopez. Bob Parsons	
	M Zhang, G Brown, J Wise	
••	Josh Stutzman, Eric & Chris Jensen	
• •		
	Jose Reves	
	Eric Bracht, Eric Jensen	
	Casey Long	
	.R & H McPartlin, J & S Shore, L Wise, E Womack	
• •	Ed, Renee & Joel Gunselman	
	Jordan & Kellie Strawn	
	y Adam & Erin Goddard	
	Frank Cloutier, Bill McCaughan	
	Rolland House, Bob Parsons, Jake Shore	
	Tami Brown & Maria Zhang	
	Charlene Franklund	
	Charlene Franklund	
	Maria Zhang	
	Cathy Brooks	
	Maria Z, Casey L	
	Bob Parsons, Chris Gollakner	
	See Elders	
Vision MinistryElders, D	eacons, Ministers, Ministry Leaders &	
Spouses		
	L Munson	
	Lead: Laurie Eastridge	
	eman, N Johnson, J Parsons, P Strawn, M Zhang, R Gunselman	
Youth MinistryEric & Jann Bracht and Eric & Chris Jensen		

Grace to you.