

# Mt Vernon Church of Christ

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# Mt Vernon Messenger

## July 10, 2016

### Welcome Guest

We are glad you chose to worship with us. Please fill out a visitor's card so we have a record of your visit. Come and worship with us again and often.

### Schedule of Services

Pioneer Home Service	8:30 am
Bible Class	9:30 am
Morning Worship	10:30 am
Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wed. Ladies Class	12:00 pm
(at church building)	
Wed. Evening Study	7:00 pm
Fri. Ladies Class	10:00 am
(at church building)	

Minister Ronald Bryant

### Shepherds

Otto Buehler	Morris Guest
Gordon Gower	Glenn Kenner
Larry Miller	

### Deacons

Don Dillahunty	Rick Pinney
Spencer Guest	Eddie Redman
Bob Justice	Larry Sanderson
Troy Trammell	

### Church Statistics

OFFICE HOURS: M-Th 8am to 1pm

#### ATTENDANCE

Bible Class	75
Worship Assembly	151
Pioneer Home	19

#### FINANCES

Weekly Budget	\$4018
Weekly Contribution	\$4117

### Pioneer Home Schedule

Date	Lesson	Song Leader
July 17 <sup>th</sup>	Otto Buehler	Larry Miller

### Greeters for July

Jane Gifford & Sally Guest

## GOD'S PURPOSE HAS NOT CHANGED

How would you describe where we are as a nation? How would you describe the people of this age? Indifference toward the things of God long ago gave way to hostility. The downward spiral described in Romans 1:18-32, has been on-going; and to the degree that many have reached the level of "the reprobate mind." (v. 28). This undeniable fact should serve to open the eyes of those who claim to know and honor God, to the incredibly important work that is theirs - the great necessity of their faithful imitation of Christ, and the proclamation of His gospel. Many follow a very different agenda, for they have become religious customers and entrepreneurs, and have abandoned the will and purpose of God. The work of God calls His people to do, has not changed, yet in too many instances awareness of and convictions regarding it are weak. The floods of indifference, of detachment and of resistance to the will of God, are not new. It is easy to identify some with the church at Ephesus, that "left its first love" (Rev. 2:4), or with the church at Laodicea in their state of apathy (being lukewarm) (Rev. 3:15ff). While the world is moving away from God, and is hostile toward the truth of God, it is not enough for those who would truly serve God to simply hold-services, or wring their hands. Incredibly, some are urging believers to "court the world," to learn what the people of the world want and demand and try to honor that. As the churches become more and more worldly, and society becomes more and more hostile toward God, the clear and undeniable fact is that those who would serve God must return fully to the will and purpose of God, and determine to do His will, no matter the cost. It remains that doing God's will means endeavoring to bring hearts and souls captive to do God's will (II Cor. 10:5).

God's purpose for His people has not changed. Christ's commission remains the same: "Go make disciples," "Go preach the gospel to every creature" (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16). God's people are the light of the world, and they must let their light shine. God's people are the salt of earth, and there is great tragedy attached to their losing their saltiness (Matthew 5:13-16). God's plan for the saving of man is, one of specific focus, and it will require the greatest of passion and compassion on the part of the people of God. The message is one of specific information and directive; it is not vague counsel or empty appeal. What is at stake is the eternal destiny of eternal souls. God has no other plan for the saving of mankind.

The professionals in contemporary religious groups have long championed a program of friendly fellowship, the solving of surface problems, and tutoring their clients to accept themselves and their failings in the context of religious trappings. Challenging people to take an honest look at their values and their purpose in life, in view of the will of God, is regarded as too intimidating, even inappropriate. Calling to people to faith in Christ and allegiance to Him is treated as secondary, while self-worth and obtaining a healthy self-concept are treated as primary. It is the case that many who attend assemblies of worship and are looked upon as believers, are not believers at all! Their allegiance is to the leader or to the group, not to Christ. While Christ is the excuse for their acts of devotion, He is not the reason! Many know next to nothing about worshiping God in spirit and in truth, and even less about serving Him in reverence and godly fear? They know nothing of biblical obedience, yet call themselves believers.

...continued inside bulletin

### Morning Assembly

Announcements	Don Dillahunty
Song Leader	George Parks
Opening Prayer	Glenn Kenner
Scripture Reading	Greg Hendrickson
Prayer Leader	Barry Redden
Lord's Table	Jim Rhodes
	Bill Stewart
	Winn Hendricks
	Jim Wisniewski
Closing Prayer	Mike Wester

### July 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly

Announcements	Don Dillahunty
Song Leader	Roger Derda
Opening Prayer	Otto Buehler
Scripture Reading	Keith Drochak
Prayer Leader	Morris Guest
Lord's Table	Neil Simmons
	Charles Hughes
	Les Turner
	Richard Davis
Closing Prayer	Troy Trammell

THOSE SERVING ASSEMBLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE PROMPTLY AT 10:20

Sermon notes:

## GOD'S PROGRAM - "PEOPLE-MAKING"

1. The church exists to \_\_\_\_\_ (*Ephesians 3:20-21*)
2. It exists to prepare eternal souls for \_\_\_\_\_
3. It exists to equip them to be \_\_\_\_\_

### I. WHAT KIND OF CHURCH IS A "PEOPLE-MAKING" CHURCH?

A. The church as it began is a case study, its actions are definitive (*Acts 2:41-47*)

B. Four aspects of their identity:

1. They were a \_\_\_\_\_
2. They were a \_\_\_\_\_
3. They were a \_\_\_\_\_
4. They were an \_\_\_\_\_

### II. EXAMINATION OF THOSE MARKS OF IDENTITY SERVES US WELL.

A. First, they were devoted to \_\_\_\_\_.

1. They \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from the right source.
2. Love for \_\_\_\_\_ is essential in combating \_\_\_\_\_.
3. *Romans 10:1-3; II Timothy 2:15; 2:1-2* \_\_\_\_\_

B. Worship was a \_\_\_\_\_. They assembled with \_\_\_\_\_.

1. They rejoiced \_\_\_\_\_ (*Acts 2:36, 41, 42*)
2. They knew their past and present \_\_\_\_\_ (*I Peter 2:10*)
3. *Hebrews 4:14-16* \_\_\_\_\_

C. They were one in a fellowship where \_\_\_\_\_ was taking place.

1. Spiritual values are \_\_\_\_\_ in the church.
2. God-given abilities are \_\_\_\_\_ to God's glory.
3. Christian fellowship is a process of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. *Romans 12:4ff; Ephesians 4:1-6; Galatians 6:1-10; Hebrews 10:24-25* \_\_\_\_\_

D. They gave themselves to God's program of \_\_\_\_\_.

1. They grew \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ because God worked in and through them.
2. They readily and eagerly \_\_\_\_\_ (*Acts 2:47; 4:23ff; 8:1ff*)
3. Their heart-beat was \_\_\_\_\_ (*Romans 10:1-3*)
4. *II Corinthians 5:11-21* \_\_\_\_\_

### III. IF WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE, WE EXIST FOR A HIGH AND HOLY PURPOSE:

If we are not the people of God, we have no reason to exist!

## Prayer List

**JoAnn Porter** (friend of Derdas) has an infection throughout her whole body, currently in convalescent facility and doctors advising hospice care.

**Jim Hixenbaugh** having some health problems with his back. Still trying to find a church home in Texas.

**Betty Hanna** having some health issues

**Michelle Henry (Denise Miller's daughter)** will be seeing another doctor in phoenix, praying that they will find out what is wrong.

### Continual Prayers Health Reasons/Treatment

~ **Helen Gasdaglis** improved health

~ **Brad Hall** (friend of the Cleavelands) needs a kidney transplant.

~ **Jodi Zito** improved health

~ **Bob Justice** has a knee injury that has not improved.

~ **Kim & Tate Poynor** healthy pregnancy and baby

~ **Chuck Whisenant's sister-in-law Betty** severe brain cancer.

~ **Marian Johnson (Mandy Buchanan's grandmother)** comfort while dealing with bladder tumor.

~ **Kathleen Hall** improved health and kidney to work better.

~ **Marcia Serrano** migraines and medication issue for her insulin

~ **Julie (friend of Sally Guest)** husband, has liver cancer.

~ **Darrellene Faber (Kim Cureton's sister)** health improvement

~ **Jan Stevens (Jean & Rudy Kantu's sister-in-law)** cancer treatment; she is improving

~ **John Stevens (Jean Kantu's brother)** has developed serious health concerns related to his diabetes.

~ **Steven Lemm, 55 years old (nephew of Jean & Rudy Kantu)** failing in health, with no diagnosis.

~ **Christian (Becky Hanna's nephew)** terminal leukemia.

~ **Nick Cureton (nephew to Dale Cureton)** acute leukemia rare type.

~ **Gene Harmon** Alzheimer's / **Dolores** caregiver

~ **Eddie Redman's niece Rose** terminal illness

~ **Ellen Larremore** health problems

~ **Deanna Larremore** health problems

~ **Joe Hixenbaugh (Jim Hixenbaugh's brother)** cancer, will be having more tests this June

### Our Shut-ins

Ruth Hague                      Dwain Oliver  
 Danny Jones                    Marjorie Trammell  
 Bill Withers-VA

## Fork in the Road

Which way to go? The decision one makes is based, not on which way is easier or well-traveled, but where it will take you.

Likewise, we often come to forks on Life's Road where we must make a decision. Some choices may only have a minimal or temporary impact on our journey. Other choices may have major and long-lasting consequences.

### Major 'Forks' on Life's Road Choices with Eternal Consequences

God: Fear or ignore.

Jesus: Believe or disbelieve.

Disciple: Follow or go your own way.

Wisdom: Rely on heavenly or worldly.

Friends: Godly or worldly.

Lifestyle: Popular or righteous.

We make our own decisions. And we must live with where they take us.

"Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it." Matthew 7:13

-Ron Adams



## 20 Seconds of Courage

20, 19, 18, 17...3, 2, 1. That's all it takes—20 seconds of courage. When we look at monumental moments in life, could they not all be boiled down to 20 seconds? The greatest baseball play you have ever seen is shorter than 20 seconds. The most spectacular dunk of the basketball season could be replayed 5 times in 20 seconds. A job could be won or lost within the first 20 seconds of the interview.

What really made me think of 20 seconds of courage is the movie "We Bought a Zoo." In this movie Matt Damon, as Benjamin Mee, notices that his thirteen-year-old son has a crush on a girl he has gotten to know. However, his son is too scared to make a move and say something to the girl. While sitting down and talking to his son, Damon makes a statement I will never forget, "... it only takes 20 seconds of courage." His point was if his son could muster the courage to talk to his "crush" for 20 seconds, it could potentially change his life. Could 20 seconds really change a life?

I think about the time it took Jesus to tell his apostles "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore 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 I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." in Matthew 28:18-20.

I know this took less than 20 seconds and in this time Jesus started something that would change the history of the world! So, here is my challenge for the day; give God 20 seconds of outrageous courage! Whether you will fight off that nagging temptation that Satan continually throws at you or finally talk to that one friend about salvation, give God 20 seconds of courage. God has already changed the history of the world once in 20 seconds. What will you let Him do through you in 20 seconds today?

-Austin Johnson

## Things to Know

### Nursery/Cry Room

Available at the back of the auditorium

### Sunday Evening Assembly

6pm TONIGHT

### Wednesday Night Bible Class

7pm Ronald Bryant is continuing to teach 1 John MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND!

### Visiting Preacher

Sign up to host the visiting preacher and his wife for a meal, or an activity. A sign-up sheet is on the back table, simply pick a day and an event then you specify the time you would like to have them.

### Elders, Deacons & Preacher Meeting

July 12<sup>th</sup> at

### Breakfast at IHOP

July 13<sup>th</sup> at 8am

### Senior Saints Day

August 6<sup>th</sup> at Copper Basin Camp, Registration forms are on the back table

### Ladies Fall Retreat

September 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

### New Address

Larry & Denise Miller

7244 E Courage Butte Trail

Prescott Valley, AZ 86315

Denise Phone Number (928) 592-7054

Larry Phone Number (928)713-0081

To the family,

Thanks so much to all those who helped us move into our new home.

Also, however belated, Larry wishes to thank all those who put together and came to his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party many weeks ago.

It is so wonderful to be a member of such a great family.

Larry & Denise Miller

### ASTRONOMER

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. — PSALM 19:1-2 NIV

...continued from front page

What about those people that are religious, but are not Christ-centered, that are not servants of God? What is true about them? They may impress some of the people of world for a moment; however, they do not and cannot represent Christ! In speaking to such pretenders in His day, Jesus said, "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." (Matthew 15:8-9).

What happens when those who call themselves the people of God ignore or neglect the directive of Jesus gave to "go make disciples"? How many worship assemblies or classes attended will suffice to make up for their disregard of His charge to preach the word to the people of the world? What happens when the people of God are content to simply meet and conduct services and enjoy time together in fellowship, but never truly labor to teach and convert the sinful and erring? How long will it be before the congregation of which they are part is dead?

- Ronald Bryant

## Bible Cryptogram

A	12	1	8	25	15	18	3:18				
B	10										
C	6										
D	3	20	5	26	26	20	14				
E	14										
F	4										
G	2	6	15	5	20	3	9	14	18	,	
H	15										
I	5										
J	8	20	14	26	13	11	18	25	26		
K	1										
L	20										
M	21	20	25	18	2	13	14				
N	18										
O	25										
P	17	7	5	26	15	7	25	9	3		
Q	22										
R	9										
S	11	25	9		7	5	26	15			
T	26										
U	13										
V	19	26	25	18	2	13	14	,			
W	7										
X	16										
Y	24	10	13	26		5	18				
Z	23										
		3	14	14	3	12	18	3			
		26	9	13	26	15	.				